

# Recognising a problem after laparoscopic surgery (child)

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This fact sheet is for general information about this procedure only. It is not intended to be used as medical advice or to replace advice that your relevant healthcare professional would give you. If you have a particular medical problem, please consult a healthcare professional.

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## What are the benefits of laparoscopic (keyhole) surgery?

Your child will usually need to stay in hospital for only a short time and their recovery should be faster compared to open surgery.

Any pain should last for just a few hours and your child should continue to improve over the first few days.

## What symptoms should I be aware of?

### Symptoms that may need urgent treatment

When your child is recovering, you need to be aware of the following symptoms as they may show that your child has a serious complication.

- Pain that gets worse over time or is severe when they move, breathe or cough.
- Pain when your child's abdomen is touched only lightly and they avoid any movement that affects their abdomen.
- A high temperature or fever.
- Dizziness, feeling faint or shortness of breath.
- Seeming sick or not having any appetite.
- Not opening their bowels and not passing wind.
- Swelling of the abdomen.
- Difficulty passing urine.
- Vomiting.

### Symptoms that may need further treatment

There are other, less urgent, complications that may happen after your child has returned home. You need to be aware of the following symptoms as your child may need further treatment.

- A lump under a wound.
- A high temperature, pus in the wound, or if the wound becomes red, sore or painful.

Keep this information document. Use it to help you if you need to talk to the healthcare team.

Some information, such as risk and complication statistics, is taken from global studies and/or databases. Please ask your surgeon or doctor for more information about the risks that are specific to you, and they may be able to tell you about any other suitable treatments options.

This document is intended for information purposes only and should not replace advice that your relevant healthcare team would give you.

### Acknowledgements

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