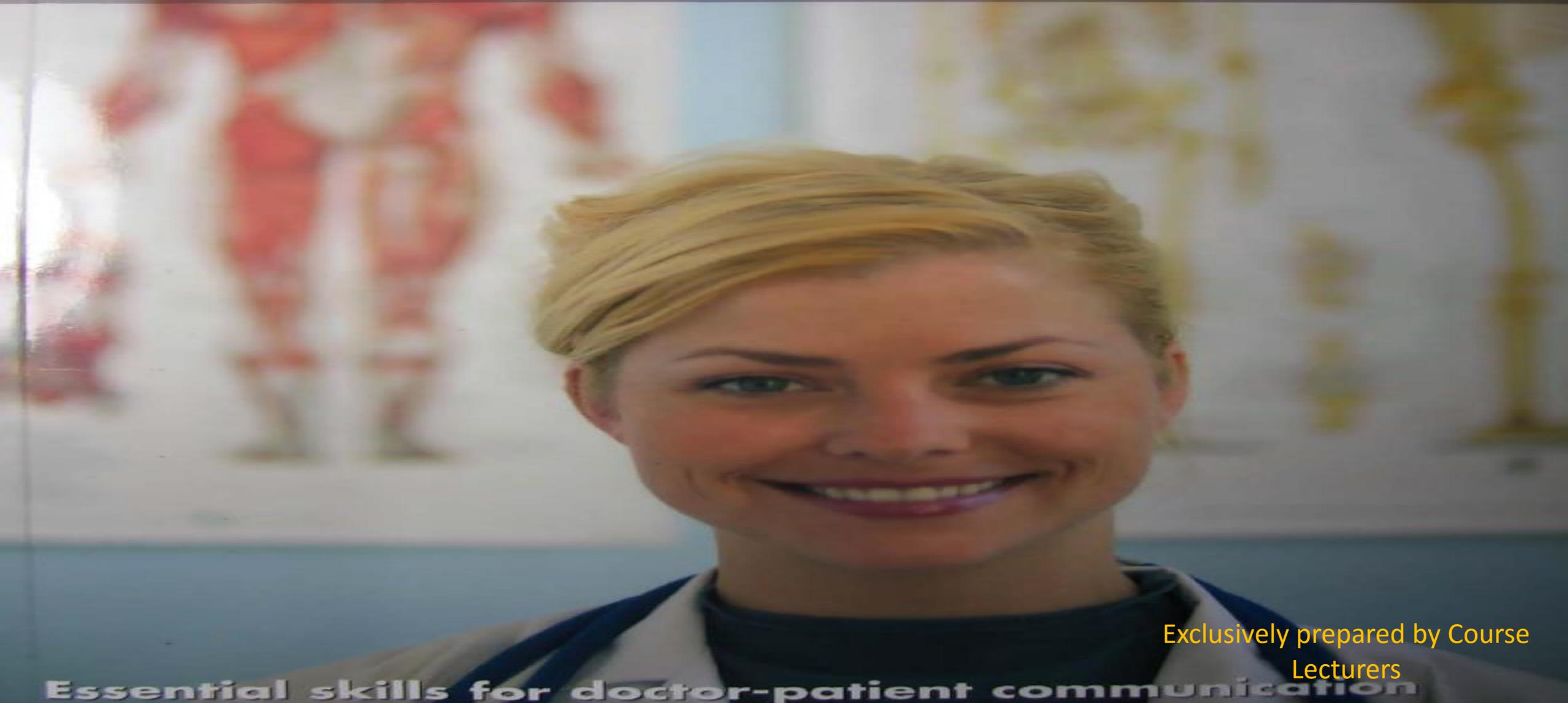


MEDICINE ①

Sam McCarter



Exclusively prepared by Course
Lecturers

Essential skills for doctor-patient communication

Vocabulary

Describing pain

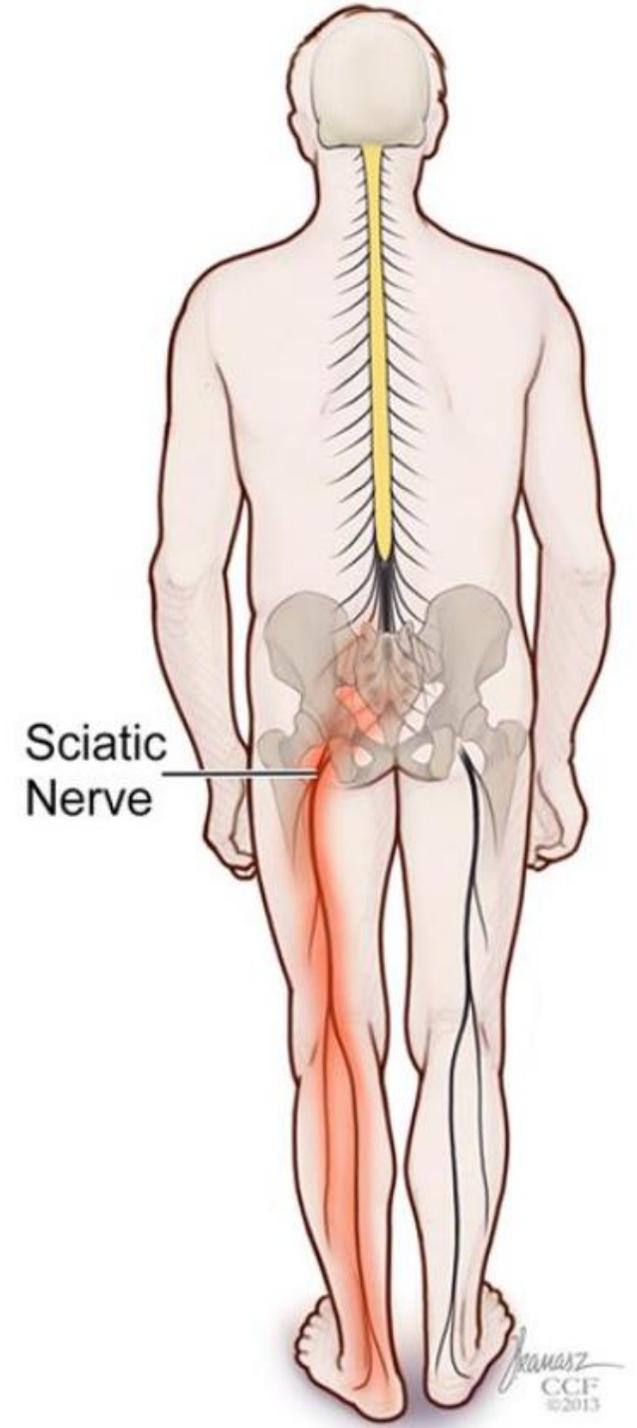
1 Work in pairs. Which descriptions 1–10 do you associate with the conditions a–j? In some cases, there may be more than one answer.

- 1 piercing / boring
- 2 extremely severe / intense
- 3 aching
- 4 scalding / burning
- 5 like a tight band around my head
- 6 dull / persistent / vague
- 7 excruciating / thunderclap
- 8 shooting
- 9 spasmodic
- 10 crushing / gripping

- a sciatica
- b ureteric colic
- c acute pancreatitis
- d appendicitis
- e degenerative arthritis
- f cluster headache
- g cystitis
- h tension headache
- i sub-arachnoid haemorrhage
- j angina pectoris

