PELVIC INFLAMMATORY DISEASE
(PID; Salpingitis)
BASIC INFORMATION
DESCRIPTION
Infection of the female internal reproductive organs. This
is contagious if it is caused by a sexually transmitted organ-ism. It can involve the fallopian tubes, cervix, uterus,
ovaries, and urinary bladder. It affects sexually active
females after puberty. The peak incidence occurs in late
teens and early 20’s.
FREQUENT SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS
Early stages (up to 1 week):
`Pain in the lower pelvis on one or both sides, especially
during menstrual periods. Menstrual flow may be heavy.
`Pain with intercourse.
`Bad-smelling vaginal discharge.
`General ill feeling.
`Low fever.
`Frequent, painful urination.
Later symptoms (1 to 3 weeks later):
`Severe pain and tenderness in the lower abdomen.
`High fever.
`Increased bad-smelling vaginal discharge. CAUSES
`Bacterial infection (chlamydial, gonorrheal or mycoplas-mal)
or a viral infection. This may be transmitted by an
infected sexual partner.
`Childbirth.
`Abortion.
`Pelvic surgery. RISK INCREASES WITH
`Multiple sexual partners.
`Use of an intrauterine contraceptive device (IUD).
`Previous history of PID or cervicitis.
PREVENTIVE MEASURES
`Use rubber condoms, spermicidal creams or sponges to
help prevent sexually transmitted infections.
`Oral contraceptives appear to decrease the risk.
`Seek routine medical check-ups for sexually transmitted
diseases if you have multiple sexual partners.