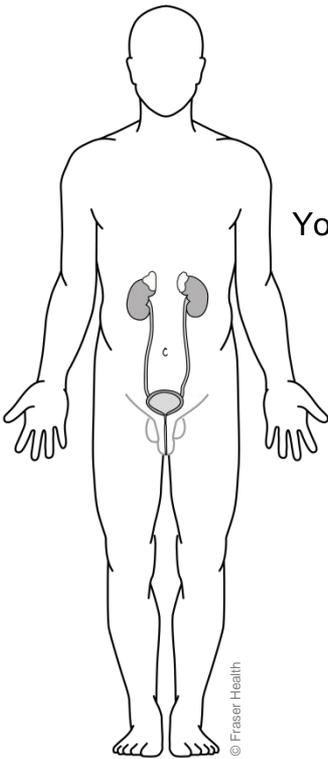


Laparoscopic Urology Surgery (Minimally Invasive Surgery)

Langley Memorial Hospital



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You are having:

- Part of a kidney removed (partial nephrectomy)
- A kidney removed (nephrectomy)
- The renal pelvis of your kidney reconstructed (pyeloplasty)
- An adrenal gland removed (adrenalectomy)

What is laparoscopic urology surgery?

'Surgery' usually means the surgeon makes one long cut (incision) through the skin (an incision) and does the surgery through that opening. Instead, you are having this surgery using a special procedure called laparoscopy (sounds like *lap-ah-row-skop-ee*). We also call this type of surgery 'minimally invasive surgery' or MIS.

The surgeon makes several small, keyhole incisions. Through one of these incisions, the surgeon inserts a tiny camera (a laparoscope) so the doctor can see the area on a video monitor. The surgeon completes the surgery using different long skinny tools inserted through the other small incisions.

Types of urology surgery using this method:

- Removal of a kidney removed (nephrectomy)
- Reconstruction of the kidney's renal pelvis (pyeloplasty)
- Removal of an adrenal gland (adrenalectomy)

Advantages of laparoscopic surgery:

- ✓ Shorter hospital stay
- ✓ Faster recovery
- ✓ Smaller incisions
- ✓ Less pain after surgery

There are times when the surgeon needs to complete the surgery using a longer incision. This might be necessary if there is scarring from previous surgeries, if the surgeon has trouble seeing the surgical site through the laparoscope, or if there are bleeding problems during the surgery. The surgeon chooses to change to a long incision and open surgery based on what is best for you.

General Information

- You will be in the hospital for 2 to 3 days.
- You will have a urinary catheter for 1 to 2 days.
- You will be on a normal diet the day before surgery then no solid food after midnight. There is no bowel prep for this surgery.
- On the day of surgery, you can have clear fluids; black coffee/tea, water, or apple juice up to 3 hours before surgery. **(No milk or orange juice.)**
- The evening after surgery, you will start drinking fluids. You start eating food the next day. You can eat and drink what you feel like. Each day, you usually feel like eating and drinking more.

Incisions

- You will have 3 to 4 small incisions (1 to 2 cm long) in the center and side of your upper abdomen.
- If you are having a nephrectomy, you will also have a 6 cm incision in your lower abdomen. This is the incision used to take the kidney out.
- You will have small, adhesive strips or staples on your incisions but no dressing.

At home

- You can shower when you go home. You can take baths after 2 weeks.
- You will probably be able to return to work in 2 to 3 weeks.

When to get help

Contact your surgeon, family doctor, or go to emergency right away if you get any of the following:

- A fever over 38°C (100.4°F) that does not lower with fever medicine such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- Constantly sick to your stomach (nausea) or you are throwing up often (vomiting).
- Bad pain in your abdomen that does not go away with pain medicine.
- Increased pain, swelling, redness, or drainage from any of your incisions
- Signs of a bladder infection such as burning, pain, bleeding, hesitancy, or needing to urinate (go pee) often

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This information does not replace the advice given to you by your healthcare provider.

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