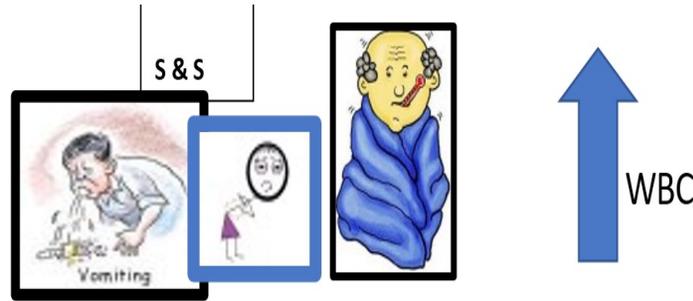


Risk Factors:

Constipation, lack of dietary fiber, obesity, smoking, inactivity



Lab/ Diagnostic studies:

colonoscopy, CT scan w/ contrast

Diverticulitis

– infection/inflammation of the diverticulum

Acute diverticulitis: let the colon rest and decrease inflammation. Can be managed at home: clear liquid, bed rest, analgesic.



Complications

- Peritonitis – inflammation of the peritoneum
- Abscess
- Perforation – will require a procedure that involves resection of the involved colon with primary anastomosis

MEDS

- IV fluids
- Antibiotics
- pain meds



Interventions/Teaching If admitted to hospital

- ❖ Maintain I/O – NG tube, IV fluids, drains (from surgery)
- ❖ Increase fiber / soft diet
- ❖ Meds – antibiotics/stool softener
- ❖ Ambulation
- ❖ Incision site – if the patient had surgery