***SYSTEMIC DISEASE AND THE GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT***

Gastrointestinal involvement by systemic disease is extremely common. The impact of critical illness is an acute effect on gut mucosal barrier function, mucosal perfusion, and the systemic inflammatory response. The skin is the mirror of the intestinal tract; not only in primary gastroenterological disorders one should look for dermatological complications, but should also think in chronic skin lesions of concomitant intestinal alterations. In all endocrine disorders except in hypothyroidism diarrhea is a very common finding. With motor disturbances (automomic neuropathy) gastroparesis, intestinal stasis, colonic/anorectal may be present.