

Operative 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. Potential treatments include ovarian cyst removal, ovarian removal, excision or destruction of endometriosis, and removal of scar tissue.

Incisions

3-4 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 45-90 minutes.

Anesthesia

General anesthesia

Preoperative Care

Nothing by mouth after midnight

The procedure is usually scheduled immediately after your menstrual period.

Hospital Stay

Day surgery or
23 hour observation

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.

You will be prescribed both an anti-inflammatory and a narcotic pain medicine for postoperative use. We recommend that anti-inflammatory medications, such as ibuprofen, naproxen, etc., be used on a scheduled (regular) basis and that narcotic pain medicine be utilized on an "as needed" basis.

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.