SITUATION:
Chase, age 14, is admitted into the hospital because of an exacerbation of ulcerative colitis. He has been admitted numerous times in the past because of nutritional needs, infection, and problems related to elimination. Both he and his family are very knowledgeable regarding his disease process and its treatment.

1. Define the two inflammatory bowel diseases: Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis.

2. Compare the pathology of the two diseases and describe the signs and symptoms of both.

3. When obtaining a health history from Chase, he states that he takes prednisone, sulfasalazine, Imuran, and metronidazole. What are the rationales for using these drugs in the treatment of ulcerative colitis?

4. Chase’s mother states that malnutrition is a constant threat to Chase’s well being and to his growth. What are the potential causes of malnutrition for Chase?

5. Chase states that so far, “the doctor hasn’t had to use the knife.” What types of operative procedures might be used when medical treatment is unsuccessful?

6. When establishing a plan of care for Chase while he is hospitalized, the nurse included information related to his psychosocial development. What are the major characteristics of psychosocial development during adolescence?