

Da Vinci Robot General Education Sheet

For general information about the da Vinci robot, go to: www.davincisurgery.com

What is a da Vinci?

= *robotic-assisted minimally invasive surgery*

The term “robotic” often misleads people. Robots don’t perform surgery. Your surgeon performs surgery with da Vinci by using instruments that he or she guides via a console/controls.

With a da Vinci, your surgeon sits at a console (separate from the surgical field) and is able to have a close-up 3D view of your anatomy, and controls all the instruments used for the surgery. The instruments are “wristed” and move like a human hand, but with a far greater range of motion.

Why would we choose this instead of a “classic” laparoscopic approach?

Both minimally invasive approaches only require a few small incisions that your surgeon will use to insert surgical equipment and a camera for viewing. In laparoscopic surgery, your surgeon and 1 or 2 assistant(s) use special long-handled tools to perform surgery while viewing magnified images from the laparoscope (camera) on a video screen.

The da Vinci system translates your surgeon’s hand movements at the console in real time, bending and rotating the instruments while performing the procedure. The tiny wristed instruments move like a human hand, but with a greater range of motion, and are controlled solely by the surgeon instead of in combination with other OR staff. The da Vinci vision system also delivers highly magnified, 3D high-definition views of the surgical area, which is different than the 2D image in a laparoscopic procedure.

In your particular case, your surgeon feels that you may have better outcomes using the da Vinci, such as less pain after surgery and/or a shorter hospital stay. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call our office and speak with your surgery scheduler.

