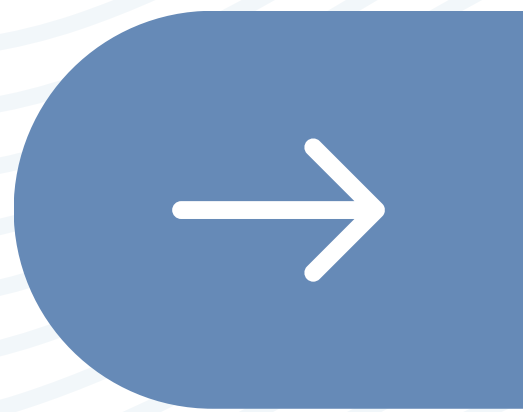


#DIBS BY NEXTILLO

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SERVICE

ACUTE APPENDICITIS





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ACUTE APPENDICITIS

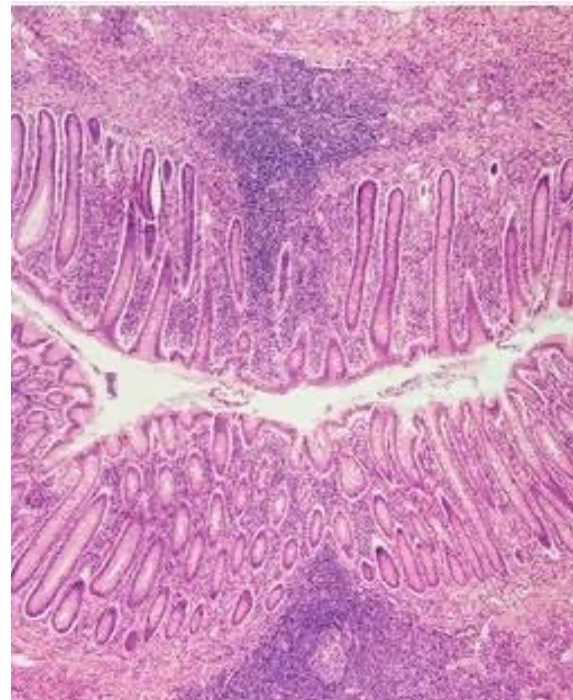
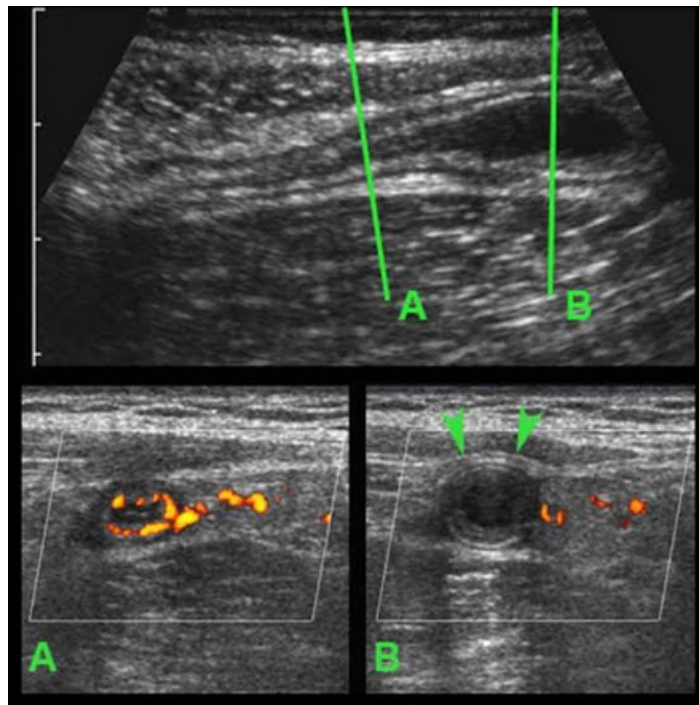
Acute appendicitis is a sudden and severe inflammation of the vermiform appendix, a small pouch-like structure attached to the cecum in the lower right abdomen.

Appendicitis is one of the most common reasons for emergency abdominal surgery.

Most common in individuals aged 10 to 30.



CLINICAL IMPRESSION



Longitudinal and transverse US scan of acute appendicitis with thickening of the wall crosses, target-sign, diameter > 6 mm and free fluid surrounding the appendix.



CLINICAL PRESENTATION

- **Abdominal Pain:** Typically starts as dull periumbilical pain, then migrates to the right lower quadrant (RLQ) and intensifies.
- **Nausea and Vomiting:** Due to irritation of the peritoneum.
- **Fever:** Inflammation may lead to an elevated body temperature.
- **Anorexia:** Reduced appetite is common.



DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

- **Ultrasound:** Useful, especially in pediatric and pregnant patients.
- **CT Scan:** Often preferred in adults for accurate diagnosis and evaluation of complications.



MANAGEMENT AND COMPLICATIONS

Treatment :

- **Appendectomy:** *Surgical removal of the inflamed appendix is the standard treatment.*
- **Antibiotics:** *Administered before surgery to reduce infection risk.*

Complications :

- **Perforation:** *If not treated promptly, the inflamed appendix may rupture, leading to peritonitis.*
- **Abscess Formation:** *Localized collection of pus may occur.*



ACUTE APPENDICITIS

Question:

A 16-year-old female presents with right lower quadrant pain and fever for the past two days. On physical examination, she has tenderness in the right lower quadrant and guarding. Laboratory tests reveal an elevated white blood cell count and a urine pregnancy test is negative. An ultrasound is inconclusive. What would be the next appropriate step in the management of this patient?

- A. Observation and pain management*
- B. Administration of intravenous antibiotics*
- C. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the abdomen*
- D. Appendectomy*

Ans: C) Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the abdomen