

PMC full text: [JAMA. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2009 Jun 30.](#)

Published in final edited form as:

JAMA. 2007 Jul 25; 298(4): 438–451.

doi: [10.1001/jama.298.4.438](https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.298.4.438)

[Copyright/License](#) ▶

[Request permission to reuse](#)

Table 2

Accuracy of Symptoms

Symptoms by Source	Sensitivity	Specificity	Positive Likelihood Ratio (95% Confidence Interval)	Negative Likelihood Ratio (95% Confidence Interval)
Pain Symptoms				
Symptom duration <24 h				
O'Shea et al, ³⁵ 1988	0.50	0.40	0.83 (0.55-1.2)	1.3 (0.82-1.9)
Lintula et al, ⁴⁸ 2005	0.44	0.46	0.82 (0.56-1.2)	1.2 (0.85-1.7)
Right lower quadrant pain				
Summary, level 3 studies			1.2 (1.0-1.5)	0.56 (0.43-0.73)
Pearl et al, ²⁰ 1995	0.96	0.05	1.0 (0.98-1.0)	0.73 (0.35-1.5)
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.77	0.44	1.4 (1.2-1.6)	0.52 (0.38-0.72)
Mollitt et al, ⁵⁸ 1988	0.62	0.63	1.7 (0.97-3.0)	0.59 (0.33-1.1)
Abdominal pain migrating to right lower quadrant				
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.45	0.76	1.9 (1.4-2.5)	0.72 (0.62-0.85)
Dolgin et al, ⁴⁷ 1992	0.68	0.78	3.1 (1.8-5.3)	0.41 (0.30-0.57)
Abrupt (vs gradual) onset of pain				
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.44	0.57	1.0 (0.82-1.3)	0.98 (0.82-1.2)
Intermittent (vs persistent) pain				
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.20	0.58	0.48 (0.33-0.70)	1.4 (1.2-1.6)
Lintula et al, ⁴⁸ 2005	0.40	0.48	0.75 (0.49-1.2)	1.3 (0.91-1.8)
Unable to walk normally				
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.80	0.53	1.7 (1.4-2.0)	0.38 (0.27-0.54)
Other Symptoms				
Fever				
O'Shea et al, ³⁵ 1988	0.75	0.78	3.4 (2.4-4.8)	0.32 (0.16-0.64)
Summary of level 3 studies			1.2 (1.1-1.4)	0.53 (0.29-0.97)
Pearl et al, ²⁰ 1995	0.26	0.75	1.1 (0.80-1.4)	1.0 (0.89-1.1)
Graham et al, ⁴⁴ 1980	0.93	0.39	1.5 (1.1-2.1)	0.18 (0.09-0.38)
Van den Broek, ⁵³ 2004	0.72	0.50	1.4 (1.0-2.1)	0.55 (0.33-0.93)
Paajanen and Somppi, ⁵⁵ 1996	0.83	0.29	1.2 (0.93-1.4)	0.60 (0.27-1.3)
Anorexia				
O'Shea et al, ³⁵ 1988	0.21	0.73	0.77 (0.34-1.7)	1.1 (0.87-1.35)
Summary of level 3 studies			1.4 (1.2-1.6)	0.57 (0.44-0.73)
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.75	0.44	1.4 (1.2-1.6)	0.56 (0.41-0.76)
Graham et al, ⁴⁴ 1980	0.68	0.50	1.4 (0.92-2.0)	0.65 (0.42-1.0)
Mollitt et al, ⁵⁸ 1988	0.88	0.40	1.5 (1.0-2.0)	0.31 (0.10-0.98)
Nausea				
O'Shea et al, ³⁵ 1988	0.29	0.79	1.4 (0.70-2.7)	0.90 (0.69-1.2)
Summary of level 3 studies			1.0 (0.50-2.0)	0.50 (0.38-0.66)
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.82	0.41	1.4 (1.2-1.6)	0.44 (0.31-0.64)
Graham et al, ⁴⁴ 1980	0.75	0.61	1.9 (1.2-3.0)	0.41 (0.28-0.62)
Lintula et al, ⁴⁸ 2005	0.60	0.52	1.3 (0.91-1.8)	0.75 (0.49-1.2)
Vomiting				
O'Shea et al, ³⁵ 1988	0.79	0.64	2.2 (1.7-2.9)	0.33 (0.15-0.71)
Summary of level 3 studies			1.4 (1.3-1.6)	0.57 (0.47-0.69)
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.64	0.58	1.5 (1.3-1.8)	0.61 (0.48-0.78)
Graham et al, ⁴⁴ 1980	0.86	0.39	1.4 (1.0-1.9)	0.36 (0.20-0.66)
Dolgin et al, ⁴⁷ 1992	0.77	0.34	1.2 (0.93-1.5)	0.66 (0.39-1.1)
Paajanen and Somppi, ⁵⁵ 1996	0.63	0.69	2.1 (1.3-3.4)	0.53 (0.34-0.82)
Diarrhea				
O'Shea et al, ³⁵ 1988	0.33	0.87	2.6 (1.3-4.9)	0.77 (0.58-1.0)
Summary of level 3 studies			0.83 (0.59-1.1)	1.0 (0.97-1.1)
Kharbanda et al, ³⁷ 2005	0.15	0.78	0.72 (0.46-1.1)	1.1 (0.98-1.2)
Graham et al, ⁴⁴ 1980	0.16	0.86	1.1 (0.41-2.9)	1.0 (0.84-1.2)
Dolgin et al, ⁴⁷ 1992	0.20	0.78	0.91 (0.47-1.8)	1.0 (0.85-1.2)
Paajanen and Somppi, ⁵⁵ 1996	0.10	0.90	1.0 (0.27-3.3)	1.0 (0.88-1.2)
Constipation				
Dolgin et al, ⁴⁷ 1992	0.19	0.84	1.2 (0.53-2.7)	1.0 (0.81-1.1)
Lethargy				
O'Shea et al, ³⁵ 1988	0.04	0.95	0.84 (0.11-6.2)	1.0 (0.92-1.1)
Dysuria				
O'Shea et al, ³⁵ 1988	0	0.97	0.59 (0.03-10.1)	1.0 (0.95-1.1)