Facing Surgery for Colorectal Cancer?

Learn about minimally invasive da Vinci® Surgery
Colorectal cancer often starts in the glands of the colon or rectum lining. Most colorectal cancers begin as non-cancerous (benign) polyps that slowly turn into cancer.

**Colon Cancer Surgery:** Colon cancer surgery is called a colectomy or colon resection. Doctors remove the diseased part of your colon, and reconnect the remaining healthy parts. If doctors cannot reconnect the healthy parts of your colon, a colostomy may be performed. During the surgery, doctors create an opening (stoma) in the lower abdomen that allows waste to pass from your body into a colostomy bag.

**Rectal Cancer Surgery:** Surgery on the upper rectum is called a low anterior resection or (LAR). The goal is to remove the cancer and connect the sigmoid colon (part of colon closest to rectum) with the remaining healthy part of the rectum. This allows waste to pass normally through the anus.

An abdominoperineal resection (APR) may be performed if the cancer is too close to the anus. With APR, some or
all of the anal sphincter is also removed. The sphincter is a muscle that keeps the anus closed. Because the sphincter is responsible for bowel control, the surgeon also performs a colostomy to allow your body to get rid of waste.

**Surgical Approaches**

**Open surgery:** Colorectal procedures are often done using traditional open surgery, meaning a large open incision (cut) is made from the pubic bone to just below the breastbone.

**Laparoscopy:** During laparoscopy, also called minimally invasive surgery, the surgeon operates through a few small incisions using long, thin instruments and a tiny camera that guides doctors as they operate.
**da Vinci Surgery:**
A Minimally Invasive Surgical Option

If your doctor suggests surgery for colorectal cancer, ask about minimally invasive *da Vinci* Surgery.

Using the *da Vinci* System, your surgeon makes a few small incisions - similar to traditional laparoscopy. Key features of the *da Vinci* Surgical System:

- **3D HD view inside your body**
- **Tiny instruments that bend and rotate far greater than the human hand**
- **Enhanced vision, precision and control**

Your doctor controls the *da Vinci* System, which translates his/her hand movements into smaller, precise movements of tiny instruments inside your body.

**The *da Vinci* System has brought minimally invasive surgery to more than 3 million patients worldwide.**

If you are facing colorectal surgery, ask your doctor about the potential benefits of *da Vinci* Surgery.

---

**Risks Related to Bowel Resection and Other Colorectal Procedures (removal of all/part of the intestine):** leaking and/or narrowing at the spot where two sections of bowel were reconnected, colorectal or anal dysfunction (cannot empty bowel, frequent bowel movements, leakage or constipation).
Important Information for Patients

Serious complications may occur in any surgery, including da Vinci® Surgery, up to and including death. Risks include, but are not limited to, injury to tissues and organs and conversion to other surgical techniques. If your doctor needs to convert the surgery to another surgical technique, this could result in a longer operative time, additional time under anesthesia, additional or larger incisions and/or increased complications. Individual surgical results may vary. Patients who are not candidates for non-robotic minimally invasive surgery are also not candidates for da Vinci Surgery. Patients should talk to their doctor to decide if surgery is right for them. Patients and doctors should review all available information on non-surgical and surgical options in order to make an informed decision. Please also refer to www.daVinciSurgery.com/Safety for Important Safety Information.
Your doctor is one of a growing number of surgeons worldwide offering *da Vinci*® Surgery.

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