



da Vinci® Hysterectomy

Changing the Experience of Surgery

Are you a candidate
for a breakthrough approach
to hysterectomy?

Your doctor may be able to
offer you a new, minimally invasive
surgical procedure.

Your doctor is one of a growing number of surgeons worldwide providing leading-edge treatments such as *da Vinci*® Hysterectomy.

da Vinci Hysterectomy is setting a new standard for the surgical treatment of a broad range of uterine conditions.

For more information on *da Vinci* Hysterectomy, please visit:

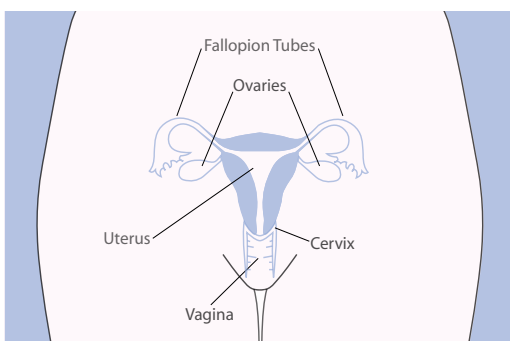
www.intuitivesurgical.com

The Condition: Uterine Disease, Including Cancer, Fibroids, Endometriosis & Prolapse

A wide variety of conditions affect the uterus, or womb. The uterus is a hollow, muscular organ which holds and feeds a fertilized egg.

Traditionally, many conditions affecting the uterus are treated with hysterectomy — the surgical removal of the uterus. U.S. doctors perform about 600,000 hysterectomies every year, making it the second most common surgical procedure.

Hysterectomy may offer a life-saving treatment with serious conditions such as cancer or uncontrollable bleeding. In most cases, however, hysterectomy is an elective procedure performed to relieve chronic pain, bleeding or other disabling conditions. These may be caused by fibroids (noncancerous tumors); endometriosis (noncancerous growth of the uterine lining) or prolapse (falling or slipping of the uterus).

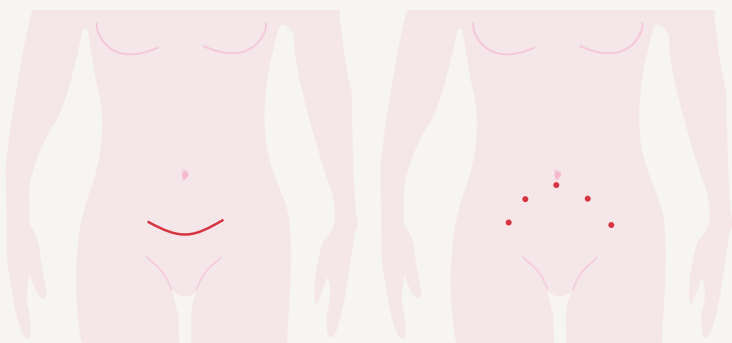


A recent clinical study concluded that *da Vinci* Hysterectomy may overcome many of the challenges surgeons face when using a minimally invasive approach to remove the uterus.*

The Treatment: Hysterectomy

Hysterectomy can sometimes be performed through the vagina. However, when the uterus is enlarged — for example, from fibroids or cancer — an abdominal hysterectomy is preferable. This requires a 6-12 inch incision. In some cases, doctors also remove the ovaries because they are thought to release hormones contributing to the condition.

While hysterectomy is relatively safe, it may not be appropriate or necessary for all individuals or conditions. Alternative treatments that can preserve the uterus and ovaries may be available. Always ask your doctor about all treatment options, as well as their risks and benefits.



Open Hysterectomy Incision

da Vinci Hysterectomy Incisions

da Vinci® Hysterectomy: A Less Invasive Surgical Procedure

If your doctor recommends hysterectomy, you may be a candidate for a new, less invasive surgical procedure called *da Vinci* Hysterectomy. This procedure uses a state-of-the-art surgical system designed to help your surgeon perform a more precise, minimally invasive procedure. For most women, *da Vinci* Hysterectomy offers numerous potential benefits over traditional surgical approaches, including:

- > Shorter hospital stay
- > Less pain
- > Faster recovery
- > Quicker return to normal activities
- > Less risk of wound infection
- > Less blood loss
- > Less scarring

As with any surgery, these benefits cannot be guaranteed, as surgery is patient- and procedure-specific.



The Enabling Technology: *da Vinci*® Surgical System

The *da Vinci* Surgical System is powered by state-of-the-art robotic technology. The System allows your surgeon's hand movements to be scaled, filtered and translated into precise movements of micro-instruments within the operative site.

The *da Vinci* System enhances surgical capabilities by enabling the performance of complex surgeries through tiny surgical openings. The System cannot be programmed, nor can it make decisions on its own. The *da Vinci* System requires that every surgical maneuver be performed with direct input from your surgeon.

The *da Vinci* Surgical System has been successfully used in tens of thousands of minimally invasive procedures worldwide.

**Referenced study available upon request.*



INTUITIVE SURGICAL®

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Disclaimer

While clinical studies support the use of the *da Vinci* System as an effective tool for minimally invasive surgery, individual outcomes may vary. Ask your doctor about whether *da Vinci* Hysterectomy may be an appropriate treatment for your medical condition.