

Know your options. Choose what's right for you.

A woman's reproductive system is remarkable. But when problems arise, they can affect your health and daily life. Many women experience pelvic pain, heavy bleeding, or ongoing discomfort—and you don't have to live with it. If symptoms are affecting your quality of life, you and your doctor can explore options to address them. One option your doctor may recommend is a hysterectomy, a surgery to remove your uterus.



Why surgeons perform hysterectomies¹

Noncancerous conditions that involve the uterus can affect your comfort, health, and daily activities. Common conditions include:

- Fibroids
- Long, heavy, or irregular periods
- Endometriosis
- Adenomyosis
- Uterine prolapse

What is a hysterectomy?¹

A hysterectomy is surgery to remove the uterus. There are two common types for a benign condition. A total (or simple) hysterectomy is the most common. A total hysterectomy removes the uterus and cervix. A partial hysterectomy may be another option. In this approach, the surgeon removes the uterus but leaves the cervix in place. Your surgeon may also recommend removing your ovaries and fallopian tubes during a hysterectomy.

Hysterectomy surgery explained

Your surgeon first separates the uterus from surrounding tissue. This includes cutting through the ligaments that hold the uterus in place. When the uterus is freed, your surgeon makes a cut to separate the uterus from the vagina.

In a partial hysterectomy, the cut is made above your cervix, so that the cervix and vagina stay connected. In a total hysterectomy, the cut goes below the cervix. Most often, surgeons remove the uterus and other tissue through the vagina. The surgeon then uses sutures to close the top of the vagina.



Total hysterectomy



Partial hysterectomy

1. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health. Hysterectomy. Women's Health. <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/hysterectomy>. Published February 23, 2021. Accessed August 2025.

Ways to perform hysterectomies¹

Surgeons can perform hysterectomies using a traditional open approach or minimally invasive surgery. Open surgery requires an incision (cut) in your lower abdomen long enough for the surgeon to access the organs and use hand-held instruments.

Minimally invasive surgery allows your surgeon to perform a hysterectomy using smaller incisions instead of the one long cut used in open surgery. The three main types of minimally invasive hysterectomy are vaginal, laparoscopic, and da Vinci surgery. In a vaginal hysterectomy, surgeons remove the uterus through an incision in your vagina. In a laparoscopic hysterectomy, surgeons use long-handled tools while viewing magnified images from the laparoscope (camera) on a video screen. In a da Vinci hysterectomy, surgeons use a robotic system with a high-definition camera. The surgeon guides small instruments through a console.

This brochure tells you about da Vinci surgery. Your doctor can also explain what to expect and answer your questions about da Vinci surgery.

Patient outcomes with da Vinci benign hysterectomy

According to studies on benign hysterectomies, da Vinci surgery shows potential benefits compared to open surgery, including:

↓ **Fewer complications during²⁻³ and after surgery²⁻³**

✚ **Less time spent in the hospital²⁻³**



Learn more about
da Vinci hysterectomy.

2. Lim PC, Crane JT, English EJ, et al. Multicenter analysis comparing robotic, open, laparoscopic, and vaginal hysterectomies performed by high-volume surgeons for benign indications. *Int J Gynaecol Obstet.* 2016;133(3):359-364. doi:10.1016/j.ijgo.2015.11.010

3. Lenfant L, Canlorbe G, Belghiti J, et al. Robotic-assisted benign hysterectomy compared with laparoscopic, vaginal, and open surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Robot Surg.* 2023;17(6):2647-2662. doi:10.1007/s11701-023-01724-6

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What is da Vinci surgery?

Surgeons have used da Vinci systems to perform robotic-assisted surgery for over 25 years. Da Vinci surgery is the most common way surgeons perform many operations, including lung and prostate surgeries.⁴ People usually spend less time in the hospital after da Vinci surgery compared to open surgery, which means patients can get back to what matters most.⁵



4. Data on file at Intuitive, August 2024

5. Ricciardi R, Seshadri-Kreaden U, Yankovsky A, et al. The COMPARE Study: Comparing Perioperative Outcomes of Oncologic Minimally Invasive Laparoscopic, da Vinci Robotic, and Open Procedures: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of the Evidence. *Ann Surg.* 2025;281(5):748-763. doi:10.1097/SLA.0000000000006572

Your surgeon performs the surgery, not a robot.

While da Vinci surgery is called robotic-assisted surgery, robots don't perform surgery. Your surgeon does. The da Vinci system's advanced instruments and technology give your surgeon tools to use during surgery.

Why surgeons choose da Vinci systems for their surgeries.



Surgeons can perform complex surgeries through a few small incisions.



Surgeons have a 10x magnified 3D view of where they're operating and the instruments they're using.



Surgeons are in control. Their hands move the tiny instruments in real time.



Da Vinci systems allow your surgeon to operate with smooth precision.



Empowered women. Informed choices.

Ask your doctor about a da Vinci hysterectomy for your benign condition.

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