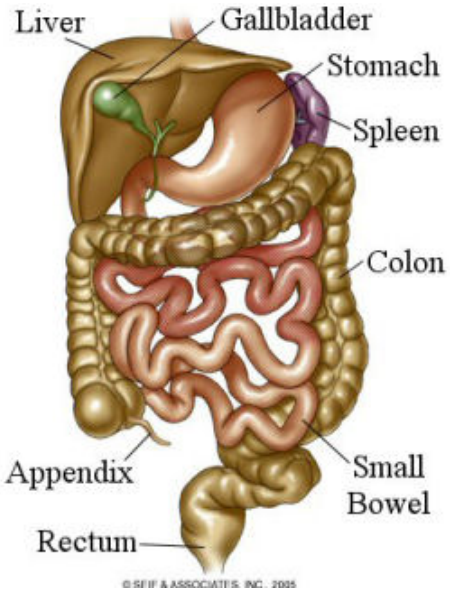
Abdominal Pain, Possible Early Appendicitis

Abdominal (*belly*) pain can be caused by many things. Your caregiver decides the seriousness of your pain by an exam and possibly blood tests and x-rays. Many cases can be observed and treated at home. Most abdominal pain in children is functional. This means it is not caused by a disease. It will probably improve without treatment.



At this time, your caregiver feels that the abdominal pain could possibly be caused by early appendicitis. This means that you will require follow-up. You may be allowed to go home but may need to return for re-examination and repeat lab work.

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- Do not take or give laxatives unless directed by your caregiver.
- Take pain medication only if ordered by your caregiver.
- Take no food or water by mouth unless instructed to do so by your caregiver.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF:

- The pain does not go away or becomes much worse.
- An oral temperature above 102º F (38.9º C) develops.
- Repeated vomiting occurs.
- Blood is being passed in stools (bright red or black tarry stools).
- You develop blood in the urine or cannot pass your urine.
- You develop severe pain in other parts of your body.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch your condition.
- Will get help right away if you are not doing well or get worse.

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