

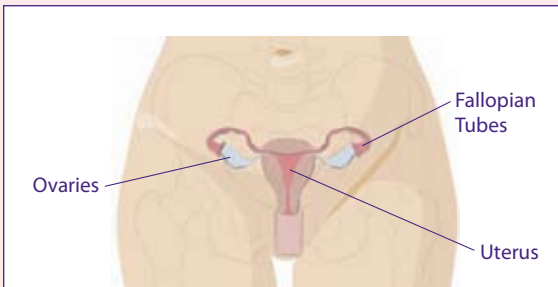
The Condition(s)

Chronic Pain, Heavy Bleeding, Fibroids, Endometriosis and/or Prolapse

A wide variety of benign (non-cancerous) conditions can affect a woman's reproductive system, which consists of the uterus, the vagina, ovaries and fallopian tubes. Most of these conditions affect the uterus, which is the hollow, muscular organ that holds a baby as it grows inside a pregnant woman.

Common types of gynecologic conditions like fibroids (non-cancerous growths in the uterine wall), endometriosis (non-cancerous growths of the uterine lining) or prolapse (falling or slipping of the uterus) can cause chronic pain and heavy bleeding, as well as other disabling symptoms.

Women who experience these symptoms are often treated with hysterectomy - the surgical removal of the uterus. In fact, this procedure is the second most common surgical procedure for women in the United States, and an estimated one third of all U.S. women will have a hysterectomy by age 60.¹



¹ <http://womenshealth.gov/faq/hysterectomy.htm>

The Enabling Technology da Vinci Surgical System

The da Vinci Surgical System is designed to provide surgeons with enhanced capabilities, including high-definition 3D vision and a magnified view. Your doctor controls the da Vinci System, which translates his or her hand movements into smaller, more precise movements of tiny instruments inside your body. Though it is often called a "robot," da Vinci cannot act on its own: Instead, the surgery is performed entirely by your doctor.



Together, da Vinci technology allows your doctor to perform complex procedures through just a few tiny openings. As a result, you may be able to get back to life faster without the usual recovery following major surgery.

The da Vinci System has been used successfully worldwide in hundreds of thousands of procedures to date.


Billings Clinic

Facing Hysterectomy?



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2800 Tenth Avenue North
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406-238-2500 or 1-800-332-7156
www.billingsclinic.com/roboticsurgery

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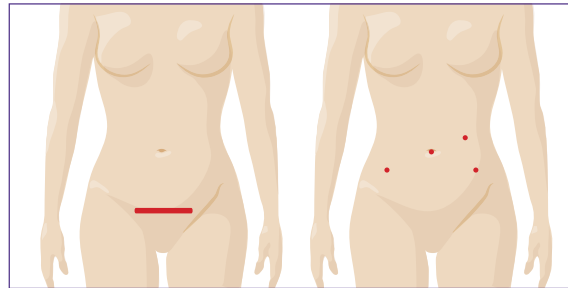
*Learn why da Vinci® Surgery
may be your best treatment option
for a benign gynecologic condition*

The Treatment Hysterectomy

Your doctor might recommend a hysterectomy to treat your condition. Hysterectomy can sometimes be performed through the vagina. However, when the uterus is large or if you have internal scarring from prior surgery or other conditions, abdominal hysterectomy is usually performed.

Traditionally, abdominal hysterectomies are performed with open surgery, which requires a wide incision below the navel. This procedure can be painful, involving heavy pain medications, risk of infection and significant blood loss. After surgery, a long recovery (often 6 weeks) is necessary. In addition, many patients are not happy with the scar left by the incision.

While hysterectomy is a relatively safe procedure, it may not be appropriate or necessary for all individuals or conditions. Alternative treatments that preserve the uterus may be available. For example, da Vinci Myomectomy may be an option for women with fibroids who want to preserve their fertility and/or uterus. Always ask your doctor about all treatment options, as well as their risks and benefits.



Open Surgery
Incision

da Vinci
Hysterectomy
Incisions*

A Less Invasive Surgical Procedure da Vinci Hysterectomy

If your doctor recommends hysterectomy, you may be a candidate for an innovative, less invasive surgical procedure called da Vinci Hysterectomy. This procedure uses a state-of-the-art surgical system designed to help your doctor perform the most precise and least invasive hysterectomy available today.

For most women, da Vinci Hysterectomy offers numerous potential benefits over traditional surgical approaches, including:

- Significantly less pain
- Less blood loss and need for transfusion
- Less risk of infection
- Shorter hospital stay
- Quicker recovery and return to normal activities
- Small incisions for minimal scarring
- Better outcomes and patient satisfaction, in many cases

As with any surgery, these benefits cannot be guaranteed, as surgery is patient- and procedure-specific.



*In some cases, a fifth small incision may be required.

While clinical studies support the effectiveness of the da Vinci® System when used in minimally invasive surgery, individual results may vary. Surgery with the da Vinci Surgical System may not be appropriate for every individual. Always ask your doctor about all treatment options, as well as their risks and benefits. © 2009 Intuitive Surgical. All rights reserved. Intuitive, Intuitive Surgical, da Vinci, da Vinci S and EndoWrist are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intuitive Surgical. PN 871969 Rev. C 9/09