

MCEM SAQ example No.1

A 24-year-old female presents to the Emergency Department with a 2-day history of low grade fever, general malaise, nausea, decreased appetite and abdominal pain. Abdominal examination reveals localised tenderness and guarding in the right iliac fossa.

Initial blood results are as follows:

WCC 18.1, neutrophils 13.6 (75.1%), hematocrit 45.2%
Sodium 133, Potassium 4.2, Urea 3.1, Creatinine 76

- a. State 4 clinical parameters which can help to point towards a diagnosis of appendicitis.

- b. Explain the principle of guarding on abdominal examination.

- c. What antibiotic drug treatment would you use? (state dose and route)

- d. Give 4 gynaecological causes for similar pain in this patient.