The Benefits of Single-Incision ROBOTIC SURGERY

Removal of the gallbladder using a single, minimally-invasive incision is now possible using Valley Medical Center’s da Vinci® Si Robotic Surgical System.

According to the American College of Surgeons, surgery is the recommended treatment for the more than one million Americans who suffer gallbladder pain from gallstones and non-functioning gallbladders. While many have traditional laparoscopic surgery requiring three to five incisions, most people who require gallbladder removal are also candidates for robotic, single-incision surgery.

Single-site (single-incision) cholecystectomy, the removal of the gallbladder, with the da Vinci Si system is the first single-site robotic procedure approved by the Food and Drug Administration. More single-site da Vinci Si procedures are expected to be approved by the FDA in the next few months.

Valley Medical Center surgeon, Michael Burke, MD, FACS, was among the first in the area to perform da Vinci single-site cholecystectomy procedures. Using robotic assistance, the diseased gallbladder is removed through a single, approximately one-inch, port in the belly button. The surgery can be performed in about one hour, with a typical hospital stay of less than 24 hours. Most patients go home a few hours after surgery.

During the procedure, Dr. Burke sits at a console, viewing a 3D, high-definition, magnified image of the patient’s anatomy. Dual camera and optic lenses allow him to see and assess anatomy better than with the naked eye. He uses controls below the viewer to move the robotic instrument arms and camera. In real time, the system translates the surgeon’s hand, wrist and finger movement into the highly precise movement of the micro-surgical instruments inside the patient.

The da Vinci system is widely used in a range of complex, minimally invasive surgeries. In addition to gallbladder removal, Valley Medical Center surgeons routinely perform robotic-assisted:

- Gynecologic procedures
- Gynecologic oncologic procedures
- Urologic procedures
- General surgery procedures such as removal of all or part of the stomach, spleen, pancreas, colon and adrenal glands, diaphragmatic hernia repairs
- Surgeries to treat gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and swallowing disorders

Valley Medical Center began offering robotic surgery in 2009 and was the first hospital in Washington state to acquire the da Vinci Si system, the world’s only robotic surgical system with high-definition, 3D vision.

The robotic system cannot be programmed, nor can it make decisions on its own—every surgical maneuver must be performed with direct input from your surgeon. A dedicated team of assistants, technicians and nurses, who focus their area of practice exclusively on da Vinci procedures, remain at the patient’s side throughout the procedure.

AMAZING TECHNOLOGY

BENEFITS

- Virtually scarless results
- Minimal pain
- Low blood loss
- Fast recovery
- Short hospital stay
- High patient satisfaction

From Golden Living, Spring 2013

The Human Touch is Always Present during VMC’s da Vinci Si Procedures

For more information about da Vinci Si robotic surgery at Valley Medical Center, visit valleymed.org/surgery. For more information about the general surgery da Vinci Si procedures performed by Dr. Burke or for an appointment, contact VMC’s Surgical Specialty Clinic at 425.228.6076.

Photo represents simulation only.