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Outcome of initially non-operative treatment for acute simple appendicitis in children

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Abstract

Purpose: To compare the outcome of initially non-operative treatment with immediate appendectomy for simple appendicitis in children.

Methods: Between September 2012 and June 2014 children aged 7-17 years with a radiologically confirmed simple appendicitis were invited to participate in a multicentre prospective cohort study in which they were treated with an initially non-operative treatment strategy; non-participants underwent immediate appendectomy. In October 2015, their rates of complications and subsequent appendectomies, and health-related quality of life (HRQOL) were assessed.

Results: In this period, 25 children were treated with an initially non-operative treatment strategy and 19 with immediate appendectomy; median (range) follow-up was 25 (16-36) and 26 (17-34) months, respectively. The percentage [95%CI] of patients experiencing complications in the initially nonoperative group and the immediate appendectomy group was 12 [4-30]% and 11 [3-31]%, respectively. In total 6/25 children (24%) underwent an

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