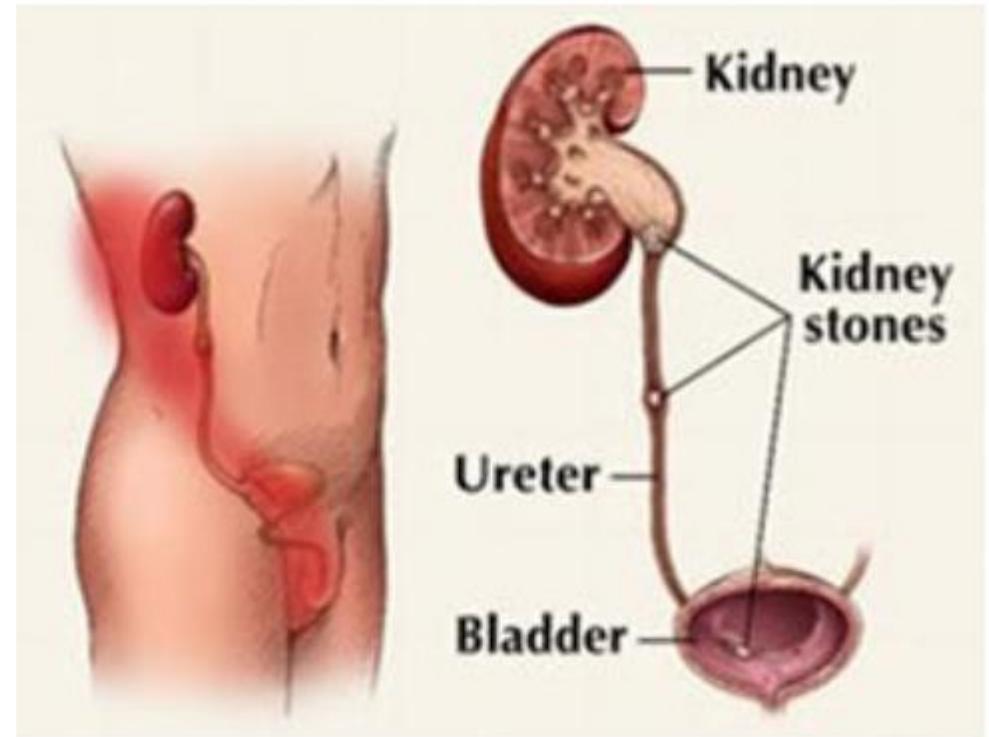
Next

Sciatica refers to back pain caused by a problem with the **sciatic** nerve. This is a large nerve that runs from the lower back down the back of each leg.



