

# A Clinical Study of Acute Appendicitis in Childhood

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**Abstract :** Two hundred and fifty-five children with acute appendicitis had undergone surgery in our department over the last 12 years. They were divided in 3 groups by age ; younger than 5 years [Group A : 15] , from 6 to 10 [Group B : 95] and from 11 to 15 [Group C : 145] , and the relationship between the pathological severity and preoperative clinical features was studied in each group. Regarding the pathological severity, 107 out of 255 patients (42.0%) demonstrated a catarrhalis type, 81 (31.7%) a phlegmonous type and 67 (26.3%) a gangrenous type and the clinical features closely correlated with the pathological severity in the older age group [Group B•C], however, the pathological severity in Group A could not be clearly determined. In the treatment of acute appendicitis in children, an accurate preoperative diagnosis is therefore difficult to make based on the preoperative clinical features in young patients.

**Key words :** Acute appendicitis, Children