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APPENDICITIS

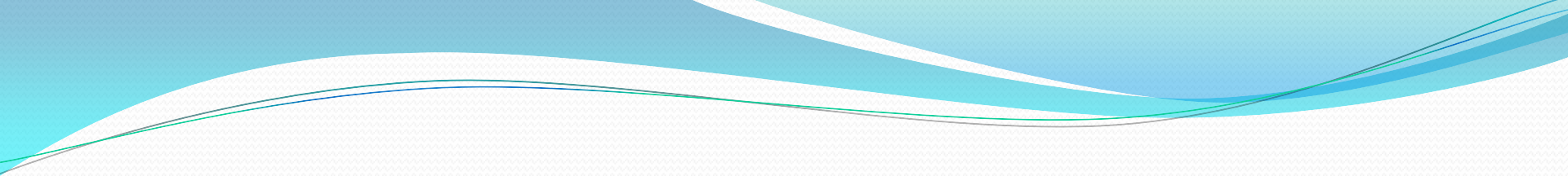
#icliniq100hrs - Unlimited Chat With a Doctor for the next 100 Hours

# Specific Objective

- At the end of the class the students will be able to:
- Define Appendicitis.
- Explain the incidence of appendicitis
- Explain the pathophysiology of appendicitis .
- Enumerate the clinical manifestations of appendicitis.
- Describe the diagnostic evaluation and management of appendicitis .

# Definition and Incidence

- It is defined as the inflammation of the appendix.
- About 7% of the population will have appendicitis at some time in their lives; males are affected more than females, and teenagers more than adults. Although it can occur at any age, it occurs most frequently between the ages of 10 and 30 years

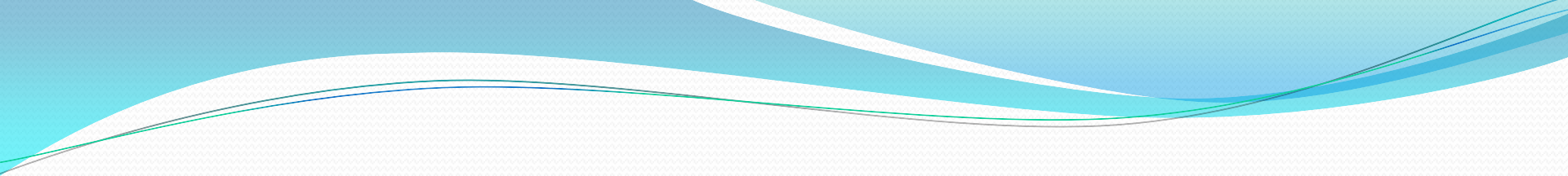
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- ✓ Appendicitis happens when appendix becomes inflamed. It can be acute or chronic.
  - ✓ In the United States, appendicitis is the most common cause of abdominal pain resulting in surgery. Over 5 percent of Americans experience it at some point in their lives.
  - ✓ If left untreated, appendicitis can cause your appendix to burst. This can cause bacteria to spill into abdominal cavity, which can be serious and sometimes fatal.

# Types :-

- ✓ The two types of appendicitis depending on the onset, which are:
  - **Acute Appendicitis** - It develops very fast within a few days to hours, and requires prompt medical treatment or surgery.
  - **Chronic Appendicitis** - Here, the inflammation lasts for a long time. It is a rare condition.
- ✓ depending on the complications:
  - **Simple Appendicitis** - Cases with no complications.
  - **Complex Appendicitis** - Cases that involve complications like appendix rupture or abscess.

# Causes :-

- ✓ In many cases, the exact cause of appendicitis is unknown. Experts believe it develops when part of the appendix becomes obstructed, or blocked.
- ✓ Many things can potentially block appendix, including:
  - a buildup of hardened stool
  - enlarged lymphoid follicle
  - intestinal worms
  - traumatic injury
  - tumors

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- ✓ When appendix becomes blocked, bacteria can multiply inside it. This can lead to the formation of pus and swelling, which can cause painful pressure in abdomen.
  - ✓ Other conditions can also cause abdominal pain.