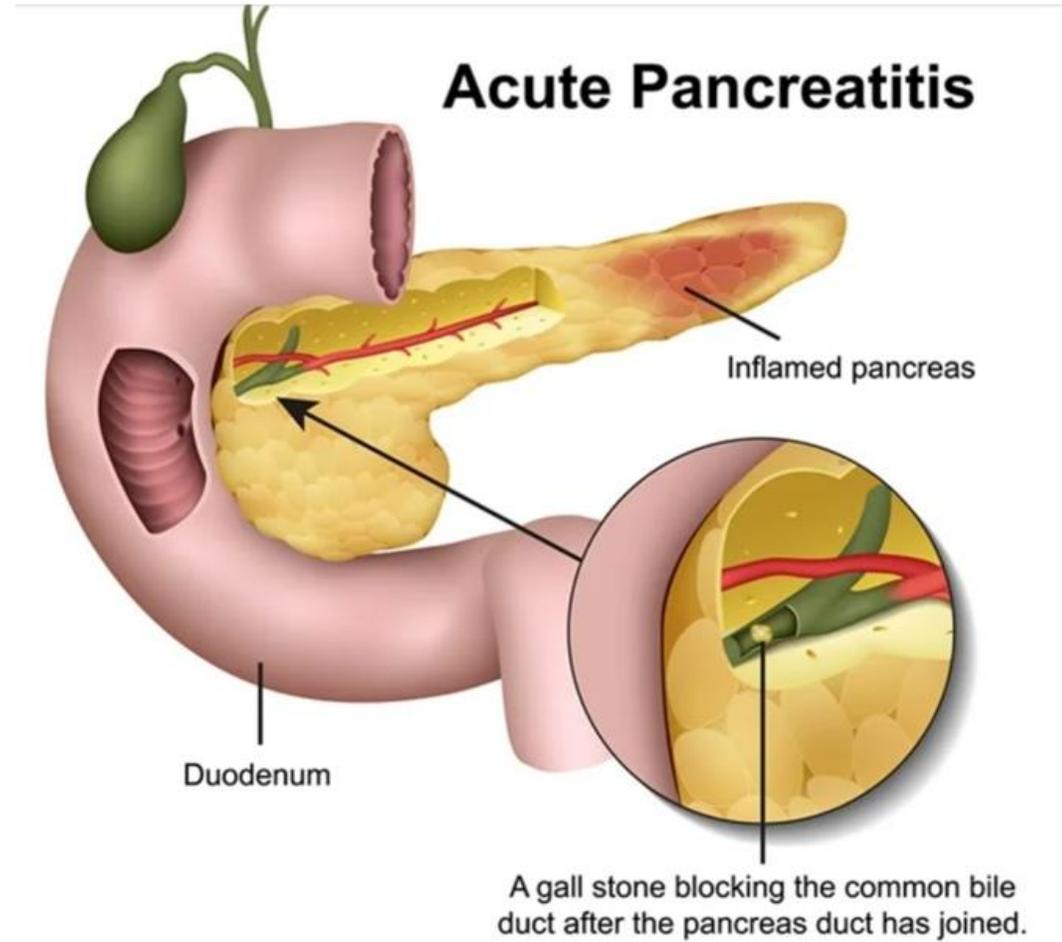
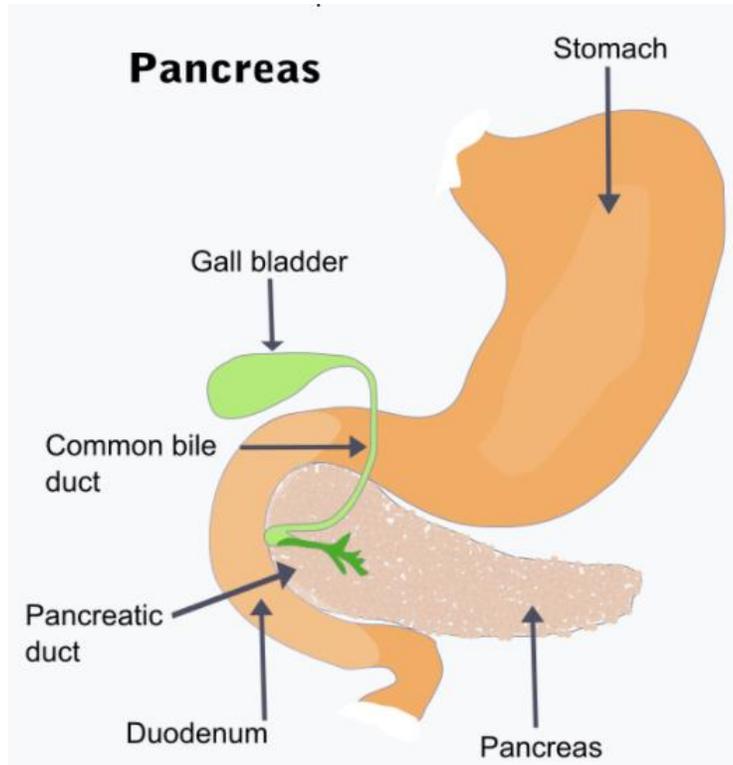
Ureteric colic is defined as a medical condition characterized by the presence of a urinary stone, leading to a severe urinary system pain.

