

# ABDOMINAL WALL

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The skin of the abdominal wall, similar to all skin, is prone to develop superficial infection that may be spontaneous, due to minor trauma or infection of skin lesions such as an epidermoid cyst. Although antibiotics will suffice in most patients, if an abscess develops then surgical drainage may be required. The close proximity of bowel and bowel organisms opens the abdominal wall to attack from a wide range of highly virulent bacteria. Most commonly, these are released during abdominal surgery such as appendectomy and hence the need for appropriate antibiotic prophylactic cover.

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