

514 Audit to Assess Negative Appendicectomy Rate (NAR) in Adult Patients in The Leicester Royal Infirmary (LRI)

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Aim: Determine the NAR rate in Leicester Royal Infirmary (LRI) and compare to the national average (20%)

Additional objectives:

- 1) False-positive rate for USS and CT in assessing potential appendicitis
- 2) Assess in what percentage of USS the appendix is visualised

Method: This was a retrospective audit which considered all patients admitted over a three-month period to the LRI with suspected appendicitis. Data was collected on patients proceeding to surgery, and then whether their histology was pathological.

Results: 318 patients were included, of which 80 proceeded to surgery.

Objective 1

- NAR of 5% (4/80)

Secondary objective 1

- 1) USS False-positive rate 5.4% (2/37)
- 2) CT False-positive rate 2.3% (1/43)

Secondary objective 2

- Appendix visualised in 29.3% (48/164) of Ultrasounds

Conclusions: This audit has demonstrated that both USS and CT have a very low false-positive rate in assessment of appendicitis; however, USS visualises the appendix in less than 30% of cases.

I believe the pathway should be altered to remove USS scanning for obese patients where the appendix is difficult to visualise; or in older patients, where there is less concern in using the CT modality.