

Consent for Laparoscopy

Name of Proposed Surgery:

Laparoscopy

Diagnosis:

- Pelvic Pain
- Infertility - difficulty having children
- Pelvic Mass
- Ectopic Pregnancy
- Other _____

Nature and Purpose of Proposed Treatment:

Laparoscopy is an operative procedure used to help a doctor determine what is causing a problem. An incision is made near the umbilicus (belly button) that is about a centimeter long. The abdomen is then filled with gas. More small incisions are made near the pubic hairline. A telescope is then inserted through the umbilical incision to view the uterus, tubes, ovaries, appendix, and some of the bowel. Some cysts can be removed; scar tissue might be removed; endometriosis might be destroyed; tubes and ovaries might be removed.

Risks and Consequences of Proposed Treatment:

Risks of all Surgery:

- a. Injury to blood vessels with excessive bleeding, which might require transfusion or re-operation
- b. Infection, which might require IV antibiotics
- c. The risk of anesthesia, which might include nausea, vomiting or, in rare circumstances, even death
- d. Blood clots may form and go to the lungs, resulting in death or requiring a blood thinner

Risks specific to Laparoscopy:

- a. Damage to the bowel or bladder, which could require further surgery
- b. Damage to major blood vessel or other structures, which could require further surgery
- c. Open surgery might be required to fix the original problem.

Consequences of Laparoscopy:

At the time of a laparoscopy, quite often, a problem cannot be treated as much as it can be discovered. At times, we proceed with opening the abdomen and doing further surgery; while other times, we might delay that surgery. You should discuss this, in detail, with your physician.

Although this list of risks and side-effects is fairly extensive, it is not all-inclusive. It is not possible to predict all outcomes in the field of medicine.

Risks and consequences unique to the patient: _____

Alternative Treatments:

If infertility is a problem, sometimes a hysterosalpingogram can tell us whether the fallopian tubes are open. If endometriosis is a problem, quite often we can treat you with pain medication rather than performing a laparoscopy. There are several different types of X-rays and ultrasounds which can help us delineate pelvic masses.

Ectopic pregnancies might be treated with medicine.

Initial_____

Obstetrics-Gynecology Associates, P.A.

1793 Cliff Gookin Blvd.

Tupelo, MS 38801

Phone Number: 662-842-1161 Fax Number: 662-844-4107

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Prognosis if Laparoscopy not done:

It is possible for infertility patients to get pregnant with no treatment. If endometriosis is a problem, this may get worse and cause more pain, but endometriosis is rarely life threatening.

If ectopic pregnancies go untreated, internal bleeding can occur.

I understand the above information. I have been given a chance to ask questions and have had them answered to my satisfaction.

____ I have seen a film by Milner-Fenwick, "Diagnostic Laparoscopy" OB-84, on the above procedure

____ I have read the following booklet(s) on the above procedure

____ Laparoscopy (ACOG APO61)

____ Ob-Gyn Associates, P.A. - Postoperative Instruction for Laparoscopy

____ Laparoscopy - A Diagnostic View, by Krames

By my signature, I state I have been given adequate information to make an informed decision and, therefore, do consent to have a Laparoscopy.

Patient's Signature

Date

Physician's Signature

Date

By my signature, I state I have been given adequate information to make an informed decision and REFUSE to have a Laparoscopy.

Reason

Patient's Signature

Date

Physician's Signature

Date