

# Facing Gynecologic Cancer?

Learn why **da Vinci® Surgery**  
may be your best treatment option  
for early stage gynecologic cancer



**da Vinci.**  **Surgery**

## The Condition:

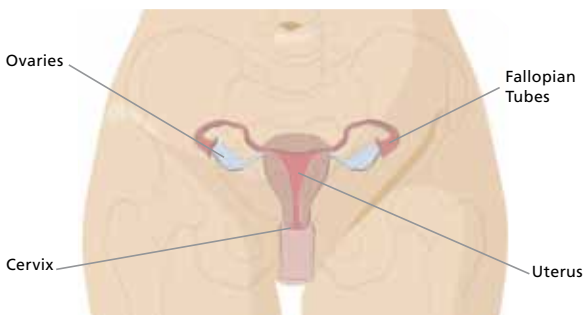
### Early Stage Gynecologic Cancer

A wide variety of gynecologic cancers can affect a woman's reproductive system, which consists of the uterus, vagina, ovaries and fallopian tubes. The uterus is a hollow, muscular organ that holds a baby during pregnancy. The fallopian tubes and ovaries are located on each side of the uterus.

The most common types of gynecologic cancers are cervical, endometrial (uterine) and ovarian cancer. The specific type of cancer a woman has and how advanced it is, will determine her treatment options.

Women with early stage gynecologic cancer are often treated with hysterectomy - the surgical removal of the uterus. In this procedure, the doctor may also remove the ovaries, fallopian tubes and/or select lymph nodes.

Hysterectomy 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.<sup>1</sup>



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

# The Treatment: Hysterectomy

If you have a gynecologic cancer - such as cancer of the uterus or cervix - hysterectomy may be your best treatment option. The type of hysterectomy you have will depend upon your medical history and health, as well as the extent of the cancer growth.

Traditionally, hysterectomies for gynecologic cancers have been performed via open abdominal surgery, using a long vertical incision (from the pubic bone to just above the navel). Open abdominal hysterectomy can be painful for patients and involve heavy medications, risk of infection and significant blood loss during surgery. After surgery, a long recovery is necessary. For some patients, this may overlap with a secondary treatment – usually radiation or chemotherapy.



While clinical studies support the effectiveness of the *da Vinci Surgical System* when used in minimally invasive complications. Before you decide on surgery, discuss treatment options with your doctor. Understanding the risk *Surgical System* may not be appropriate for every individual; it may not be applicable to your condition. Always whether *da Vinci Surgery* is appropriate for your situation. All people depicted unless otherwise noted are models. *Single-Site*, *InSite*, *TilePro* and *EndoWrist* are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intuitive Surgical. All other

While hysterectomy is a relatively safe procedure, it may not be appropriate for all individuals or conditions. Always ask your doctor about all treatment options, as well as their risks and benefits.



Open Surgery  
Incision

*da Vinci*  
Hysterectomy  
Incisions



# *da Vinci*<sup>®</sup> Hysterectomy: A Less Invasive Surgical Procedure

If your doctor recommends hysterectomy, you may be a candidate for *da Vinci* Surgery - the #1 surgical treatment option chosen by women facing gynecologic cancer. Using state-of-the-art technology, a *da Vinci* Hysterectomy requires only a few tiny incisions. This minimally invasive approach may allow you to progress to secondary treatment, if needed, more quickly and get back to your life faster.

*da Vinci* Surgery enables your doctor to perform a hysterectomy to treat cancer and other complex conditions with enhanced vision, precision, dexterity and control. *da Vinci* offers women many potential benefits over traditional surgery, including:

- › Less pain<sup>2</sup>
- › Fewer complications<sup>3</sup>
- › Less blood loss<sup>4,5</sup>
- › Shorter hospital stay<sup>5</sup>
- › Low risk of wound infection<sup>6</sup>
- › Quicker recovery & return to normal activities<sup>7</sup>

As with any surgery, these benefits cannot be guaranteed since surgery is unique to each patient and procedure.



<sup>2</sup>Ko EM, Muto MG, Berkowitz RS, Feltmate CM. Robotic versus open radical hysterectomy: a comparative study at a single institution. *Gynecol Oncol.* 2008 Dec;111(3):425-30. Epub 2008 Oct 16. <sup>3</sup>Piquion-J Ghazaryan A, Papanna R, Klimek W, Laroia R. Robot-assisted gynecological surgery in a community setting. *Journa GE, Pikaart DP, Ahmad S, and Finkler NJ.* Robotically assisted laparoscopic hysterectomy versus total abdominal hysterectomy. *Gynecol Oncol.* 2008 Oct;111(4):360.e1-9. <sup>4</sup>Payne, T. N. and F. R. Dauterive. A comparison of total laparoscopic hysterectomy to robotically assisted hysterectomy. *Gynecol Oncol.* 2008 Oct;111(4):360.e1-9. <sup>5</sup>Bell MC, Torgerson J, Seshadri-Kreadon U, Suttle AW, Hunt S. Comparison of techniques. *Gynecol Oncol.* 2008 Dec;111(3):407-11. Epub 2008 Oct 1.

## 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.

Your doctor is one of a growing number of surgeons offering *da Vinci* Hysterectomy for **early stage gynecologic cancer.**

All surgeries, including *da Vinci* Surgery, involve risk of major complications. Before you decide on surgery, discuss treatment options with your doctor. Understanding the risks of each treatment can help you make the best decision for your situation.

For more information about *da Vinci* Hysterectomy and to find a *da Vinci* Surgeon near you, visit:  
**[www.daVinciHysterectomy.com](http://www.daVinciHysterectomy.com)**

