

Procedure Name: Laparoscopy

Brief Description of the Procedure:

A laparoscopy is done with a scope, which has a camera attached to it to see inside the abdomen. Carbon dioxide is used to inflate the abdominal cavity for greater visibility. The procedure is performed through 1-2 1/2 inch incisions. Laparoscopy is used to find problems such as cysts, adhesions, fibroids and infections. Laparoscopy can be less stressful and have less problems than a laparotomy.

Describe anesthesia type that typically is given:

General anesthesia is required for this surgery. See Anesthesia Section.

What patients that smoke can expect when having surgery:

After surgery your anesthesia specialist will check your breathing and lung sounds to determine if a breathing treatment is needed. Smoking increases airway irritation, which leads to wheezing and coughing. Further breathing treatments and medication are sometimes needed.

Average length of surgery time:

1-2 hours depending on what is found to be the surgical diagnosis.

Average length in immediate recovery:

Approximately 30 minutes

Average length for time of discharge:

You can expect to be in your post-op room for approximately 1-2 hours after initial recovery.

When can you go back to work:

Depending on your occupation, you and your doctor will discuss when you may return to work.

What can I lift after surgery:

No strenuous activity or lifting of 10 lbs. or more for 1 week. This may vary depending upon what was done during your procedure.

What kind of post discomfort can you expect:

You may experience discomfort in your abdomen that may radiate to your shoulders due to the carbon dioxide used to inflate the abdomen during the procedure. Sitting in a chair and walking as soon as possible after surgery, will help decrease gas discomfort. You may experience incisional pain. Your surgeon will write a prescription for medication to help control the pain.

Surgical Safety Checklist:

For optimal quality care and surgical safety, the following will be confirmed between patient, surgeon, and surgery team prior to anesthesia:

- Identity of the patient
- Surgical Site
- Procedure
- Sign Consent
- Surgeon to mark the surgical site, if applicable
- Allergies



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