



# Interpositional Arthroplasty and the Development of Sacroiliitis Post Laparoscopic Appendectomy

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## DESCRIPTION

Laparoscopic appendectomy is a widely performed surgical procedure known for its minimally invasive nature and shorter recovery times. However, emerging cases suggest a potential association between laparoscopic appendectomy and the development of sacroiliitis, a condition involving inflammation of the sacroiliac joints. Laparoscopic appendectomy has become the preferred method for removing an inflamed or infected appendix due to its advantages over traditional open surgery. With smaller incisions, reduced postoperative pain, and quicker recovery times, laparoscopic procedures have gained widespread acceptance. However, recent reports have raised concerns about a potential correlation between this surgical approach and the subsequent development of sacroiliitis. Interpositional arthroplasty, a surgical technique involving the insertion of a material between joint surfaces, has found applications in various joints, but its role in the development of sacroiliitis post laparoscopic appendectomy is a relatively novel consideration. The sacroiliac joints, significant for weight transfer and shock absorption between the spine and pelvis, may be inadvertently affected during laparoscopic procedures, leading to inflammation and subsequent sacroiliitis.

While the connection between laparoscopic appendectomy and sacroiliitis is not fully understood, emerging cases highlight the importance of recognizing potential complications. Patients undergoing laparoscopic appendectomy may experience postoperative symptoms such as lower back pain, stiffness, and discomfort in the pelvic region, prompting further investigation into the possibility of sacroiliitis development.

During laparoscopic procedures, the manipulation of instruments and the creation of portals could inadvertently cause trauma to the sacroiliac joints, triggering an inflammatory response.

The surgical site and the inflammatory nature of appendicitis might contribute to the risk of infection and an altered immune response, potentially affecting the adjacent sacroiliac joints.

Patient positioning during laparoscopic appendectomy may subject the sacroiliac joints to prolonged pressure or stress, possibly contributing to inflammation and subsequent sacroiliitis. The disruption of the gut barrier during surgery might lead to microbial translocation, where bacteria or their products enter the bloodstream, potentially triggering an immune response affecting the sacroiliac joints. Diagnosing sacroiliitis post laparoscopic appendectomy can be challenging due to overlapping symptoms with other conditions and the absence of specific diagnostic markers. Imaging modalities such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Computed Tomography (CT) scans can aid in identifying sacroiliac joint inflammation, but a thorough clinical evaluation is vital for accurate diagnosis.

The management of sacroiliitis following laparoscopic appendectomy involves a multidisciplinary approach. Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) can help alleviate pain and reduce inflammation associated with sacroiliitis. Physical therapy and exercises focusing on joint mobility, flexibility, and strength can contribute to improved function and reduced pain. In cases of severe or refractory sacroiliitis, biological therapies targeting specific inflammatory pathways may be considered. In rare cases with severe joint damage, surgical options such as joint fusion or interpositional arthroplasty may be explored. Given the potential association between laparoscopic appendectomy and sacroiliitis, preventive measures and careful consideration of patient positioning, surgical techniques, and postoperative care are essential. Surgeons and healthcare providers should be vigilant in monitoring patients for any signs of sacroiliac joint involvement, especially those experiencing persistent lower back pain or pelvic discomfort after surgery.

The association between interpositional arthroplasty and the development of sacroiliitis following laparoscopic appendectomy is an evolving area of concern within the medical community. While laparoscopic procedures offer numerous benefits, including reduced recovery times, the potential for unintended consequences on adjacent structures such as the sacroiliac joints

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**Received:** 11-Mar-2024, Manuscript No. JSA-24-25078; **Editor assigned:** 15-Mar-2024, Pre QC No. JSA-24-25078 (PQ); **Reviewed:** 29-Mar-2024, QC No JSA-24-25078; **Revised:** 05-Apr-2024, Manuscript No. JSA-24-25078 (R); **Published:** 08-Apr-2024, DOI: 10.35248/2684-1606.24.8.237

**Citation:** Sang J (2024) Interpositional Arthroplasty and the Development of Sacroiliitis Post Laparoscopic Appendectomy. J Surg Anesth. 8:237.

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cannot be ignored. Further research and clinical observations are needed to elucidate the underlying mechanisms and

establish guidelines for prevention, diagnosis, and management of sacroiliitis in the context of laparoscopic appendectomy.