

Your patient

Sarah Welbeck is a 34-year-old female patient who was admitted 4-days ago for an emergency appendicectomy (removal of appendix) for infective appendicitis (infection and inflammation of her appendix). Sarah has been showing signs of sepsis post-operatively and has been treated with intravenous (IV) antibiotics

Sarah was showing signs of recovery from sepsis. You have built up a relationship with Sarah, her husband Jack and her 2 children, Alfie (9) and Sam (7). Her children are always polite and always chat you about football, scooting and school. Sarah's husband sees Sarah every evening after work and you have built up a relationship with him too.



Sarah and her children

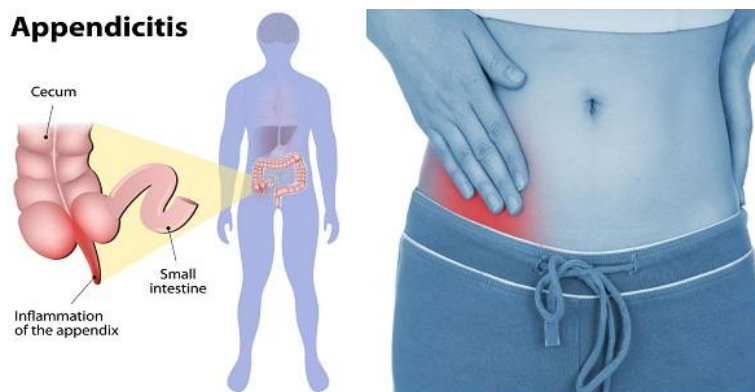
Sarah is always polite and always asks about you when she sees you, even when she was feeling unwell, she found the time to ask about you and how you were.

Past Medical History

Sarah has no significant past medical history. Sarah smoked 15-years ago, in her late teens and early twenties, but has not smoked recently. Sarah is an occasional social drinker but does not drink to excess. Sarah has no issues with her health that has been previously noted in medical notes

History of presenting condition

Sarah woke up on Tuesday morning 4-days ago, with a dull ache in her right lower-quadrant of her abdomen and this developed into in severe pain (she rated it as 10/10) around 4-6hrs later.



Jack, Sarah's husband, rang an ambulance where Sarah was taken to the Emergency Department. In the ED the on-call surgeon assessed Sarah and she was diagnosed with acute appendicitis. The ED team consented Sarah and from there, she was taken to theatre on the emergency theatre list for an emergency appendicectomy. Sarah was in theatre for approximately 2-hours and there were no significant issues reported in theatre, although her appendix was severely inflamed. She was given intra-venous antibiotics in theatre and these were to continue for 10 days post-operatively

Condition

Sarah showed signs of sepsis post-operatively but was treated with the sepsis-6 (fluid and IV anti-biotics) protocol quickly. Sarah was unwell for about 24-36hrs, but her observations began to stabilise, and she began to feel much better.

The team are starting to make plans for discharging Sarah home and you arrive on your night shift. As you arrive you see Sarah's family around the bed, and Alfie and Sam are kissing night-night to their mummy

You notice Sarah doesn't look as well as you thought she would- she looks sweaty and she looks in discomfort and she keeps rubbing the her sternum with the heel of her hand as if she was in discomfort- she appears grey, very sweaty and has lost the colour in her face and she appears almost grey.

You are delegated to look after Sarah after handover, you enter the bay in with Sarah is in and you start to help a patient opposite with a wash.....