# Pathophysiology

The appendix becomes inflamed and edematous as a result of either becoming kinked or occluded by a fecalith (i.e., hardened mass of stool), tumor, or foreign body



The inflammatory process increases intraluminal pressure



generalized or upper abdominal pain that becomes localized in the right lower quadrant of the abdomen within a few hours.

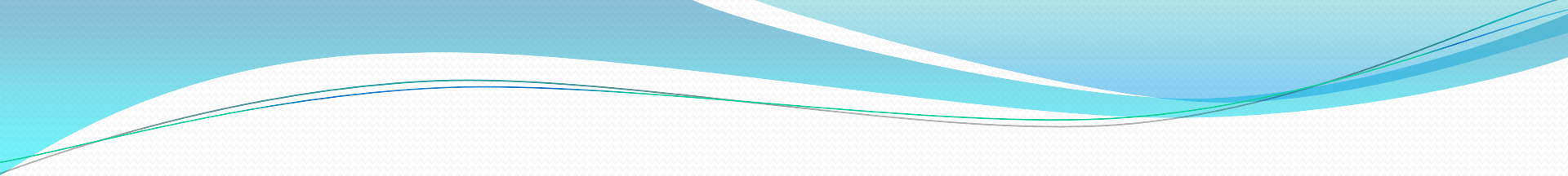


the inflamed appendix fills with pus



# Clinical Manifestations

- ✓ If patient have appendicitis, they may experience one or more of the following symptoms:
- ✓ pain in your upper abdomen or around bellybutton
- ✓ pain in the lower right side of abdomen
- ✓ loss of appetite
- ✓ indigestion
- ✓ nausea
- ✓ vomiting

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- ✓ diarrhea
  - ✓ constipation
  - ✓ abdominal swelling
  - ✓ inability to pass gas
  - ✓ low-grade fever

# APPENDICITIS SYMPTOMS



**SUDDEN PAIN ON THE  
RIGHT SIDE OF ABDOMEN**



**NAUSEA AND  
VOMITING**



**LOSS OF  
APPETITE**



**FEVER**



**CONSTIPATION OR  
DIARRHEA**



**ABDOMINAL  
BLOATING**

# Diagnostic Evaluation

- ✓ History collection
- ✓ Physical examination
- ✓ Diagnosing appendicitis can be tricky.
- ✓ Symptoms are often unclear or similar to those of other illnesses, including gallbladder problems, bladder or urinary tract infection, gastritis, kidney stones, intestinal infection, and ovary problems.

