

Acute Appendicitis, Evaluation of conservative management during the COVID-19 pandemic

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Aim:

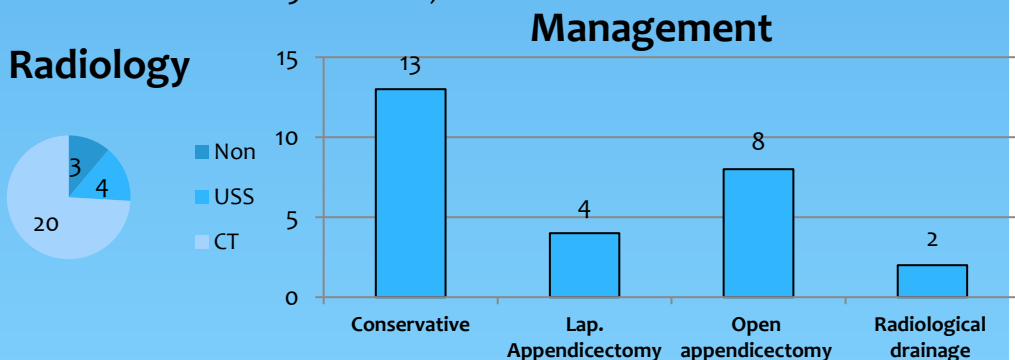
Right iliac fossa pain is one of the most common presentations to the acute surgical take. The aim was to assess the impact of the COVID-19 on the management of this emergency admission. In addition to evaluate the effectiveness of antibiotics as a first line of treatment.

Methods:

Analysis of data collected from 15/03/2020 to 15/06/2020 (lockdown period) of the acute appendicitis. Updated guidance on COVID-19, where non-operative management is possible and reasonable this should be implemented.

Results:

Data collected from 27 patients. 55.5% of the patients were swabbed to exclude COVID-19 infection, the rest had CT thorax instead.



23% of the patient treated conservatively had appendicectomy later on. 22.2% were readmitted within 90 days period

Conclusion:

COVID-19 evidently had an impact on the surgical practice. More reliance on CT was demonstrated. Half of the patients were treated conservatively however, 23% needed appendectomies on later readmissions. 2/3 of the appendectomies were done open and we have observed return to laparoscopic appendicectomy at the end of the lockdown.