

Mechanical complications

1. Increased physical immobility
2. Respiratory impairment
(= dyspnoea as a result of restrictive ventilation)
 - due to hepatic hydrothorax
 - due to an elevated diaphragm or plate-like atelectases
3. Elevated portal venous pressure
4. Compression of vessels
 - inferior vena cava syndrome
 - renal vein
5. Formation of hernias
6. Ruptured umbilical hernia
7. Dislocation of organs
 - intra-abdominal
 - cardiac rotation, diminished cardiac function
8. Promotion of a gastro-oesophageal reflux

Bacterial complications

1. Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis

Metabolic complications

1. Disturbances of electrolyte metabolism
2. Disturbances of protein metabolism, catabolism
3. Changes in pharmacokinetics
4. Hepatic encephalopathy
5. Hepatorenal syndrome