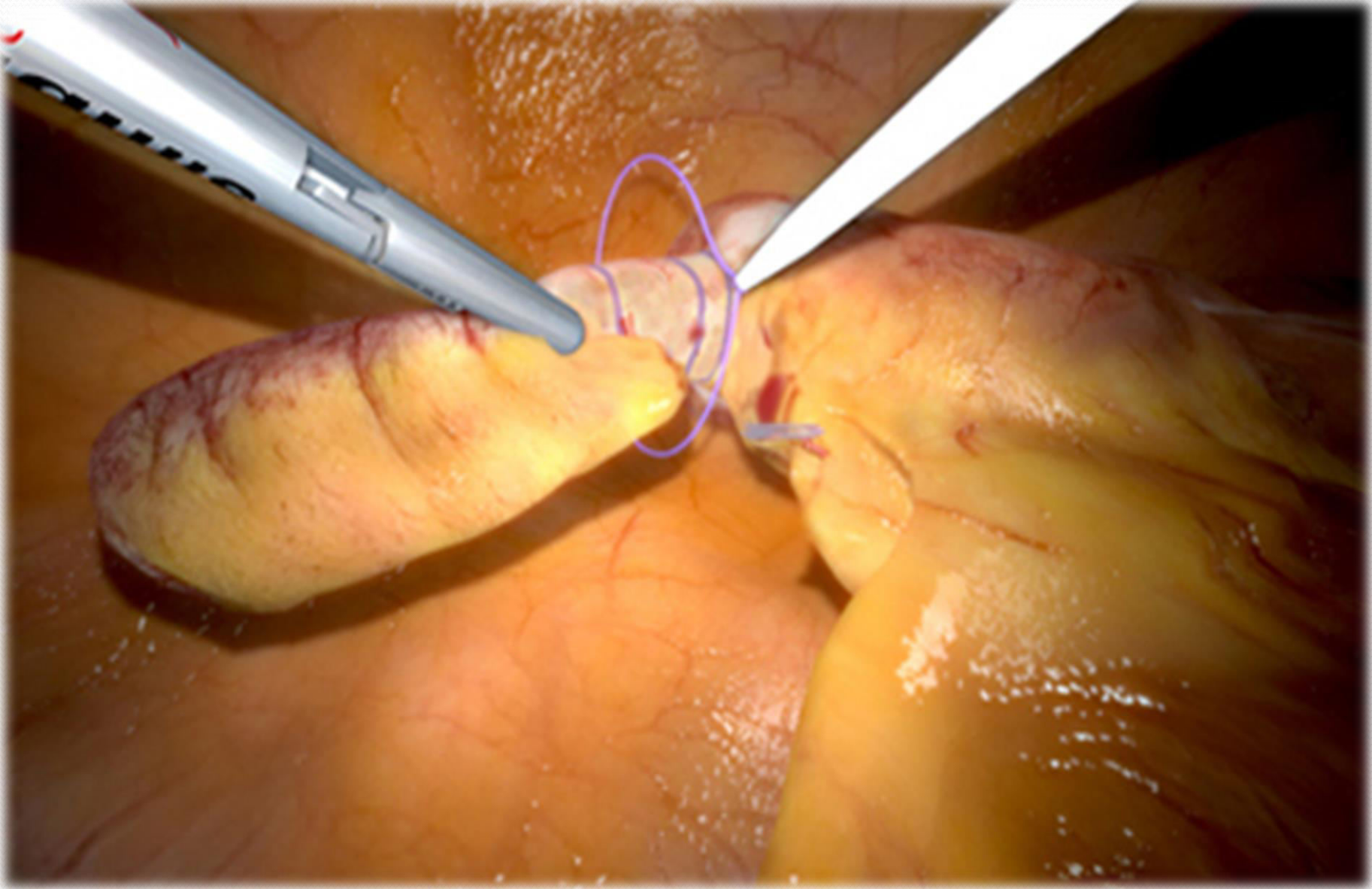
✓ These tests can help diagnose appendicitis:

- Examination of abdomen to look for inflammation
- Urine test to rule out a urinary tract infection
- Rectal exam
- Blood test to see whether body is fighting an infection
- CT scans
- Ultrasound
- x-ray findings.
- The complete blood cell count demonstrates an elevated white blood cell count. The leukocyte count may exceed 10,000 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>, and the neutrophil count may exceed 75%.

# Management

- To correct or prevent fluid and electrolyte imbalance and dehydration, antibiotics and intravenous fluids are administered until surgery is performed.
- Analgesics can be administered after the diagnosis is made.
- Appendectomy (i.e. surgical removal of the appendix) is performed as soon as possible to decrease the risk of perforation.





# Nursing Management

- Goals Include
- Relieving Pain,
- Preventing Fluid Volume Deficit,
- Reducing Anxiety,
- Eliminating Infection From The Potential Or Actual Disruption Of The GI Tract,
- Maintaining Skin Integrity,
- Attaining Optimal Nutrition.





**Nursing diagnosis :-**

# Complications

- ✓ Left untreated, an inflamed appendix will burst, spilling bacteria and debris into the abdominal cavity, the central part of body that holds liver, stomach, and intestines. This can lead to peritonitis, a serious inflammation of the abdominal cavity's lining (the peritoneum). It can be deadly unless it is treated quickly with strong antibiotics.
- ✓ Sometimes, an abscess forms outside an inflamed appendix. Scar tissue then "walls off" the appendix from the rest of organs. This keeps the infection from spreading. But an abscessed appendix can tear and lead to peritonitis.

thank you!