

PIANO-CMC Newsletter





مركز كليمنصواك بالتعلين بع جوثيل هويكثيل أشرناشونال

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Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery

Interview with Dr. Karim Nawfal on Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery What is Minimally Invasive gynecologic surgery?

The term Minimally Invasive gynecologic surgery includes hysteroscopic, laparoscopic and

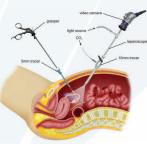
The term minimizing microscopic sargery includes materiascopic, publicascopic and robotic assisted procedures. This approach is now the standard in women's health care and CMC is a pioneer in Lebanon and the region in providing these types of freatments. The advantages of such procedures are improved surgical outcomes and increased patient satisfaction.

Can you provide us with a brief description about these procedures?

Can you provide us with a brief description about these procedures? A hysteroscopic surgery is a surgery to the uterine cavity that is performed as a same day procedure with the patient returning to normal activity on the next day with minimal to no discomfort. A laparoscopic surgery or "key hole" surgery is performed for almost all gynecological conditions, for example: removal of the uterus (laparoscopic hysterectomy), removal of tuterine fibroids (laparoscopic myomectomy), removal of cysts on the ovaries (laparoscopic cystectomy), treatment of pregnancies outside the uterus, post surgical adhesions, and vaginal vault prolapse (laparoscopic sacrocolpopexy).

What are the main advantages of those minimally invasive surgeries?
Laparoscopic procedures have been established to have better surgical outcomes in the form of decreased hospital stay, less blood loss, decreased risk of infection and less pain. Patients return home after a major laparoscopic procedure either the same day or the next morning. They usually return to regular activity within 2 weeks.

Another major advantage of minimally invasive surgery is cosmesis, instead of having one large vertical or harizontal scar of the traditional "open" surgery, the procedure is performed via three or four small incisions (less than 1 cm), thus the term "key hole" surgery allowing for less internal and external scarring.





Robotic assisted laparoscopic surgery is the newest and most advanced form of laparoscopicsurgery. The surgeon performs this minimally invasive surgery with all the advantages of laparoscopy and the added 3-dimensional high definition view, enhanced wrist movements, and better ergonomics allowing the surgeon to perform a more precise surgery.

Karim Nawfal, Obstetrician Gynecologist that specializes in Minimally Invasive and Robotic

Karim Nawtal, Obstetrician Gynecologist that specializes in Minimally Invasive and kobotic Gynecological surgery.

He did his fraining at Henry Ford Health System, one of the pioneers of Robotic surgery in the United States, has performed over 280 robotic surgeries and trained other surgeons on the robotic platform. Dr Nawfal has also published in prestigious medical journals on Robotic and laparoscopic surgeries and is a reviewer for the Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynecology J.MIAIC]. He is the only gynecologist with an accredited fellowship-training in robotic surgery in Lebanon and the region, is a member of the American Association of Gynecologist, Carlos congress of obstetricians and gynecologists, the American Association of Gynecologist Laparoscopists (AACJ) and the Society of Laparoendoscopic surgeons (SLS) and has received multiple awards in the United States.

Fetal Surgery

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What is fetal surgery and when should it be offered?

As a therapeutic innovation, feloscopic surgery has recently replaced open fetal surgery with its high fetal and maternal morbidity. In certain conditions, this has been shown to be superior with respect to fetal outcome. Fetal surgery should be offered when the natural history of the pathology is known, lethal without in-utero treatment, with severe morbidity in unfreated cases or following post-notal treatment, when partial pathological correction is helpful and the therapy validated, in comparison to post-notal treatment.







▲ FETUS WITH MYELOMENINGOCELE

▲ FETUS AFTER SURGICAL REPAIR

What are the conditions that can be treated with fetal surgery?
Laser coagulation of connecting vessels is the treatment of choice in cases of twin to twin transfusion syndrome, with survival approaching 50% of both twins and 80% of one twin. This was validated in 2004 by the Eurofetus study, Laser therapy can be offered in case of TRAP syndrome, hemangioma of the placenta, sacrococcygeal teratomas and for ablation of posterior urethral valves.

What other approaches are used in utero treatment?

A new approach of in utero treatment is embolization of the main vessel of a placental hemangioma. In cases of monochorionic twins, cord occlusion, by bipolar forceps or by laser coagulation, is helpful in cases of TRAP syndrome, severe IUCR, or a malformation in one twin, in selected cases of isolated congenital diaphragmatic hernia, tracheal occlusion by fetoscopy gives a better survival (7% versus 30%). Lower urinary tract obstruction and pleural effusion can be treated by in utero shunting. In severe aordic stenois, which leads to hypoplastic left heart and severe pulmonary stenois, the survival is 0%. The trial of in utero catheterization of the stenotic valve may increase the survival to 12%, nonetheless. This requires specialized skill and carries high fetal mortality. Fetal in utero transfusion has been show n to help in cases of parvovirus induced fetal anemia, following the fetal death of one of monochorionic twins and in Rhesus disease.

Do you have any final recommendations?

To summary, fetal surgery provides an option in the most challenging cases and objective risk assessment must be employed together with proper counselling of the family in order to make an informed decision and to proceed with further care.

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