

	deficit and electrolyte imbalances
Follow laboratory findings. Blood studies including CBC, CRP, and intraoperative cultures if obtained.	To identify infection, and signs of inflammation
Advance diet as tolerated postoperatively.	To maintain nutritional status

## Expected Outcome

The child will exhibit no signs of infection

The child's pain will be controlled initially with IV analgesics then transitioned to oral analgesics

The child will exhibit no evidence of nausea or vomiting

The child will tolerate a regular diet

The child's body temperature is within normal limits

Sufficient fluid and electrolytes are maintained

## Case Study (Continued)

Lisa's parents are anxious and upset with the urgent need for surgery and hospitalization. You are concerned that they do not understand what is happening to their daughter.

## Assessment

What are the most important aspects of Lisa's care to discuss with her parents at this time?

### Family's Knowledge of Illness-Defining Characteristics

- Understands definition of appendicitis and ruptured appendix
- Describes rationale for urgent surgery
- Describes rationale for subsequent hospitalization and need for IV antibiotics
- Expresses fears and concerns