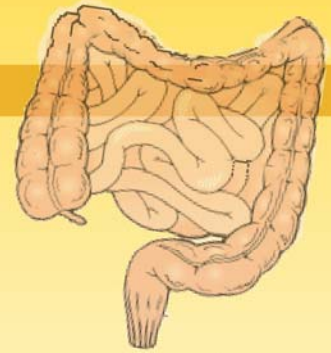


Crohn's Disease

Warning Signs



Crohn's disease causes swelling in your colon. It also sometimes causes eye, joint, or skin problems. It can affect any part of your digestive tract, from your mouth to your anus, but usually affects the intestines. The intestines become swollen and this causes pain and diarrhea. Some days you will feel fine. Other days you will have problems. The swelling can cause sores which can cause serious infection and bleeding. Swelling and scar tissue can narrow the passage and cause the bowel to be blocked. This can make it hard for food to pass through your body. It is important to know the signs of trouble so you can prevent problems from getting worse.



Complications

- Lack of nutrition and weight loss (the disease makes it hard for your body to take the protein, calories, and vitamins from your food).
- Blockage of the gut from the swelling and scarring.
- Belly infections.

Common Symptoms

- You have stomach pain or cramps, often on the lower right side.
- You have diarrhea.
- You feel weak.
- You are losing weight.
- Your rectum is tender.



More Serious Symptoms

- You have bloody diarrhea.
- It is painful to go to the bathroom.
- You feel very faint.
- You have severe belly pain.
- You have a fever or shaking chills.
- You are vomiting again and again.