

IS IT OK FOR PAEDIATRIC SURGEONS TO UNDERTAKE POUCH RECONSTRUCTION FOR CHILDREN AFTER PAN-PROCTOCOLECTOMY FOR ULCERATIVE COLITIS

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Aim: It remains controversial as to whether paediatric surgeons should perform restorative proctocolectomy. Our operative experience is but a fraction of equivalent adult surgeons but we are best placed to manage the holistic needs of children and know full well the powers of recovery and resistance and resilience to Infection. We also know our patient and family very well and have already conducted the colectomy and stoma formation needed to manage the disease initially. Our aim was to investigate whether the results from pouch reconstruction in childhood is equivalent or otherwise to adult practice thus justifying this procedure being performed prior to transition to adult services.

Method: A review was conducted of the english speaking literature using a defined set of search terms relating to conducting restorative proctocolectomy in paediatric surgery. The frequency of functional outcomes and complications were recorded. This was compared to a similar review of such surgery being performed in adult surgery to compare the initial complications and functional outcome.

Results: The main results are shown in the figure. The results of restorative proctocolectomy surgery performed in children show at least equivalent or better rates of complications and functional outcome.

Conclusions: The complications and functional outcomes of restorative proctocolectomy in childhood are at least equivalent if not better than that seen in adult practice. There are other Issues to consider when it comes to whether paediatric surgeons should perform this surgery such as frequency of surgical performance, long term follow up and the size of the necessary equipment to undertake such surgery. We propose that a pathway for children undergoing restorative surgery be agreed by paediatric surgeons in the UK and we propose such a pathway.

Figure **Post operative complications and outcome**

	Rate of all post operative complications	Day time stool emptying	Night time stool emptying	Leak/ Soiling	Pouchitis
Review of patients 6 to 11 years of age	41%	Mean 4.4	Mean 1 Median 1	14%	37%
Review of patients 12 to 16 years of age	46%	Mean 5	Mean 2 Median 1	15%	35%
Review of adult literature	52%	Mean 6	Mean 2 Median 2	70%	50%