

It's about time

Learn about your hernia repair options.

About me

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How common are hernias?

There are more than

One million

abdominal wall hernia repairs performed in the U.S. each year.¹



What is a Hernia?



Inguinal hernia

Ventral hernia

One or more of these might lead to a hernia^{2,3}:

- Frequent heavy lifting
- Prior abdominal surgery
- Obesity
- Weak connective tissue
- Pregnancy



Symptoms

Some of the common symptoms in the groin or abdomen that may indicate you have an abdominal wall hernia are^{2,3}:

- Pain or pressure at the hernia site
- Visible bulge on the abdomen or groin area, especially when coughing or straining



How are hernias diagnosed?^{2,3}

- Physical exam
- Ultrasound
- CT scan
- Blood test
- Urinalysis
- Electrocardiogram (ECG)



What are some of your options?^{2,3}

- Watch and wait
- Wear a truss or belt
- Surgery



The care pathway for every patient is different. Decisions about your care should be made between you and your doctors. Should your pathway include surgery, the following information is designed to provide you with additional knowledge about your surgical options.



What is hernia surgery?

Hernia repair surgery basics



Before surgery



After surgery

Surgery can be performed through:

Traditional open surgery

Minimally invasive surgery:

- Laparoscopic surgery
- Robotic-assisted surgery



Open hernia repair





Laparoscopic hernia repair





Robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair



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Robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair





Robotic-assisted hernia repair

What is robotic-assisted surgery?

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

Actual incision size

During robotic-assisted surgery, your surgeon makes a few small incisions, then uses a 3DHD camera for a crystal-clear, magnified view of the surgical area.



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

Every hand movement your surgeon makes is translated by the da Vinci system in real-time, bending and rotating the instruments so he or she can repair your hernia.

What is the robotic-assisted surgical system?

This suite of da Vinci[®] technology may be in your surgeon's operating room.



The surgeon console is where your surgeon sits during the procedure, has a close-up 3D view of your anatomy, and controls the instruments. The instruments are "wristed" and move like a human hand, but with a far greater range of motion.



The patient cart is positioned near the patient on the operating table. It is where the instruments used during the operation move in real time in response to your surgeon's hand movements at the surgeon console.



The vision cart makes communication between the components of the system possible and supports the latest 3D high-definition vision system.

Please talk with your doctor to understand all outcomes related to hernia surgery.

Every surgery has risks. Some of the potential risks for hernia repair are:

Risks associated with hernia repair (ventral, incisional, umbilical, inguinal) include recurrence, bowel injury, infection of mesh, erosion of mesh, urinary retention, chronic pain. For inguinal hernia repair: testicular injury



Serious complications may occur in any surgery, 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.

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



Questions to consider asking your surgeon:

- 1. Which surgical approaches—open, laparoscopic, or robotic-assisted are available to me?
- 2. How can I prepare for surgery?
- 3. What can I expect after surgery?
- 4. What is your surgical training and experience?
- 5. What is your experience with robotic-assisted surgery?
- 6. What are your patient outcomes?







Questions? Thank you.





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Da Vinci Inguinal Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to open surgery:

- Patients who have an outpatient robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may stay in the hospital for a comparable^{A2} or longer^{A16} length of time compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have an inpatient robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may stay in the hospital for a shorter^{A1,A2,A6} or comparable^{A16} length of time compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A2} blood transfusion rates compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A2,A3} rates of complications during surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A2} rates of complications after surgery through hospital discharge compared to patients who have open surgery.

- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience lower^{A2,A4} or comparable^{A16} rates of complications after surgery compared to patients who have open surgery. One study reported a higher^{A5} rate of major post-operative complications with robotic-assisted inguinal hernia surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience lower^{A6} or comparable^{A2,A3,A16} rates of readmission compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A2} rates of reoperation in the post-operative to discharge timeframe compared to patients who have open surgery.

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Da Vinci Inguinal Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to open surgery:

- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience lower^{A2} rates of reoperation from discharge through 30 days compared to patients who have open surgery.*
 - *This statistically lower rate of reoperations was not observed in the propensity matched analysis. The results of the propensity matched analysis showed comparable reoperation rates from discharge through 30 days
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A3} or higher^{A5} risk that the hernia will recur following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A2,A6} mortality rates compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience longer^{A2,A3,A5,A16} operating times compared to patients who have open surgery.

