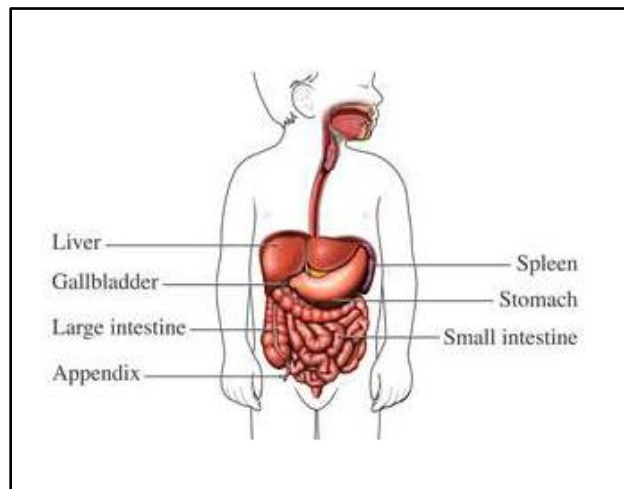


Preparing for a Cecostomy.

What is a Cecostomy Tube?

Your child's doctor has recommended your child have a surgery for a Cecostomy [ce-cos-to-my] tube or c-tube. A c-tube is used to give an enema by infusing the enema solution through the entire colon (also called the **large intestine** as pictured below). An enema helps the body to move the poop through the colon and out the anus. The colon, rectum, and anus are sometimes referred to as the bowels, as in bowel movement.



The c-tube is placed through a small opening in the right side of the belly. After the tube is placed, your child's colon can be emptied by giving an enema through this c-tube. Emptying the colon regularly can help prevent poop accidents and treat chronic constipation (difficulty pooping). You may also hear your child's care team refer to this procedure as ACE, MACE, or CHAIT. These are names of the type of enemas or the tube itself, but they all refer to using the c-tube to help your child empty their colon.

How is a Cecostomy Tube (c-tube) made?

During the surgery, a small tunnel is created between the skin of the belly and the colon. The tunnel is made from the appendix or from a small piece of colon. A small tube is placed into this tunnel either on the lower right side of the belly or at the belly button. A valve is made so poop will not leak out of the opening. The enema is given thru the c-tube while your child sits on the toilet or is wearing diapers so the poop comes out the anus as normal.

What to Expect before the Surgery

- Your child may be admitted to the hospital for 1-2 days before the surgery.
- Your child will be placed on a clear liquid diet.
- Your child will have an intravenous line (IV) for fluids and medicine to go through.

- A nasogastric (NG) tube may be placed to assist with a bowel cleanout. This ensures that your child's bowel or colon is clear prior to the surgery.
- IV antibiotics will be given before the procedure.

What to Expect after the Surgery

- Most children stay in the hospital for two to three days after the surgery.
- The site may be tender for several days. Pain medications will be given as needed.
 - We will keep your child as comfortable as possible.
- Your child will be on a clear liquid diet until normal bowel function returns, which may take a few days.
- You and your child will learn how to take care of and use the Cecostomy before being sent home.
- Medical supplies will be ordered for home.

