Your doctor is one of a growing number of surgeons 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](http://www.daVinciSurgery.com)

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**Considering Hysterectomy?**

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

**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. While this figure is lower in many other countries, it is still a common surgical procedure worldwide. Fortunately, there are more options about how a hysterectomy is performed today than ever before.

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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. However, when the uterus is large, you have internal scarring (also called adhesions) from a prior surgery or other gynecologic conditions, doctors often perform an abdominal hysterectomy.

Abdominal hysterectomy is performed with open surgery which requires a large incision below the navel. The main drawbacks of abdominal or open hysterectomy are: the large incision, pain and resulting strong pain medication, greater risk of complications and an average recovery of 4-6 weeks.

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

Laparoscopic hysterectomy can be challenging during complex procedures because of the long-handled, rigid instruments.

Laparoscopic hysterectomy can be challenging during complex procedures because of the long-handled, rigid instruments.

The da Vinci Surgical System uses robotically enhanced instruments to perform laparoscopic hysterectomy.

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 loss
- Fewer complications
- Shorter hospital stay
- Minimal scarring

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

- Less blood loss
- Lower conversion rate to open surgery
- Shorter hospital stay
- Less narcotic pain medicine needed

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

Da Vinci Surgery: A Highly Effective, Minimally Invasive Surgical Procedure

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.

The Enabling Technology da Vinci Surgical System

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.


