

Is Appendicitis and Appendiceal Abscess a Disease of the Aging Population?

A population study using the (SPARCS) database

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INTRODUCTION

Acute appendicitis is the most common worldwide indication for emergent surgery. Surgical management for early appendectomy has been well accepted; however, the paradigm has been shifting with an aging population, what appears to be a higher incidence of adults and a rising use of laparoscope to appendectomy. The purpose of this paper is to assess by age the rate incidence of appendicitis (A) and appendiceal abscess/mass (AAb).

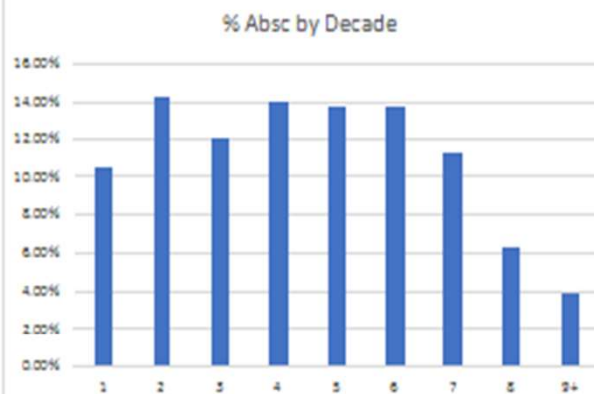
HYPOTHESIS

The incidence of simple appendicitis and complicated appendicitis is increasingly more common in an older population than previously appreciated.

METHODS

The 2018 NY Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS) database was assessed to identify for appendicitis and age of patients, in addition, NY state census was utilized to have the age distribution of the population. A total of 93,810 were evaluated with appendicitis. Population was divided by decade of life and the percentage of population by decade of life was compared with the percentage of appendicitis and abscesses for that range.

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CONCLUSION

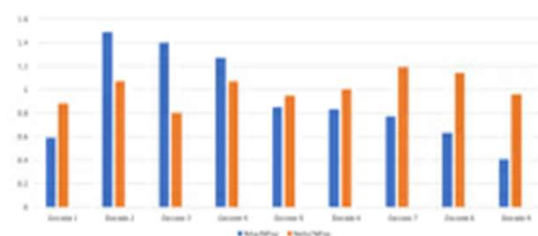
This data shows A and AAb occur most frequently after the age of 30. These data suggest a re-evaluation of the use of incidental appendectomy in our laparoscopic era and in our aging population.



RESULTS

The first two decades of life account for 29% of appendicitis patients. Patients in the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th decades of life account for 56.3% of patients. Patients presented with an abscess in 3.3% of the total population. Sixty-five percent of patients who presented with AAb were over the age of 30 at the time of initial presentation. The risk of appendiceal abscess at presentation is triphasic with a peak in the 2nd decade, 4th decade and 7th decades of life.

% Appendicitis & % Abscess Per % of Population by Decade of Life



Incidence of Appendicitis by Decade

