Facing Benign Colorectal Surgery?

Learn why da Vinci® Surgery may be your best choice for treating benign colorectal conditions.
The Conditions:
Diverticulitis, Ulcerative Colitis, Crohn’s Disease, Rectal Prolapse

The colon and rectum are part of the large intestine and pass waste from the body. When a small pouch forms and inflames in the colon, the condition is called diverticulitis. It can cause bleeding, tears, or blockages. The most typical symptom is abdominal pain. While diverticulitis has been linked to a low fiber diet, the exact cause is unknown. 200,000 people are hospitalized for diverticulitis annually in the U.S. alone.

Ulcerative colitis and Crohn’s disease are jointly known as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). IBD causes the digestive tract to become inflamed. Symptoms may include: diarrhea, rectal bleeding, fever and weight loss. Five million people worldwide have IBD, but the exact cause of it is unknown.

Rectal prolapse occurs when tissue lining the rectum falls into the anus. The main symptom is a red mass that sticks out from the anus. The condition is more common in the elderly, and is often linked to constipation.
The Treatment: Colorectal Surgery

Treatment options often depend on how severe the symptoms are, how many episodes the patient has experienced, and the patient’s age. Your doctor may recommend surgery to treat your condition. When doctors remove the affected part of your colon and join together the remaining healthy bowel, this is known as a colectomy or colon resection. Surgery on your right colon (ascending) is called a right colectomy; surgery on your left colon (descending) is a left colectomy; and surgery on the sigmoid colon (lower left colon just before the rectum) is called a sigmoid colectomy.

If the entire colon is removed, this is called a total colectomy. When the colon and rectum are removed, it is known as a total proctocolectomy with ileo-anal pouch. A small pouch is created from the ileum (end of the small intestine) to the anus, which replaces the rectum.
Colorectal procedures are usually performed via traditional open surgery, meaning a large open incision is made in the abdomen.

Laparoscopic surgery is a minimally invasive alternative to open surgery. However, this approach is considered to be technically challenging due to unstable 2D visualization and limitations of traditional laparoscopic technology, such as poor dexterity.
Every surgery is unique to each patient and procedure; benefits cannot be guaranteed.
The Enabling Technology:  
*da Vinci®* Surgical System

The *da Vinci* Surgical System is designed to provide surgeons with enhanced capabilities, including high-definition 3D vision and a magnified view.

Your doctor controls the *da Vinci* System, which translates his or her hand movements into smaller, more precise movements of tiny instruments inside your body.

Though it is often called a “robot,” *da Vinci* cannot act on its own. Surgery is performed entirely by your doctor. Together, *da Vinci* technology allows your doctor to perform complex procedures through just a few tiny openings. As a result, you may be able to get back to your life without the usual recovery following major surgery.

The *da Vinci* System has been used successfully worldwide in hundreds of thousands of procedures to date.
Your doctor is one of a growing number of surgeons offering *da Vinci Surgery* for Colorectal Conditions.

All surgeries, including *da Vinci* Surgery, involve risk of major complications. Before you decide on surgery, discuss treatment options with your doctor. Understanding the risks of each treatment can help you make the best decision for your situation.

For more information and to find a *da Vinci* Surgeon near you, visit: www.daVinciSurgery.com