

Understanding Bowel Sounds – QL

Course Description: This module reviews bowel sounds and the four quadrants of abdominal assessment. It differentiates normal and abnormal findings, discusses paralytic ileus, and describes the ramifications of absent bowel sounds.

Course Objectives:

- Describe the four quadrants of abdominal assessment and their underlying organs
- Differentiate normal and abnormal findings
- Compare and differentiate hypoactive, hyperactive, and high-pitched bowel sounds
- Describe the urgency of intervention when bowel sounds are absent
- Briefly discuss paralytic ileus and rebound tenderness
- Discuss the importance of pain management prior to palpation