

Virtual Appendectomy

Now that you understand the anatomy of the abdomen and how the appendix can become infected and require removal to save your patient's life, it is time for you to perform the procedure yourself. Go to the website <http://www.surgerysquad.com/surgeries/appendectomy-surgery/> or type "virtual appendectomy" into your search engine and select this website.

"SurgerySquad" will take you through all of the steps of performing a laparoscopic appendectomy. Answer the questions on the Virtual Appendectomy Surgery Worksheet below:

Appendectomy Worksheet

Directions: Go to the website

<http://www.surgerysquad.com/surgeries/appendectomy-surgery/> or type “virtual appendectomy” into your search engine and select this website. Answer the following questions related to your experience performing Laparoscopic Appendectomy Surgery.

1. When is an appendectomy needed?

2. What can happen if an infected appendix is left untreated?

3. What do many Scientists feel was the original function of the appendix?

4. What is the name of the procedure that minimizes the length of incision required to remove an infected appendix?

5. What are the benefits to the patient afforded by laparoscopic surgery?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

6. What were the symptoms that caused this patient to have an appendectomy at this time?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

Appendectomy Worksheet

7. Which physician has the responsibility to sedate or anesthetize the patient for surgery?

8. What medical device did you insert into the patient's mouth to protect the lungs and assist breathing during the operation?

9. What is the name of the specialized instruments inserted into the abdomen through small incisions?

10. How many small incisions did you make?

11. What gas was pumped into the abdomen to help visualize the surgical area?

12. What did the surgeon see that indicated an infection of the appendix before doing anything to the tissue?

13. What artery did you cut and cauterize?

14. How many loops were inserted around the appendix?

Virtual Appendectomy Worksheet

15. When you cut through the appendix, what clue proved the appendix was infected?

16. How did you remove the appendix from inside the abdomen?

a. _____

b. _____

17. What did you use to flush out and clean the surgical area following removal of the infected appendix?

18. What was the final step in the surgery (before closing the incisions)?

19. What was used to close the skin incisions?

20. How long was the longest appendix ever removed from a patient?

21. About how long does the patient stay in the hospital following an Appendectomy?

22. About how long is the expected recovery period following surgery in a patient where the appendix did not rupture?

23. About how long is the expected recovery period for a patient whose appendix ruptured?