Back

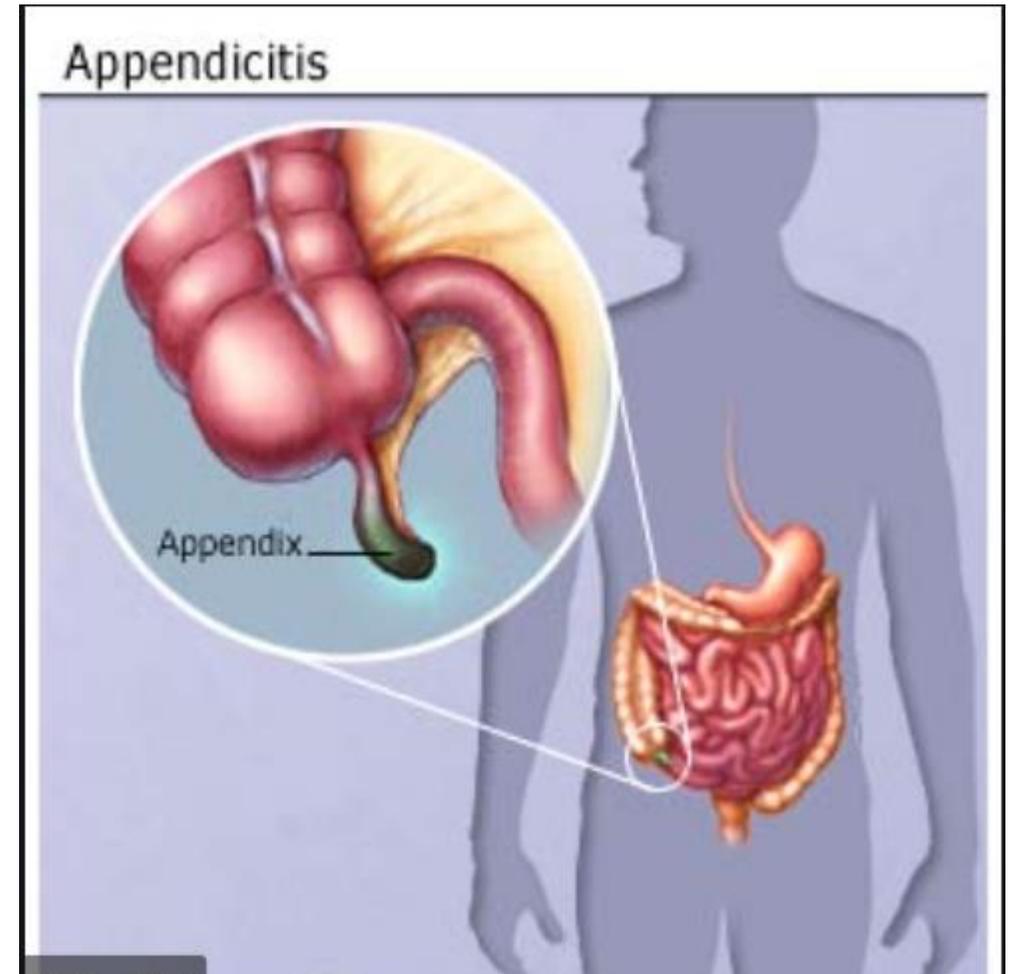


Acute pancreatitis is sudden inflammation of the **pancreas** that may be mild or life threatening but usually subsides.

