

# Operative Laparoscopy Fact Sheet

## Technique

- Procedure involves placing a laparoscope (special telescope with a video camera attached) into the abdomen near the bellybutton.
- The laparoscope is used to determine the source of the patient's problem by visually examining the entire pelvis, including the uterus, fallopian tubes, ovaries, bladder, and appendix.
- The treatment needed is determined based on what the surgeon sees during this exam. Potential treatments include ovarian cyst removal, removing ovaries, excision or destruction of endometriosis, and removal of scar tissue.

## Incisions

2-4 small incisions (each 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 priority.
- Average times range from 45-90 minutes.

## Anesthesia

General anesthesia

## Preoperative Care

- Please do not eat anything by mouth after midnight the night before surgery.
- The procedure is usually scheduled to happen immediately after your menstrual period.

## 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.
- You will be prescribed both an anti-inflammatory and an opioid pain medicine for postoperative use. We recommend taking anti-inflammatory medications such as ibuprofen or naproxen on a schedule, only taking opioid pain medicine on an "as needed" basis.
- Driving is allowed after your procedure once you no longer need the opioid medicine to manage your pain.
- Patients may return to work in 2-3 days.

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