

## Diarrhea

29 y F, reported several months of diarrhea and general malaise. She has had 6 – 8 loose to watery stools daily. Stools sometimes mixed with blood and mucous .and several times just small amount of semi formed stool, mucus, and blood. She also noticed s increased fatigue and lethargy. Her appetite had been poor and she thought she had lost six kilograms in the last three months. She also reports intermittent joint pains, particularly in her back and knees. She denies fever, but has had night sweats on several occasions. She denies palpitations, increased hunger or tremor.

On exam temperature was 37.8 C°. Abd exam notable for left LQ tenderness. Examination of back shows tenderness over sacroiliac joints. her knees were normal.

Stool tests: WBC seen, positive FOBT, no ova, cysts or parasites, neg bacterial cx

Labs: HB 8gm/l, WBC 13.5, ESR 44, CRP 21.2

- 1. Classify causes of chronic diarrhea? What is the differential diagnosis in this patient ?what is the most likely diagnosis?**
- 2. What other tests needed for this patient? Indicate usefulness of each test?**
- 3. Outline treatment and follow up of your likely diagnosis?**