**PAIN MANAGEMENT OF GI DISEASE**

Abdominal pain associated with GI disease usually is caused by stretching of the intestinal wall. Contraction of the gut causes pain by direct and reflex distention of neighboring segments. Spasm, an exaggerated segmenting contraction of one section of intestine, results in distention of the immediately anterior segment when a peristaltic wave arrives. Other factors that may cause abdominal pain include edema and failure of local blood supply, eg, in local embolism or twisting of the mesentery.

Use of analgesic may be useful with some gastrointestinal disorders. However NSAIDs are contraindicated in hypovolemic or hypotensive patients, and should be used with caution in patients with renal or gastrointestinal disease. Carprofen (Rimadyl) is a commonly used NSAID in veterinary medicine that is approved for dogs. Meloxicam is the only NSAID in the USA approved for use in cats. It is important to note the correlation between NSAIDS and ulcer formation.