

Procedure Name: Laproscopic Cholecystectomy

Brief Description of the Procedure:

A less invasive way to remove the gallbladder is called laparoscopic cholecystectomy. This surgery uses a scope, which is attached to a camera allowing the surgeon to see inside the abdomen by a monitor. Carbon dioxide is used to inflate the abdominal cavity for greater visibility. This procedure is performed through four to five small 1/2 inch incisions.

Describe anesthesia type that typically is given:

General anesthesia is used for abdominal surgery. See Anesthesia Section.

What patients that smoke can expect when having surgery:

After surgery, your anesthesia specialist will check your breathing and lung sounds to determine if a breathing treatment is needed. Smoking increases airway irritation, which leads to wheezing and coughing. Further breathing treatments and medications are sometimes needed.

Average length of surgery time:

One hour

Average length in immediate recovery:

30 minutes

Average length for time of discharge:

Expect to be here an average of two to three hours after surgery. During this time you may experience some abdominal discomfort. Medication can be given to make pain bearable.

When can you go back to work:

Depending on your occupation, you and your doctor will discuss when you may return to work. Patients must avoid lifting over 10 lbs. for three to six weeks. At your post operative visit with your surgeon he will discuss any further need to be off work based on your occupation.



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What can I lift after surgery:

Your surgeon will discuss your physical weight limit.

What kind of post discomfort can you expect:

You may experience discomfort for 6-8 hours in your abdomen that may radiate to your shoulders due to the gas inflated in the abdomen during the procedure. Sitting in a chair, walking as soon as possible after the surgery, will help decrease gas discomfort. You may experience incisional pain from the 4-5 1/2 inch incisions on your abdomen. Your surgeon will write a prescription for medication to help control the pain.

Surgical Safety Checklist:

For optimal quality care and surgical safety, the following questions will be asked.

CONFIRM between patient, surgeon, and surgery team:

Identity of patient
Surgical site
Procedure
Sign Consent
Surgeon to mark the surgical site,
if applicable Allergies



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