major in Infectious Disease Thesis Supervisory Committee Somehai Supanvanich, M.D., M.P.H., M.P.H. & T.M. Amornrath Podhipak, M.S. (Biostatistic) Ph.D. (Epidemiology) Somkiat Wattanasirichaigoon, M.D., M.S., B.PA., F.R.C.S.T. (General Surgery) Date of Graduation 1 December B.E. 2535 (1992) Abstract The historical cohort study aimed to find the factors which influenced the post operative wound infection in Vajira Hospital. The data was abstracted from the medical records and the operative notes of appendectomy form of General Practice Extern. There were 316 patients who were diagnosed as non-perforated appendicitis in surgery department between Febuary 1, 1991 and December 31, 1991. The samples , which were 260 cases

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whose ages were between 15 to 75 years, were studied. The factors under this study for the increased risk of wound infection were age, duration time of the operation and preoperative antibiotic use. Among 260 appendentomy cases, there were 76 cases with wound infection (41 males, 35 females) with the sex ratio of male: female = 1.17:1. The infection rate was 29.32 %. The incidence vary with ages. However the duration time of the operation and preoperative antibiotic uses were not associated to increase infection rate.