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Da Vinci Inguinal Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to laparoscopic surgery:

- Patients who have an outpatient robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may stay in the hospital for a comparable^{A5,A8,A9,A11-A13} length of time compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery, although one study reporting shorter^{A16} and one study reported longer^{A14} hospital stays.
- Patients who have an inpatient robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may stay in the hospital for a shorter^{A1} or comparable^{A6,A16} length of time compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A5,A8,A15} overall complication rates compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery, although one study reported a lower^{A6} complication rate with robotic-assisted surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A4,A10,A13,A15,A16} rates of complications after surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.

- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A7} rates of complications during surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A8-A10,A16} rates of conversion to open surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A6,A10} or higher^{A8} rates of readmission in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A7} or higher^{A8} rates of reoperation compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A5,A12} risk that the hernia will recur following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.

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Da Vinci Inguinal Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to laparoscopic surgery:

- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A6,A7} mortality rates compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{A7,A10} or longer^{A5,A8,A9,A11-A14,A16} operating times compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.

These outcomes are not all outcomes of surgery. There are additional outcomes that surgeons and patients may want to discuss.

Appendix A References

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Da Vinci Ventral Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to open surgery for non-complex procedures:

- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may stay in the hospital for a comparable^{B1} length of time compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of complications during surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} blood transfusion rates during and after surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of complications in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of readmission in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.

- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience lower^{B1} rates of returning to clinic in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of returning to the emergency room in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of reoperation in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} mortality rate in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.

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Da Vinci Ventral Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to open surgery for complex procedures:

- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may stay in the hospital for a shorter^{B1-B4} length of time compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B3,B4} rates of complications during surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} blood transfusion rates during surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1,B4} blood transfusion rates after surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of complications in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.

- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience lower^{B4} or comparable^{B1,B3} rates of complications after surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1,B3} rates of readmission in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience lower^{B1} rates of returning to clinic in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of returning to the emergency room in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of reoperation in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.

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Da Vinci Ventral Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to open surgery for complex procedures:

- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} surgeon-reported rates of hernia recurrence in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1,B3,B4} mortality rates compared to patients who have open surgery.
- Patients who have a complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience longer^{B3,B4} operating times compared to patients who have open surgery, although one study reported comparable^{B2} operative times.

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Da Vinci Ventral Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to laparoscopic surgery for non-complex procedures*:

- *Published literature may not have distinguished procedures as solely being non-complex repairs, however, based on data from registries, most laparoscopic ventral hernia repairs are non-complex.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may stay in the hospital for a shorter^{B5,B7,B12,B13} or comparable^{B6,B8-B11} length of time compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery, although one study reported longer^{B14} hospital stays.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience lower^{B5,B7} overall complication rates during surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery, although one study reported higher a higher¹⁵ rate.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1,B7} rates of complications during surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience higher^{B7} or comparable^{B1} blood transfusion rates compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.

- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1,B9} rates of conversion to open surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B8,B9,B14} rates of complications after surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery, although one study reported a lower^{B10} rate of postoperative complications.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1,B8} rates of complications in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery, although one study reported a lower^{B10} rate of postoperative complications.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B5,B7,B10,B12} rates of readmission in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.

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Da Vinci Ventral Hernia Repair may present the following outcomes compared to laparoscopic surgery for non-complex procedures*:

- *Published literature may not have distinguished procedures as solely being non-complex repairs, however, based on data from registries, most laparoscopic ventral hernia repairs are non-complex.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} rates of returning to clinic and emergency room in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B7,B10,B12} rates of reoperation in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1} surgeon-reported rates of hernia recurrence in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.

- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B9,B13} rates of hernia recurrence 6 months of more following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience comparable^{B1,B7,B12} mortality rates in the first 30 days following surgery compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.
- Patients who have a non-complex robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair with da Vinci may experience longer^{B7-B14} operating times compared to patients who have laparoscopic surgery.

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Appendix B References

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