

Extended-spectrum antibiotics no benefit for pediatric appendicitis

July 1 2016



(HealthDay)—For children diagnosed with appendicitis undergoing

appendectomy, extended-spectrum antibiotics seem to offer no advantage over narrower-spectrum agents, according to a study published online June 28 in *Pediatrics*.

Matthew P. Kronman, M.D., from the University of Washington in Seattle, and colleagues performed a retrospective cohort study involving [children](#) aged 3 to 18 years discharged between 2011 and 2013 with an [appendicitis](#) diagnosis and appendectomy performed. Data were included for 24,984 patients.

The researchers found that 70.7 percent of the patients had uncomplicated appendicitis and 29.3 percent had complicated appendicitis (postoperative length of stay of three or more days, central venous catheter placed, major or severe illness classification, or intensive care unit admission). Overall, 2.7 percent of patients experienced the primary outcome of 30-day readmission for wound infection or repeat abdominal surgery (1.1 and 6.4 percent, respectively, among uncomplicated and complicated cases [P

"Extended-spectrum antibiotics seem to offer no advantage over narrower-spectrum agents for children with surgically managed acute uncomplicated or complicated appendicitis," the authors write.

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Citation: Extended-spectrum antibiotics no benefit for pediatric appendicitis (2016, July 1) retrieved 18 May 2023 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-07-extended-spectrum-antibiotics-benefit-pediatric-appendicitis.html>

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