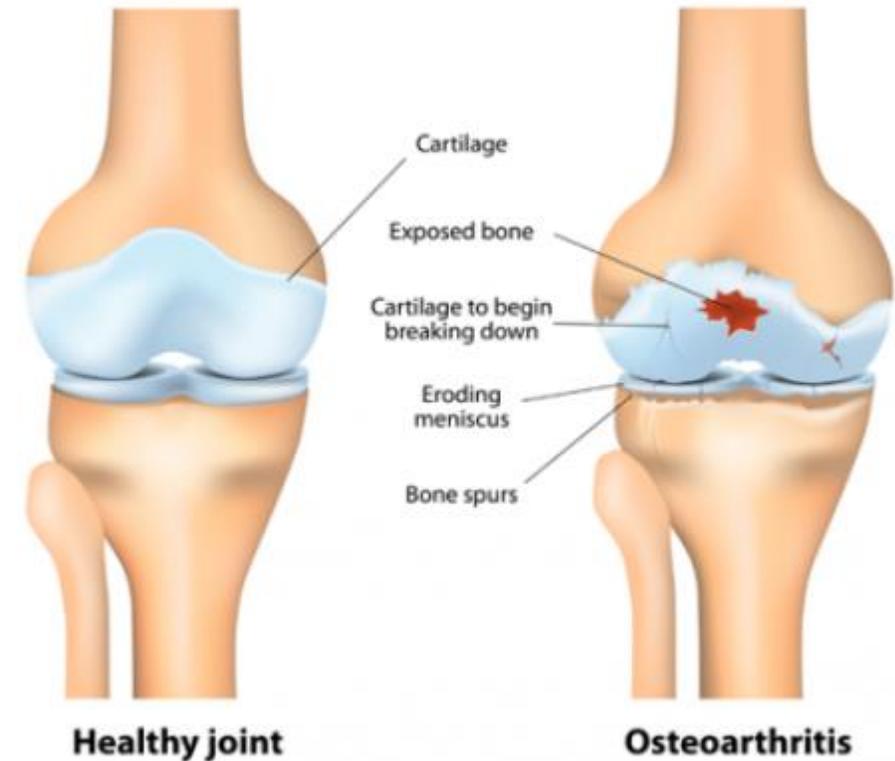
Back



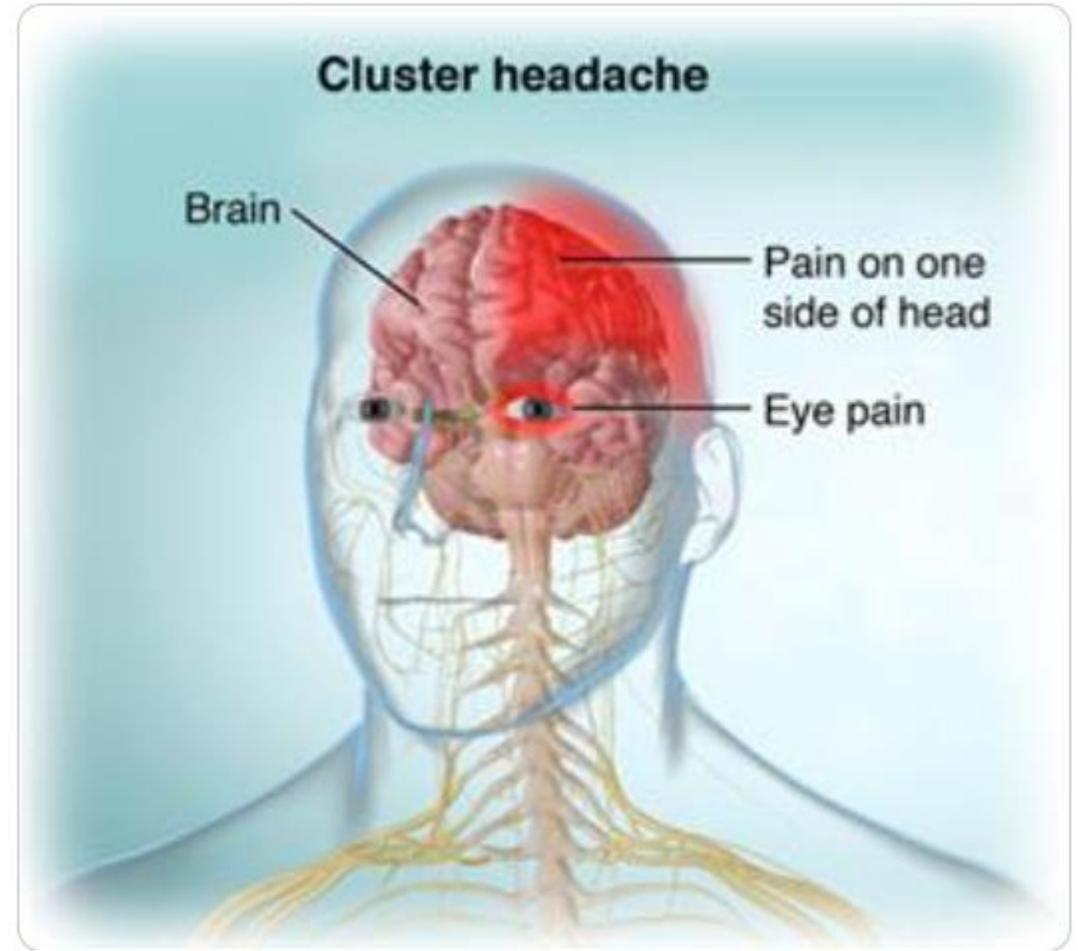
Appendicitis occurs when the appendix becomes inflamed and filled with pus.



