

EATING DISORDERS

MEDICAL COMPLICATIONS OF BULIMIA

HEART

- Slowed heart rate (Bradycardia: slow heart rate - less than 60 beats/minute) or elevated heart rate (Tachycardia - greater than 100 beats/minutes)
- or irregular heart beats
- heart irregularities are usually due to electrolyte imbalance
- Low blood pressure
- Fainting
- Dizziness

MOUTH

- Loss of teeth enamel, dental erosion, reduced salivary flow rate, tooth hypersensitivity, dental caries, periodontal disease, and xerostomia (dry mouth)
- Gum disease
- Acid reflux as a result of damage to the esophageal sphincters
- hoarseness, chronic cough, a burning sensation in the throat
- Swollen salivary glands
- Difficulty swallowing (Dysphagia) due to weak muscles and chronic reflux

KIDNEY

- Dehydration
- Electrolyte imbalance, including chloride, calcium, bicarbonate, and potassium.
- Kidney failure
- Hypokalemia, natremia, phosphatemia
- severe edema formation with abrupt cessation of purging

DIGESTIVE TRACT

- Esophagitis, esophageal erosions and ulcers, Barrett's esophagus (change in the mucosal lining due to abnormal acid exposure to the esophagus) and bleeding
- esophageal rupture
- Constipation
- Gastroparesis: Delayed gastric emptying
- Bloating
- Stomach acid burning
- Liver damage
- Nausea, fullness, bloating, gas and is a result of the loss of normal stomach peristalsis or movement
- Gastric IBS
- Pelvic Floor Dysfunction
- GERD: gastroesophageal chronic reflux
- hypokalemia leads to further slowing of intestinal motility
- Long term Colon damage

ENDOCRINE

- Delay onset of puberty
- Stunted growth
- Amenorrhea or irregular menstruation
- Impaired fertility
- Increased cortisol and stress hormone levels
- Abnormal thyroid function

