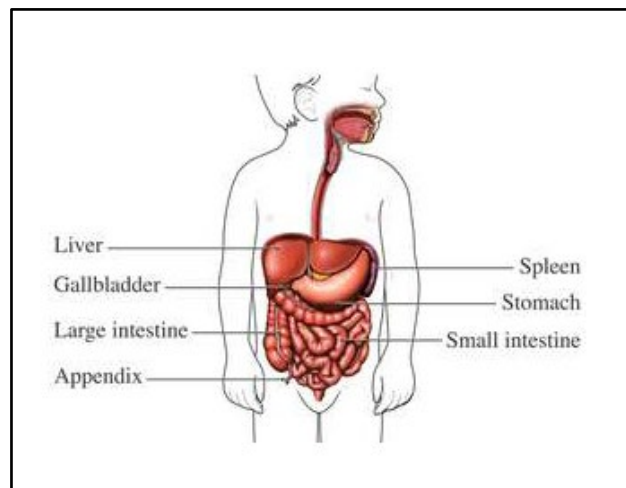


Preparing for an Antegrade Continence Enema (ACE) Procedure.

What is an ACE procedure?

Your child's doctor has recommended your child have a surgery called an ACE procedure. An ACE procedure lets children give their own enemas through a tube that goes through the abdominal wall. An enema helps the body to move the poop through the colon and out the anus. This 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 a Malone, MACE, or cecostomy.



What happens during the ACE procedure?

A small tunnel is made between the skin of the belly and the colon. The tunnel is made from the appendix or from a small piece of colon (large intestine). 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 through the tube while your child sits on the toilet and poop will come out of the anus as normal.

What to expect before the surgery

- Your child may need to take medicines the day before the surgery to clean poop out of the colon. Your surgeon may ask that this be done at home or in the hospital.
- Your child may need to be on a clear liquid diet the day before the surgery.
- Your child will not be able to eat or drink anything after midnight.
- Your child will get IV antibiotics in the operating room.

What to expect after the surgery

- Most children stay in the hospital for 2-3 days after the surgery.
- The incision (cut) may be tender for several days. Your child will get pain medicines to keep them as comfortable as possible.
- Your child will be on a clear liquid diet until their bowels work normally. Then, they will be able to start eating a regular diet.
- You and your child will learn how to take care of and use the tube before going home.
- Medical supplies will be ordered for home.

