

Topic :-



Inflammation

Adult Health Nursing - I

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Inflammation

Introduction

The term **inflammation** is
derived from the Latin word
inflamao meaning ignite
or
set alight

Inflammation is the
initial and
instantaneous response
to any injury.

During inflammation leukocytes are transported to the injured site; where they act by not allowing the microbes to further invade the site (tissue) and help

begin the process of necrotic
tissue break-down.

Inflammation may be
either acute or chronic.

Definition

Inflammation is the local response of living mammalian tissues to an injury resulting from any agent.

It is a defense reaction in order to eliminate or limit the spread of injurious agents as well as to remove the consequent necrosed cells and tissues.

Causes

of

Inflammation

(1). Physical Agents

heat, cold, radiation, and
mechanical trauma.

(2). Chemical Agents

organic and inorganic
chemicals.

(3). Immunological Agents

like :- cell-mediated and
antigen-antibody reactions.

(4). Biological Agents

viral, bacterial, and fungal
infection, and microbial
toxins.

Clinical Signs of Inflammation

(i). Rubor (redness)

(ii). Tumour (swelling)

(iii). Calor (heat)

(iv). Dolor (pain)

(i). Rubor (redness)

It denotes redness at the site of inflammation, resulting from the dilation of vessels, which leads to an increase in the blood flow.

(ii). Tumour (swelling)

It denotes swelling at the site of inflammation, resulting from the collection of exudates (mainly the fluid part) at the inflamed site.

(iii). Calor (heat)

It denotes slightly elevated temperature at the site of inflammation,

resulting from the dilation
of vessels which increases
the blood flow.

(iv). Dolor (pain)

It denotes pain at the site of inflammation, resulting from the compression of nerve by the

swelling in addition to the
release of chemical mediators in
response to inflammatory
process.

Types of Inflammation

(1). Acute inflammation

(2). Chronic inflammation

(1). Acute inflammation

It occurs for a short time period
and shows the early body
reaction followed by repair.

The characteristics of acute inflammation are:

- (a). Accumulation of fluid and plasma at the affected site,

(b). Intravascular activation of
platelets, and

(c). Polymorphonuclear neutro-
-phils as inflammatory cells.

(2). Chronic inflammation

It occurs for a longer time period either when the causative agents of acute inflammation remain for

a longer duration or when a
stimulus induces chronic
inflammation from the initial
point.

