



LAPAROSCOPY CONSENT

I authorize Dr. _____ and those other persons, chosen by him or her, to perform laparoscopic surgery upon me. There are risks involved in any procedure or treatment. It is not possible to guarantee or give assurance of a successful result. It is important that you clearly understand and agree to the planned surgery or treatment.

During laparoscopy, pelvic and abdominal structures can be visualized by placing a fiberoptic telescope through the abdominal wall into the pelvis. Carbon dioxide gas is introduced with a small needle through the umbilicus to elevate the abdominal wall away from the pelvic organs. Larger trochars are then placed to introduce the laparoscope and instruments into the surgical field. Since both the gas needle and trochars are forced through the abdominal wall, damage to intra-abdominal structures such as blood vessels, bowel, or bladder can occur. In such cases immediate major operation may be necessary followed by hospitalization. A general anesthetic is required for laparoscopy.

After the surgery, some gas may remain in the abdomen and cause discomfort or bloating in the upper abdomen. Gas may also cause shoulder discomfort due to irritation of the diaphragm. You may return to normal activities within a few days of the procedure.

My physician discussed alternatives to laparoscopy. I am satisfied with my understanding of the possible consequences, outcomes or risks if no treatment is rendered. I understand that I have the opportunity to seek a second opinion concerning the proposed treatment of procedure.

I authorize and consent to the performance of such additional or different operations or procedures as are considered necessary and advisable. I consent to the performance of pathology and radiology services as needed and I further authorize the disposal of any severed tissue or member in accordance with customary hospital or medical facility practice.

I am satisfied with my understanding of the nature of the procedure or treatments. All of my questions about the treatment or procedure have been answered. I have read both sides of this consent.

Patient Signature: _____

Physician: _____ Date: _____

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DISCOMFORTS

All surgery is associated with some discomforts. Some of these discomforts include those from intravenous needles, fluids and medications; anesthetic-related discomfort from the administration of anesthesia; incisional discomfort; and urinary catheter discomfort.

INFORMATION ABOUT SURGICAL RISKS

Medicine and surgery are generally safe, helpful and often lifesaving. However, medical or surgical procedures of any type involve the taking of risks, ranging from minor to serious (including death). It is important to be aware of the following possible risks before receiving the treatment you and your physician are planning. Surgery is not always curative and any problem can reoccur requiring further surgery. Error in diagnosis may require other or unplanned surgeries. No diagnostic test or physician is 100% accurate in diagnosing a condition or disease. It is not possible to list all the possible risks and complications, and their variations that may arise in any surgical operation or procedure. Each situation depends upon the condition of the patient's health and the purpose and nature of the operation.

The following may be the reactions of your body to medical/surgical operations or procedures:

Infection: Invasion of tissue by bacteria or other germs occurs to some degree whenever a cut or incision is made. In most instances, through the natural defense mechanisms of the body, healing of affected area occurs without difficulty. In some instances antibiotic medicines are prescribed and at times additional surgical measures may be necessary to combat infection.

Hemorrhage and Blood Transfusions: The cutting of blood vessels causes bleeding and this occurs in every surgical incision. This bleeding is usually controlled without difficulty. At times, though, blood transfusions are required to replace excessive blood loss. If blood transfusions are given, there is a small additional risk that hepatitis (liver inflammation) or serious blood reactions may occur. There is a more remote possibility that Acquired Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) may develop. There is no absolutely reliable way to predict these unwanted reactions, some of which may be quite serious and even lead to death. The options of providing your own blood or that of designated donors, where available, if time permits have been explained. In minor operations there is usually less blood loss than in major ones, but not always. There are instances when excessive bleeding occurs after the original operation is completed and additional action must be taken to control the delayed bleeding.

Drug Reactions: Unexpected allergies, lack of proper response to medications or illness caused by the prescribed drugs are possibilities. It is important for you to inform your physician of any problems you have had with reaction to drugs and to let him/her know which medications you now take regularly.

Stress: There may be unusual or unexpected responses to the drugs or medications that you receive during surgery and hospitalization. Prior to surgery, you are not allowed to eat or drink for several hours in order to reduce the possibility of vomiting during or after surgery. Surgery is a stress to your body. Cardiopulmonary complications can lead to problems with your heart or lungs such as pneumonia or heart attack.

Blood Vessel Inflammation and Clotting: Blood clots in the legs (deep venous thrombosis) that may migrate to the lungs (pulmonary embolus) can follow any operation. An incision can result in a hematoma or blood clot.

Injury to Other Organs: Because of the proximity of other organs to each other, unexpected damage may occur to those organs. Bowel, bladder or blood vessel damage may occur resulting in the possibility of additional surgery at the time of the original surgery or at a later time. All incisions result in a scar which may have persistent numbness after the procedure.

ALTERNATIVES TO TREATMENT

Other ways of managing your illness, which may range from doing nothing to taking different treatment measures, should be considered. Since you and your doctor have decided upon surgery, do not hesitate to discuss the reasons for the choice and the alternatives available for treatment of similar conditions. The potential effectiveness and risks accompanying these alternative methods of treatment also should be considered.