

# Laparoscopic versus open appendectomy

<b>Submission date</b> 04/12/2011	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 18/01/2012	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 28/10/2014	<b>Condition category</b> Digestive System	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

Appendicitis is a painful swelling of the appendix, a finger-like pouch connected to the large intestine. It is traditionally classified as uncomplicated or complicated, and is treated by removal of the appendix, known as an appendectomy or appendicectomy, which is the most commonly performed surgical procedure. Appendicectomy can be performed by one of two methods. Laparoscopic appendicectomy (LA) involves making several small cuts in your abdomen through which special surgical instruments are inserted. Open appendicectomy (OA) involves making a single larger cut in the abdomen. Currently the Department of Surgery at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, Johannesburg, South Africa, practises both OA and LA in the treatment of perforated appendicitis (burst appendix). To date there have been no studies comparing outcomes between OA and LA in perforated appendicitis. The aim of this study is to compare the intra-operative duration, the rate of wound sepsis, the rate of relook, the length of hospital stay and the rate of re-admissions between the OA and LA groups. Additionally we aim to look at whether the duration of the symptoms has any effect on the outcome between the two procedures.

### Who can participate?

Patients presenting with acute abdomens suspected to be caused by perforated appendicitis at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital.

### What does the study involve?

Participants will be randomly allocated to undergo either OA or LA. A team of senior surgeons capable of doing both OA and LA will perform the surgery. Surgeons will perform standardized procedures in both subgroups as per current clinical guidelines.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

As this study will be comparing the outcomes of two different emergency surgical procedures, patients will be subjected to the risks which are associated with the surgical procedures. It must be noted that all patients recruited into the study need emergency surgery and thus inclusion in the study per se adds no additional risk factors to patients.

### Where is the study run from?

Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, Johannesburg, South Africa.

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

The study began in December 2011 and ran for about 6 months.

Who is funding the study?

There is no sponsor for the above trial. Should any minor costs be incurred they will be funded by the Department of Surgery, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Who is the main contact?

Dr John Thomson

drjohnthomson@gmail.com

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Scientific

### Contact name

Dr John Thomson

### Contact details

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1609

## Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Secondary identifying numbers

N/A

## Study information

### Scientific Title

Laparoscopic versus open procedure for perforated appendix: a randomized controlled trial

### Study objectives

In the treatment of perforated appendicitis, laparoscopic appendicetomy is associated with lower morbidity than open appendicetomy.

### Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**

Human Research Medical Ethics Committee, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 27/11/2011, ref: M110730

**Study design**

Prospective single-centre randomized controlled trial

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Secondary study design**

Randomised controlled trial

**Study setting(s)**

Hospital

**Study type(s)**

Treatment

**Participant information sheet**

Not available in web format, please use the contact details below to request a patient information sheet

**Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Appendicitis

**Interventions**

Open appendicetomy (OA) versus laparoscopic appendicetomy (LA)

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Primary outcome measure**

1. Intra-operative duration
2. The rate of wound sepsis
3. The rate of re-look (the number of re-operations required as a result of the appendicitis or subsequent sequel of the appendicitis)
4. The length of hospital stay
5. The rate of re-admissions

**Secondary outcome measures**

Whether the duration of the symptoms has any effect on the outcome between the two procedures

**Overall study start date**

05/12/2011

**Completion date**

31/05/2012

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

All potential patients presenting with appendicitis at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, Johannesburg, South Africa

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Adult

**Sex**

Both

**Target number of participants**

100 patients

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Patients less than 12 years of age
2. Those who have undergone previous abdominal surgery
3. Pregnant patients

**Date of first enrolment**

05/12/2011

**Date of final enrolment**

31/05/2012

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

South Africa

**Study participating centre**

2 Edward Drive

Johannesburg

South Africa

1609

## Sponsor information

## Organisation

University of Witwatersrand (South Africa)

## Sponsor details

c/o Prof Thifheli Luvhengo  
Department of Surgery  
Baragwanath Hospital  
R68 Old Potchefstroom Road  
PO Bertsham  
Johannesburg  
South Africa  
2013

## Sponsor type

Hospital/treatment centre

## Website

<http://www.wits.ac.za/>

## ROR

<https://ror.org/03rp50x72>

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Hospital/treatment centre

### Funder Name

Department of Surgery, University of Witwatersrand (South Africa)

## Results and Publications

### Publication and dissemination plan

Not provided at time of registration

### Intention to publish date

### Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

### IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

## Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
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[Results article](#)

results

01/07/2015

Yes

No