

# Facing Surgery for Colorectal Cancer?

Learn about minimally invasive  
**da Vinci® Surgery**



**da Vinci**.Surgery

# Colorectal Surgery

Colorectal cancer often starts in the glands of the colon or rectum lining. Most colorectal cancers begin as non-cancerous (benign) polyps that slowly turn into cancer.

**Colon Cancer Surgery:** Colon cancer surgery is called a colectomy or colon resection. Doctors remove the diseased part of your colon, and reconnect the remaining healthy parts. If doctors cannot reconnect the healthy parts of your colon, a colostomy may be performed. During the surgery, doctors create an opening (stoma) in the lower abdomen that allows waste to pass from your body into a colostomy bag.

**Rectal Cancer Surgery:** Surgery on the upper rectum is called a low anterior resection or (LAR). The goal is to remove the cancer and connect the sigmoid colon (part of colon closest to rectum) with the remaining healthy part of the rectum. This allows waste to pass normally through the anus.

An abdominoperineal resection (APR) may be performed if the cancer is too close to the anus. Some or all of the anal sphincter is also removed. The sphincter muscle keeps the anus closed. Because the sphincter is responsible for bowel control, the surgeon also performs a colostomy to allow your body to get rid of waste.

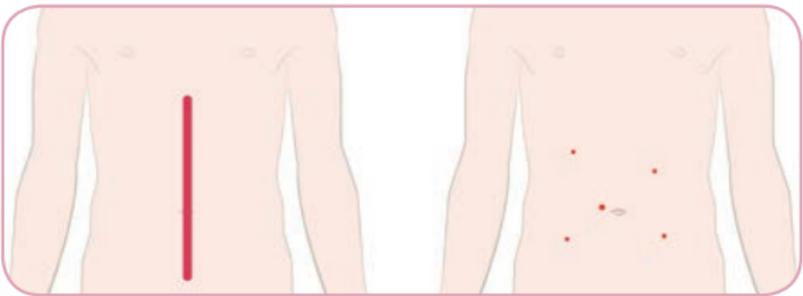


## Surgical Approaches

**Open surgery:** Colorectal procedures are often done using traditional open surgery, meaning a large open incision (cut) is made from the pubic bone to just below the breastbone.

**Minimally Invasive Surgery:** Rectal cancer surgery can also be done using minimally invasive surgery, also called laparoscopy. With traditional laparoscopy, your surgeon operates through a few small incisions in your abdomen using long instruments and a tiny camera to guide doctors during surgery.

Another minimally invasive surgery option is robotic-assisted **da Vinci Surgery**.



Open Surgery  
Incision

da Vinci Surgery/  
Laparoscopy  
Colorectal Incisions



## *da Vinci* Surgery:

### A Minimally Invasive Surgery Option

Using the *da Vinci* Surgical System, surgeons operate through a few small incisions. The *da Vinci* System has a 3D HD vision system that gives doctors a magnified view inside the body. It also has tiny instruments that bend and rotate far greater than the human hand. These features enable surgeons to operate with enhanced vision, precision and control.

*da Vinci* Low Anterior Resection Surgery offers the following potential benefits compared to open surgery:

- › Less blood loss<sup>1,2</sup>
- › Less pain<sup>1,3</sup>
- › Shorter hospital stay<sup>1,4</sup>
- › Small incisions for minimal scarring

*da Vinci* Low Anterior Resection Surgery offers the following potential benefits compared to traditional laparoscopy:

- › Improved cancer margins<sup>5,6</sup>
- › Lower conversion rate to open surgery<sup>5,7,8,9</sup>
- › Shorter hospital stay<sup>1,5,7</sup>
- › Quicker return to a soft diet<sup>1,7</sup>

**The *da Vinci* System has brought minimally invasive surgery to more than 3 million patients worldwide.**

**Risks Related to Bowel Resection and Other Colorectal Procedures (removal of all/part of the intestine):** 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 Information for Patients**

Serious complications may occur in any surgery, including *da Vinci*® Surgery, up to and including death. Risks include, but are not limited to, injury to tissues and organs and conversion to other surgical techniques. If your doctor needs to convert the surgery to another surgical technique, this could result in a longer operative time, additional time under anesthesia, additional or larger incisions and/or increased complications. Individual surgical results may vary. Patients who are not candidates for non-robotic minimally invasive surgery are also not candidates for *da Vinci* Surgery. Patients should talk to their doctor to decide if Surgery is right for them. Patients and doctors should review all available information on non-surgical and surgical options in order to make an informed decision. Please also refer to [www.daVinciSurgery.com/Safety](http://www.daVinciSurgery.com/Safety) for Important Safety Information.

Your doctor is one of a growing number of surgeons worldwide offering *da Vinci*<sup>®</sup> Surgery.

For more information and to find a *da Vinci* Surgeon nearest you, visit:

[www.daVinciSurgery.com](http://www.daVinciSurgery.com)