***Age and gender related to clinical feature of acute appendicitis in baquba teaching hospital***

**Introduction**

Anatomy of appendix:

The appendix become visible in eighth week of embryological development as protuberance of terminal portion of cecum, during antenatal and postnatal development the growth of cecum exceed that of the appendix so that the appendix displaced medially towards the iliocecal valve. The relation of the base of the appendix to cecum remain constant. Whereas the tip of the appendix can be found in retrocecal pelvis or in pelvis or subcecal or periilial or right peri colic postion.

These anatomical considerations have significance clinical importance. The three taenia coli coverage of the junction of the cecum with appendix can be important landmark. The appendix can vary in length from less 1cm to more than 30 cm and long 6-9cm. (1)….

Physiology of appendix:

The appendix for many years consider with unknown function recently recognized that the appendix is an immunological organ and secrete Iga .recent study show developmental of inflammatory bowel disease after appendectomy. (2).......

Appendicitis;

Appendicitis defined as an inflammation of inner lining of vermiform appendix that spread to other part despite of therapeutic advancement in medicine. (3)……..

Clinical feature and variation;

Symptoms include commonly abdominalpain. Nausea and vomiting and decrease of appetite (4)………. The symptoms of acute appendicitis are influenced by a variety of factor include age and gender and personality and position .only 50% of the patient with acute appendicitis give typical history. retrocecal inflamed appendix give poorly localized abdominal pain and inflamed pelvis appendix lying close to the bladder produce symptoms of frequency and dysurea (5)…… acute appendicitis rarely occur under 2 year and become increasingly common in childhood and early adult life . Peak incidence in the teens and early 20s after middle age risk of development of acute appendicitis decrease. the incidence of acute appendicitis is equal amongst male and female before puberty , in teenagers and young adult male to female ratio increase 3;2 at age of 25 years (6)……

Etiology of acute appendicitis:

There is no underlying hypothesis regarding to the etiology of acute appendicitis. Whileappendicitis is clearly associated with bacterial proliferation within the appendix. Obstruction of appendix lumen by faecolith or stricture, obstruction of the orifice by tumor or carcinoma or parasite, (7)………..

Investigation of acute appendicitis

Routine; full blood count and urinalysis

Selective; pregnancy test. Urea and electrolyte. Supine abdominal radiography

Ultrasound of abdomen and pelvis. Contrast enhanced CT of the abdomen.