

Diagnostic Laparoscopy

Technique

Procedure involves the placement of a laparoscope (special telescope with a video camera attached) into the abdomen at the belly button. The pelvis including the uterus, fallopian tubes, ovaries, bladder and appendix are all visualized to determine the source of the patient's problem. The treatment necessary is determined based upon what the surgeon sees during this exam.

Incisions

2-3 small incisions (less than one inch) are made on the abdomen for this procedure.

Operative Time

Operative times vary greatly depending on the findings at the time of surgery. Your surgeon will proceed with safety as his/her first priority. Average times range from 30-60 minutes.

Anesthesia

- General anesthesia

Preoperative Care

- Nothing by mouth after midnight
- The procedure is usually scheduled immediately after your menstrual period.
- You may be asked to do a bowel preparation on the evening prior to your procedure.

Hospital Stay

- Day surgery

Postoperative Care

These guidelines are intended to give you a general idea of your postoperative course. Since every patient is unique and has a unique procedure, your recovery may differ.

- Anti-inflammatory pain medicine, such as ibuprofen, naproxen, etc., is usually required for the first several days to manage soreness and inflammation.
- Narcotic pain medicine will be provided to assist with the discomfort from the small incisions.
- Driving is allowed after your procedure only when you do not require the narcotic pain medicine to manage your pain.
- Patients may return to work in 2-3 days following the procedure.
- Incisions may bruise but they should not become red or inflamed.