**Spleen Injury**

Because of the spleen’s position in the upper left side of the abdomen, a severe blow to the stomach area can damage the spleen, tearing its covering, the tissue inside, or both. The tears range from small ones that stop bleeding spontaneously to very large ones that cause potentially fatal hemorrhage.

The spleen is the most commonly injured organ in the abdomen as a result of motor vehicle crashes, falls from a height sometimes other abdominal organs also are damaged.

When the spleen is injured, blood may be released into the abdomen. The amount of bleeding depends on the size of the injury. A hematoma of the spleen does not bleed into the abdomen at first but may rupture and bleed in the first few days after injury, although rupture sometimes does not occur for weeks or months.

**Symptoms**

The pain is in the left side of the abdomen . Sometimes the pain is felt in the left shoulder. The abdominal muscles contract reflexively and feel rigid. If enough blood leaks out, blood pressure falls and people feel light-headed, have blurred vision and confusion, and lose consciousness (faint).

**Diagnosis**

Ultrasound

CT scan of abdomen

**Treatment**: Intravenous fluid—blood transfusion-surgery.

**Liver Injury**

**Causes**

The liver can be damaged as a result of a motor vehicle crash or penetrating trauma (such as a knife or gunshot wound). Injuries may range from relatively small collections of blood (hematomas) within the liver to large tears that go deep into the liver. Because the liver has many large blood vessels, the main problem resulting from liver injury is severe bleeding. Nearly all bleeding from a liver injury occurs within the abdominal cavity.

**Symptoms**

People with liver injury and severe bleeding have symptoms of shock, including a rapid heart rate, rapid breathing, and cold, pale or bluish skin. People also have abdominal pain and tenderness because blood in the abdomen irritates the abdominal tissue. When bleeding is severe, the abdomen may also be swollen.

**Diagnosis**

Doctors use computed tomography (CT) or ultrasonography to detect liver injuries. Sometimes surgery is needed to determine the extent of the injury and to stop the bleeding.

**Treatment**

Blood transfusion and surgery.