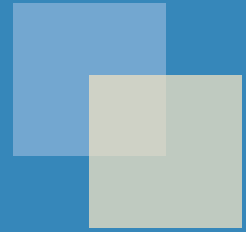


what you
should know
about





**ROBOTIC
PROSTATECTOMY**

The Prostate Gland

The prostate is a gland approximately the size of a walnut. It is located in men behind the base of the penis, just below the bladder and in front of the rectum. The prostate gland helps make the milky fluid that delivers sperm out of the body during ejaculation. ■



What is a Prostatectomy?

A prostatectomy is a surgical procedure to remove your prostate gland, and is often done during the cancer's early stages, when the cancer is located only within the prostate. At Western New York Urology Associates, we have performed thousands of these procedures. ■



Prostatectomy Options

There are two types of prostatectomy:

Open Prostatectomy. Also known as a conventional or radical surgery, an open prostatectomy requires your surgeon to make a vertical incision approximately five inches long in your lower abdomen. Your surgeon will then remove your prostate gland, and may also remove the surrounding lymph nodes if the cancer has spread.

Robotic Prostatectomy/da Vinci Surgery. In this minimally invasive surgery, your surgeon removes the prostate gland through just a few tiny incisions into the abdomen. The procedure utilizes two cameras providing a 3-dimensional view of the prostate. This revolutionary technology:

- gives surgeons significantly greater visual accuracy, enabling them to “see” areas they can not see with the naked eye
- magnifies the surgical field considerably
- provides our surgeons with precision and dexterity during surgery

This results in improved outcomes for patients and is considered a state-of-the-art surgical treatment for prostate cancer patients today.

The Benefits of da Vinci Surgery

The da Vinci Surgical System uses robotic technology to help your surgeon operate. During the procedure, the system translates the movements of your surgeon’s hands into precise movements of micro-surgical instruments. A tiny camera magnifies the view, and every step is controlled by your surgeon; the system cannot be programmed, and it cannot make any surgical maneuvers without direct input from your surgeon.

This state-of-the-art system—which has been used in thousands of procedures around the world—helps your surgeon protect the delicate muscles and nerves that control your bladder and sexual function.





A da Vinci robotic prostatectomy may offer patients:*

- excellent rates of cancer control, with the potential for better clinical outcomes versus other methods
- faster recovery—most patients can walk and climb stairs as soon as they leave the hospital
- shorter hospital stay—many patients go home within 24 hours of the surgery and some patients are able to go home the same day
- less pain
- smaller incisions
- less catheterization time
- less blood loss
- faster return of urinary control and reduced risk of incontinence
- faster return of sexual function and reduced risk of impotence—many robotic prostatectomy patients can still have erections and climax
- smaller abdominal scars

**Referenced studies can be found at www.daVinciProstatectomy.com*

As you can see, a robotic prostatectomy usually provides many advantages versus traditional surgery, which is why it is the preferred treatment for select patients.

Like any surgery, there are risks with a prostatectomy. In addition to the risks that come with being under anesthesia, the procedure itself causes risks of erectile dysfunction and urinary incontinence. It is important to discuss the specifics of your situation with your urologist so that you can be truly informed on the possible side effects.



Our experience. The surgeons at Western New York Urology Associates were among the first to offer robotic prostatectomy, and have performed this less-invasive procedure with excellent results on hundreds of patients. Western New York Urology Associates is also a leader in the treatment of a wide range of urologic conditions, including prostate cancer, incontinence, impotence, and diseases of the urinary tract. ■

Ask Your Doctor

While robotic prostatectomy may be the right treatment option for you, only you and your doctor can make that decision. Here are a few questions to ask your doctor about your treatment options:

- Which option offers the best chance for living without prostate cancer?
- How much recovery time is required?
- How will it affect my overall quality of life?
- When can I expect to regain urinary control and sexual function?



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