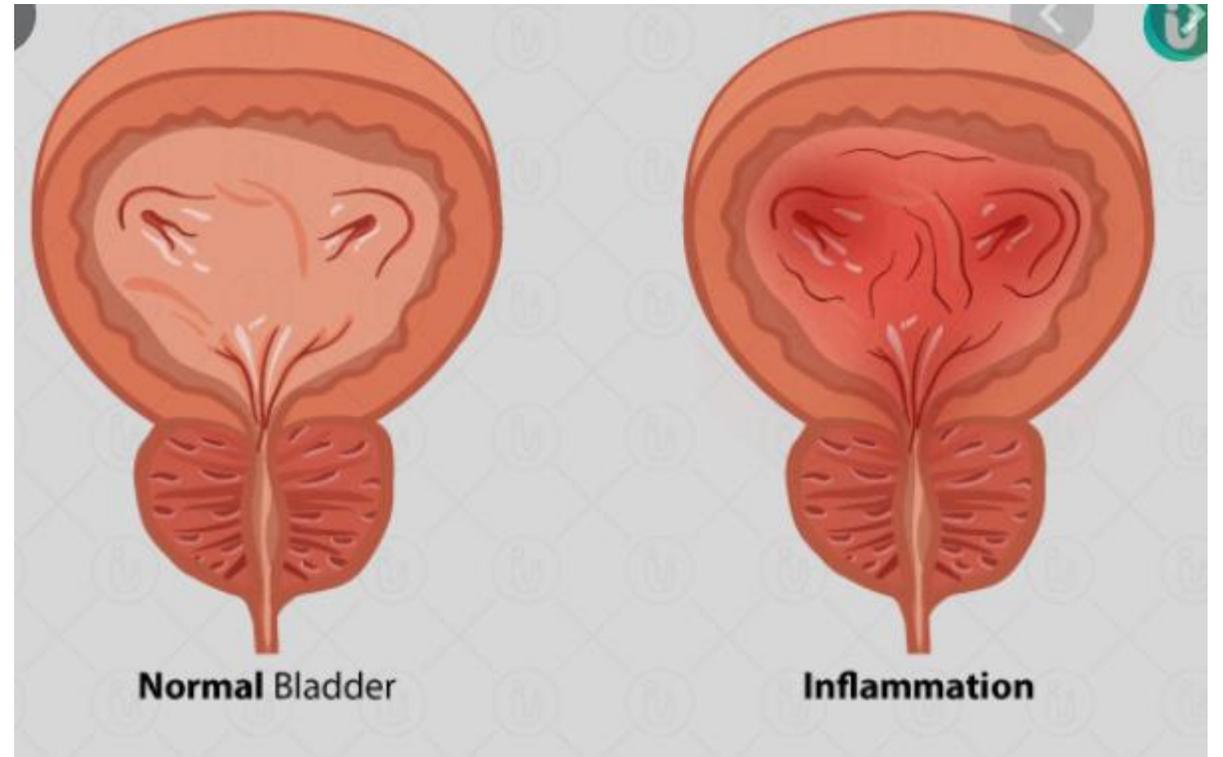
Degenerative arthritis is a condition that involves the chronic breakdown of cartilage in the **joints** leading to painful joint inflammation.



