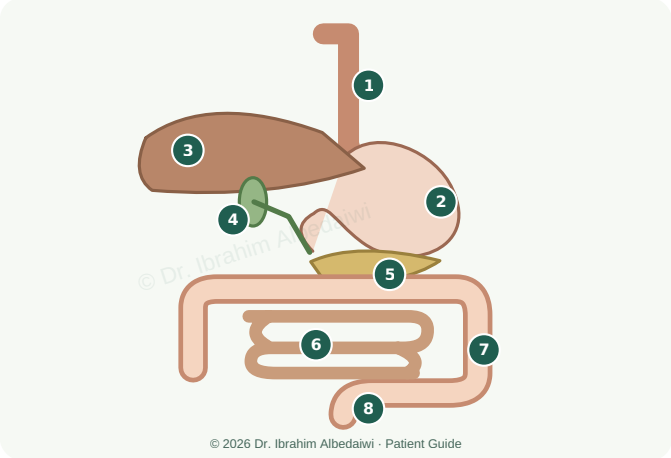
ILLUSTRATED PATIENT GUIDE

Your digestive system

Select an organ name to open all its available guides on the website.



1 · Esophagus

Carries food from the mouth to the stomach.

2 · Stomach

Mixes food and begins digestion.

3 · Liver

Produces bile and processes nutrients.

4 · Gallbladder and bile ducts

The gallbladder stores bile; ducts carry it into the bowel.

5 · Pancreas

Releases enzymes that help digest food.

6 · Small intestine

Absorbs most nutrients.

7 · Colon

Absorbs water and helps form stool.

8 · Rectum and anus

Store and pass stool.

> Simplified front view: the body’s right is on the left of the drawing. Organ positions are approximate, not to scale.

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NIDDK: Your digestive system

These illustrations support education and do not replace your doctor’s advice or follow-up. Plans vary by patient.