

Considering Hysterectomy?

Learn why **da Vinci® Surgery**
may be your best treatment option
for a benign gynecologic condition



da Vinci.  **Surgery**

Conditions

Chronic Pain, Heavy Bleeding, Fibroids, Endometriosis, Adenomyosis, Pelvic Prolapse

A wide variety of benign (non-cancerous) conditions can affect a woman's reproductive system, which consists of the uterus, vagina, ovaries and fallopian tubes. Most of these conditions affect the uterus, which is the hollow, fist-sized organ that holds a baby during pregnancy.

Common benign gynecologic conditions like fibroids (growths in and/or around the uterus), endometriosis (uterine lining growing outside the uterus), adenomyosis (uterine lining grows into the wall of the uterus), or pelvic prolapse (slipping of the uterus, vagina and/or bladder) can cause pain, heavy bleeding and other mild to severe symptoms.

Women who experience severe symptoms are often treated with hysterectomy - the surgical removal of the uterus. An estimated one third of all U.S. women will have a hysterectomy by age 60.¹ While this figure is lower in many other countries, it is still a common surgical procedure worldwide. Fortunately, there are more options today than ever before for how a hysterectomy is performed.



¹"Hysterectomy". Medline Plus; A Service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine – National Institutes of Health. Available from: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/hysterectomy.html>

The Treatment

Hysterectomy

There are several ways doctors can remove your uterus. Hysterectomy can be performed by removing the uterus through the vagina. Recovery can take 3 to 4 weeks.² However, when the uterus is large, or you have internal scarring (also called adhesions) from a prior surgery or other gynecologic conditions, doctors often perform an abdominal hysterectomy.

Abdominal hysterectomy is an open surgery, which requires your surgeon to make a large incision below the navel. The main drawbacks of abdominal or open hysterectomy are: the large incision, average recovery of 4-6 weeks,² and greater risk of complications.³

Hysterectomy can also be performed laparoscopically. This means the surgeon operates through a few small incisions in the abdomen. The uterus is removed in this minimally invasive

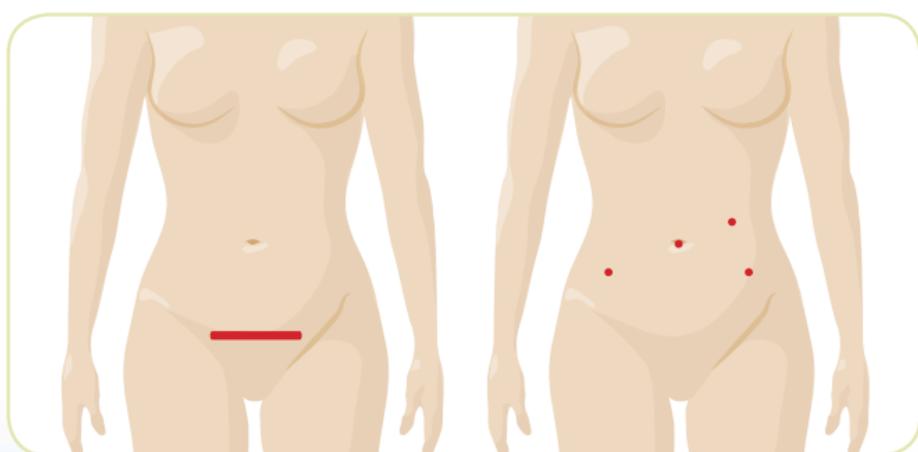


*In some cases, a fifth small incision may be required.

While clinical studies support the effectiveness of the *da Vinci* Surgical System when used in minimally invasive surgery, there are risks of major complications. Before you decide on surgery, discuss treatment options with your doctor. Understanding the *da Vinci* Surgical System may not be appropriate for every individual; it may not be applicable to your situation. Your doctor can determine whether *da Vinci* Surgery is appropriate for your situation. All people depicted are models. *Single-Site*, *InSite*, *TilePro* and *EndoWrist* are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intuitive Surgical. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

fashion using special instruments. One of the instruments is an endoscope – a narrow tube with a tiny camera at the end. This allows the surgeon to see inside your body on a 2D monitor.

Laparoscopic hysterectomy can be a challenging, complex procedure in part because of the long-handled, rigid instruments.



Open Surgery
Incision

da Vinci
Hysterectomy
Incisions*



da Vinci Surgery

A Highly Effective, Minimally Invasive Surgical Procedure

If your doctor recommends hysterectomy, you may be a candidate for minimally invasive *da Vinci* Hysterectomy. Using state-of-the-art technology, *da Vinci* Hysterectomy requires only a few tiny incisions so you can get back to your life. *da Vinci* enables surgeons to perform this delicate operation with enhanced vision, precision, dexterity and control.

da Vinci Hysterectomy offers women many potential benefits over traditional open surgery, including:

- › Less blood loss³
- › Fewer complications³
- › Shorter hospital stay³
- › Minimal scarring⁴

da Vinci Hysterectomy offers women many potential benefits over traditional laparoscopy, including:

- › Less blood loss⁵
- › Lower conversion rate to open surgery⁵
- › Shorter hospital stay^{5,6}
- › Less need for narcotic pain medicine^{7,8}

As with any surgery, these benefits cannot be guaranteed since surgery is unique to each patient and procedure.



² National Institutes of Health. Hysterectomy. Available from:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/002915.htm> ³ Landeen LB, Bell MC, Hubert HB, Bennis LY, K Clinical and cost comparisons for hysterectomy via abdominal, standard laparoscopic, vaginal and robot-assisted passim. ⁴ Boggess JF, Gehrig PA, Cantrell L, Shafer A, Ridgway M, Skinner EN, and Fowler WC. A comparative study Gynecol 2008. (For port placement, see figure 3.) ⁵ Payne, T. N. and F. R. Dauterive. A comparison of total laparoscopic Gynecol, 2008;15(3): 286-291. ⁶ Giep BN, Giep HN, Hubert HB. Comparison of minimally invasive surgical approach vaginal hysterectomy and laparoscopic supracervical hysterectomy. J Robot Surg. 2010 Sep;4(3):167-175. Epub 2010 total laparoscopic hysterectomy. JSLS. 2009 Jul-Sep;13(3):364-9. ⁸ Betcher R MD, Chaney P MD, Otey S MD, Wood da Vinci Robotic Hysterectomy and Total Laparoscopic Hysterectomy. Oral presentation, presented at: AAGL 2012.

The Enabling Technology

da Vinci Surgical System

The *da Vinci* Surgical System is designed to provide surgeons with enhanced capabilities, including high-definition 3D vision and a magnified view. Though it is often called a "robot," *da Vinci* cannot act on its own. The surgery is performed entirely by your doctor. He or she controls the *da Vinci* System, which translates all hand movements into smaller, more precise movements of tiny instruments inside your body.



Together, *da Vinci* technology allows your doctor to perform complex procedures through just a few tiny openings. As a result, you can get back to your life without the usual recovery following major surgery.

The *da Vinci* System has been used successfully worldwide in hundreds of thousands of procedures to date.

Your doctor is one of a growing number of surgeons worldwide offering **da Vinci[®] Surgery** for benign gynecologic conditions.

All surgeries, including *da Vinci* Surgery, involve risk of major complications. Before you decide on surgery, discuss treatment options with your doctor. Understanding the risks of each treatment can help you make the best decision for your situation.

For more information and to find a *da Vinci* Surgeon near you, visit:

www.daVinciSurgery.com