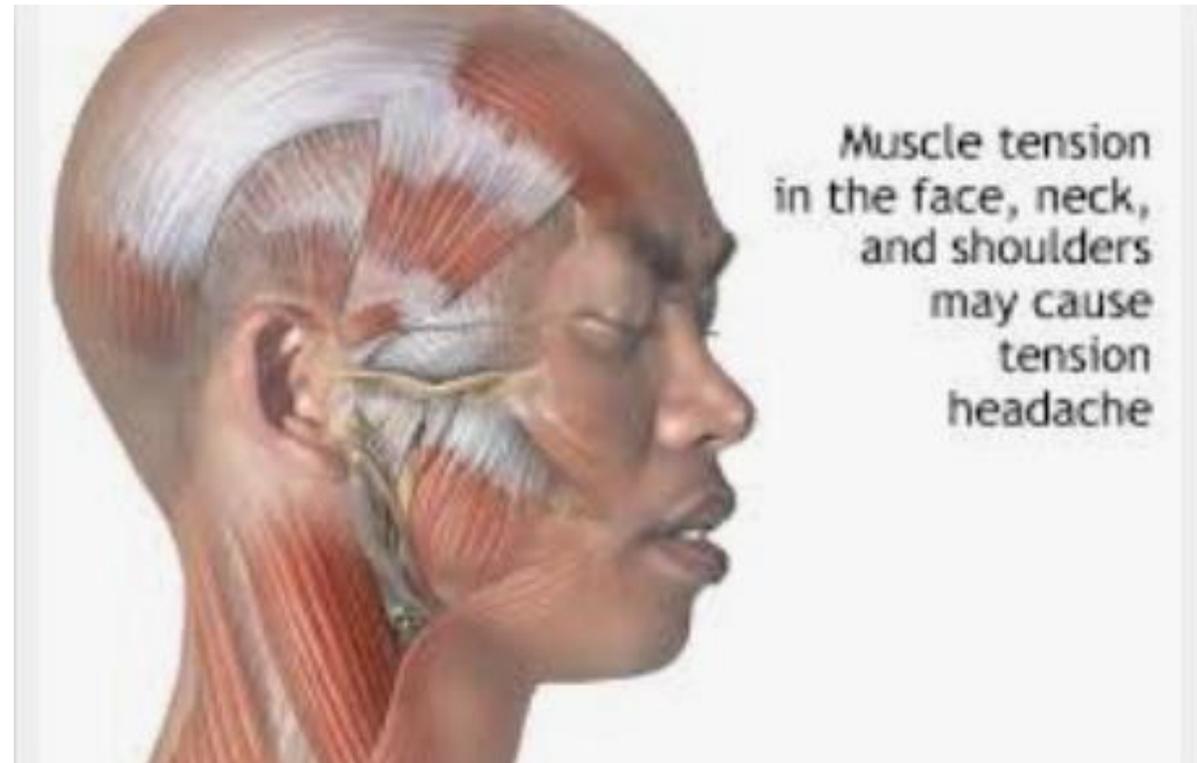
Cluster headache (CH) is a neurological disorder characterized by recurrent severe **headaches** on one side of the head, typically around the eye. There is often accompanying eye watering, nasal congestion, or swelling around the eye on the affected side.



