

Appendectomy

Your healthcare provider has recommended you have an appendectomy. This surgery will help you feel much better!

An appendectomy is surgery to take out your appendix. The appendix is a small pouch on your large intestine. Sometimes it can become infected, causing pain and other symptoms. If your appendix gets infected, you may need it removed.

For this surgery, you are first given medicine, so you relax and don't feel pain. You may be put to sleep.

Your surgeon may then make 1 large cut in your lower right side. They take out your appendix through this opening. This approach is called open surgery.

Or, your surgeon may do laparoscopic surgery. They then make a few small cuts in your belly.

A thin tube with a camera, called a laparoscope, is put into 1 of these cuts. It sends images to a video screen, letting your surgeon see inside your belly.

Your surgeon then puts tools into the other cuts. They use the tools to take out your appendix.

Once your appendix is out, your surgeon cleans the area to prevent infection. Then they remove all tools and close the cuts with stitches.

To help you recover, you may need to spend some time in the hospital. Your surgeon will help you know what to expect. Follow their instructions to help you heal safely. They are on hand if you have any questions.