# **TOPIC: THE GALLBLADDER**

# **Gallbladder and Bile**

Gallbladder: small sac; to liver.
Function: store produced by liver.
B) Bile duct: connects & gallbladder to small intestine.
A) Cystic duct: connects gallbladder to bile duct.
• Gallbladder to release bile.
- Triggered by Cholecystokinin (CCK) from intestine.
<ul> <li>◆ Bile: made of bile, bile pigment, cholesterol, triglycerides, phospholipids, and electrolytes.</li> <li>◆ Bile salts are derived from cholesterol.</li> <li>◆ Breaks up by emulsifying them.</li> <li>◆ Bile salts are in the large intestine, brought to the liver via the portal vein and recycled by the liver.</li> <li>◆ Bilirubin: chief bile pigment. Waste from liver; turns feces brown.</li> </ul>
XAMPLE Gallbladder removal (cholecystectomy) is one of the most common surgical procedures with over one million surgeries performed in the United States each year. Indicate whether you would expect each of the following to increase, decrease, or show no change after gallbladder removal.
) Total bile production.
) Amount of bile that can be released at one time.
) Do you think that patients who have gallbladder removal are generally advised to avoid eating fats altogether, avoid
eating foods with highly concentrated fats, or to not consider fat intake in their diets? Explain your answer.

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#### PRACTICE

How would the gallbladder respond to an increase in cholecystokinin in the blood?

a) Produce more bile.

d) Relax to accommodate an influx of bile from the liver.

b) Remove bile salts from circulation.

c) Contract to release bile.

### PRACTICE

Which of the following statements about bile is true?

- a) Bile breaks down fats by breaking triglycerides down to fatty acids.
- b) Bile increases the surface area of fats in chyme, but it does not break them down chemically.
- c) The process of bile breaking down fats creates a byproduct that makes feces brown.
- d) Bile is synthesized by the gallbladder when stimulated by cholecystokinin (CCK).