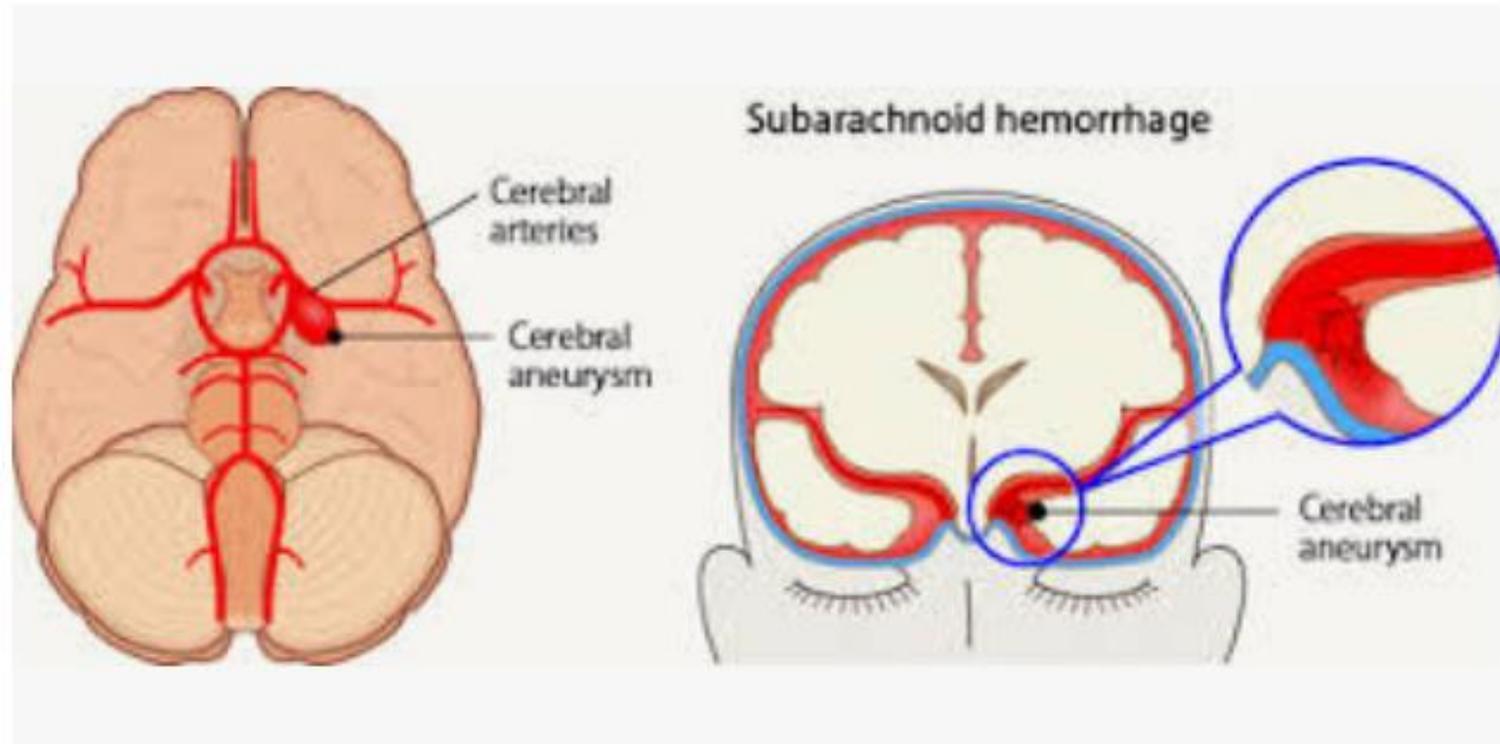
- **Cystitis** is an inflammation of the bladder.



A **tension headache** is the most common type of **headache**. It can cause mild, moderate, or intense pain behind your eyes and in your head and neck. Some people say that a **tension headache** feels like a tight band around their forehead.



- **Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH)** is a life-threatening type of stroke caused by bleeding into the space surrounding the brain.



Angina pectoris is the medical term for **chest pain** or discomfort due to coronary heart disease. It occurs when the heart muscle doesn't get as much blood as it needs.



Vocabulary

Describing pain

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- a sciatica 8
- b ureteric colic 9
- c acute pancreatitis 1
- d appendicitis 6
- e degenerative arthritis 3
- f cluster headache 2
- g cystitis 4
- h tension headache 5
- i sub-arachnoid haemorrhage 7
- j angina pectoris 10

Use **SOCRATES** in the history of the presenting complaint to help you remember the main questions you need to ask about pain: **s**ite; **o**nset; **c**haracter; **r**adiation; **a**ssociations; **t**iming; **e**xacerbating and alleviating factors; **s**everity

3 For each description, write M (mild), S (severe), or V (very severe). Then say which condition a–j in **1** each patient below is possibly describing.

- 1 **M** I get this vague headache sometimes during the week.
- 2 **V** The headache is excruciating.
I can't bear to look at the light.
- 3 **V** The pain in my stomach is so bad it makes me double up.
- 4 **S** I get this sharp pain when you press my side here on the right and then let go.
- 5 **V** All my joints hurt. I am wracked with pain.

differentiate (v) distinguish; tell the difference between

- 4 You can ask a patient to describe pain on a scale of 1 to 10. What other ways can you ask a patient to assess the severity of pain?

Thanks for your attention. I
hope you have enjoyed
studying on these slides.