

# Surgery & Integrative Medicine

November 17-18, 2025 | London, UK



**Mohamed Kaddah**

North Manchester General Hospital, Manchester University  
NHS Foundation Trust (MFT), Manchester, UK

## Time interval between the onset of symptoms, presentation and surgery for acute appendicitis patients in a district general hospital within the NHS

Acute appendicitis is one of the most common surgical emergencies, and appendicectomy remains the gold standard treatment. National and international guidelines recommend that surgery should be performed within 18 hours of presentation to minimize complications, reduce operative difficulty, and shorten hospital stay. The research question of this audit was whether patients with acute appendicitis at a district general hospital were managed in compliance with these standards. The purpose was to evaluate time intervals from presentation to surgery, assess their impact on outcomes, and identify areas for improvement. A retrospective audit was conducted using HIVE electronic records for cases between September 2022 and May 2025. Demographics, imaging, operative details, complications, and length of stay were recorded. Of 496 cases, 474 were included after exclusions. The median age was 31 years, with 44% female and 56% male patients. Appendicitis was confirmed on CT in 67%, on ultrasound in 10%, while 15% had no imaging. Surgery was laparoscopic in 91%, open in 6%, with 5.9% converted. The mean time to surgery was 18 hours, but only 50.6% underwent surgery within 18 hours of presentation, though 75% met the 18-hour target from decision to operate. Perforation was reported in 28% intraoperatively versus 16% on imaging. Postoperative drains were used in 30%, 9% required a postoperative scan, and 12% attended follow-up. The average length of stay was 2.7 days, better than the national benchmark of 3.7 days. In conclusion, although overall outcomes were favorable, only half of patients met the 18-hour presentation-to-surgery target, highlighting the need to streamline pathways to reduce delays, prevent complications, and optimize care.

### Keywords

Appendicitis, Audit, Surgery timing, Outcomes, Complications, Length of stay

### Biography

Mr. Mohamed Kaddah is a general surgeon with over 5 years of experience, currently working as a surgical registrar in the UK. He has published a master's thesis, presented at international conferences, and is actively involved in clinical audits, research, and surgical education. His interests include hepatobiliary surgery, minimally invasive procedures, and quality improvement initiatives to enhance patient outcomes.