

Understand your surgery options

If you've been diagnosed with colorectal cancer.



INTUITIVE

Take time to understand your options.

Surgery is one option you and your doctor can discuss if you've been diagnosed with colorectal cancer. You and your doctor can discuss your choices and decide which approach is right for you.

If your doctor recommends surgery, this brochure can help you understand the options that may be available to you.



What is colorectal surgery?

Colorectal surgery is surgery to remove a portion of your colon and/or rectum.

The main types of colorectal surgery include:

Colectomy—removal of the diseased portion of the colon

Low anterior resection—removal of the diseased portion of the rectum

These procedures can be recommended for cancerous and noncancerous (benign) conditions. You should discuss all options with your doctor, including surgery.

If you are a candidate for surgery, your surgeon may recommend:



Open surgery

Surgeon makes an incision in your abdomen large enough to perform the procedure using hand-held tools



Laparoscopic surgery

Surgeon makes a few small incisions in the abdomen and operates using special long-handled tools while viewing magnified images from the laparoscope (camera) on a video screen




Robotic-assisted surgery

Surgeon controls a robotic system to perform the procedure

What will my surgeon do?

If you and your doctor decide that robotic-assisted surgery is right for you, here is what may happen.




*Actual
incision size*

Your surgeon makes a few small incisions, and uses a 3DHD camera for a crystal-clear, magnified view of your colon and/or rectum and surrounding tissue.



Your surgeon sits at a console next to you and operates through the incisions using tiny instruments and the camera.



The da Vinci[®] system translates your surgeon's hand movements in real time, bending and rotating instruments that move like the human hand, but with a greater range of motion.

The da Vinci system is a tool used for surgery, but it does not treat cancer.

How can you prepare for surgery?

One way to learn more about your surgery is to ask your doctor and care team questions.



Here are some questions you might ask:

What medical and surgical options are available for me?

Which is best for my situation?

What are the differences between open, laparoscopic, and robotic-assisted surgery?

Should I get a second opinion?

What am I likely to experience after surgery?

If I decide to have surgery, how can I prepare for it?

How long before I can return to my normal routine?

What is your surgical training and experience?

What is your experience with robotic-assisted surgery?

What are your patient outcomes?

davicisurgery.com

Does a robot perform the surgery?

No. While the word “robotic” is in the description, a robot doesn’t perform surgery. Surgeons perform surgery using the da Vinci system’s camera and instruments.

Do surgeons train before doing robotic-assisted surgery?

Yes. Surgeons are trained to use the system and get clearance from their hospitals to perform robotic-assisted surgery before they can use the da Vinci system in any surgical procedure.

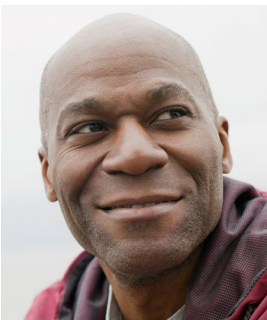
What are the outcomes?

Be sure to talk with your surgeon about the surgical outcomes they deliver by using the da Vinci system, as every surgeon’s experience is different. Examples of outcomes you might ask about include:

- Length of hospital stay
- Complication rate
- Length of surgery
- Chance of switching to an open procedure
- Return to bowel function

There are additional outcomes of surgery that you may want to talk with your doctor about. Please ask him or her about all important outcomes of surgery.

To find out more about surgery with the da Vinci system, visit the Colon Resection and the Rectal Resection pages on www.davincisurgery.com.



Get back to what
matters most.



Surgical risks

Risks associated with bowel resection and other colorectal procedures (removal of all/part of the intestine) include 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 safety information

Patients should talk to their doctors to decide if surgery using the da Vinci system is right for them. Patients and doctors should review all available information on nonsurgical and surgical options and associated risks in order to make an informed decision.

Serious complications may occur in any surgery, including surgery using the da Vinci system, up to and including death. Serious risks include, but are not limited to, injury to tissues and organs and conversion to other surgical techniques, which could result in a longer operative time and/or increased complications.

For important safety information, including surgical risks, indications, and considerations and contraindications for use, please refer to www.intuitive.com/safety.

Individuals' outcomes may depend on a number of factors, including but not limited to patient characteristics, disease characteristics, and/or surgeon experience.

Precaution statement

The demonstration of safety and effectiveness for the representative specific procedures was based on evaluation of the device as a surgical tool and did not include evaluation of outcomes related to the treatment of cancer (overall survival, disease-free survival, local recurrence) or treatment of the patient's underlying disease/condition. Device usage in all surgical procedures should be guided by the clinical judgment of an adequately trained surgeon.

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