

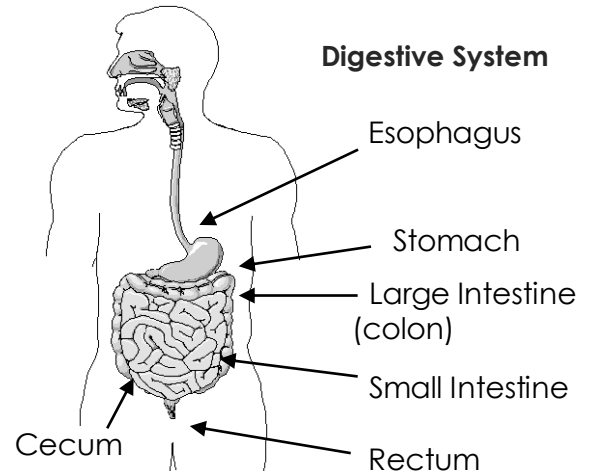
## What is a MACE?

The cecum is part of the large intestine. It is at the end of the small intestine. A MACE is a surgery that makes an opening in the cecum. The opening is used to give an antegrade enema.

An antegrade enema (or forward enema) helps empty stool (poop) from the colon. It empties from the top part of the large intestine down to the rectum. When an antegrade enema is given every one to two days, most bowel accidents can be avoided.

## Why is this type of enema needed?

- Antegrade enemas are often used for children with nerve damaged (neurogenic) bowels, like those with spina bifida or colon dysmotility. The nerves in the rectum may not be able to tell the brain when stool is present. This means the child can't tell when it's time to have a bowel movement (poop).
- A normal enema may not work since the enema may leak out as quickly as it goes in. It only empties stool from the rectum. The MACE is antegrade and empties stool from most of the colon.



## How do I prepare my child for surgery?

A bowel clean out before the procedure may be required. Your doctor will give you more information on this.

## How is a cecostomy created?

### **MACE (Malone Antegrade Continnence Enema)**

Often, the appendix is used to make a tunnel from the cecum to the skin surface. This tunnel is made for a tube that will go into the bowel. Stool will not leak out. Once your child heals, there will not be a tube in the opening.

1. To give the enema, a catheter is put through the tunnel until it is in the colon.
2. An enema administration bag is attached to this tube.



### What happens after surgery?

- Your child will be in the hospital for 3 to 7 days.
- It may be several days before your child can eat.
- Your child will have a tube in the channel. This will stay in place for 4 to 6 weeks.
- Your child will have some pain. Medicines will be used to help with the pain.
- Your doctor will tell you when antegrade enemas can be started.
- Your doctor or nurse will tell you how to care for the MACE.

### What are possible complications?

- Complications are rare. They may include infection:
  - On the skin around the stoma site.
  - In the lining of the inside of the abdomen (peritonitis).
  - From the stool leaking into the abdomen in children with VP shunts.
- The opening may start to close and need more surgery to open the hole.

### What happens after healing is complete?

- Your child can bathe and swim.
- Special care must be given for children who wear waist or chest level braces. The cecostomy opening cannot interfere with the child's ability to wear the brace.
- Each child is different. You will need to work with your child to find the bowel program that works best. You will have instructions from the doctor or clinic. **It may take weeks or even months to find the right bowel program.**

**ALERT:** Call your child's doctor, nurse, or clinic if you have any questions or concerns or if your child has special health care needs that were not covered by this information.

**This sheet was created to help you care for your child or family member. It does not take the place of medical care. Talk with your healthcare provider for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up.**