Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery

World-class gynecologic oncology care.

Summa’s gynecologic oncology subspecialists are highly trained in ovarian, cervical, vaginal and endometrial cancers. These surgeons are also actively involved in research endeavors related to the treatment and cure of these diseases.

At Summa’s Akron City Hospital, surgeons use the state-of-the-art da Vinci® Robotic Surgical System to perform minimally invasive radical hysterectomies and lymphadenectomies. For cervical cancer patients, the technology offers significantly less morbidity than an abdominal radical hysterectomy.

Summa offers the area’s only da Vinci® Robotic Surgical System and highly trained surgeons well-versed in its use. Approved by the FDA for gynecological laparoscopic procedures, this groundbreaking robotic tool extends the surgeon’s capabilities with enhanced 3-D visualization and greater surgical precision.

Advanced technology provides exciting alternatives to traditional surgery.

Summa’s Minimally Invasive Surgery Institute equips surgeons to operate through tiny dime-size surgical openings without cutting through large areas of skin and muscle. These advanced laparoscopic procedures utilize specialized instruments and a laparoscope (a thin, lighted tube with a miniature camera), giving surgeons an enhanced view of the surgical field and far more control over very precise movements. Minimally invasive surgery offers patients:

- Less pain
- Less scarring
- Less risk of infection
- Less blood loss
- Shorter hospital stay
- Faster recovery

New techniques for hysterectomy

Summa surgeons offer a variety of open and minimally-invasive procedures. Whether a patient is a candidate for minimally invasive surgery depends on her diagnosis, age and medical condition.

- **Vaginal Hysterectomy (VH)** requires no abdominal incision. It usually requires one day in the hospital and a one to two-week recovery.
- **Laparoscopically Assisted Vaginal Hysterectomy (LAVH)** usually requires a small abdominal incision for the laparoscope, a one-inch incision at the top of the vagina, one day in the hospital and a one to two-week recovery. Even women with large uterine fibroids may be candidates for LAVH.
- **Laparoscopic Supracervical Hysterectomy (LSH) and Total Laparoscopic Hysterectomy (TLH)** are performed using only laparoscopic instruments. TLH removes the cervix and uterus, while LSH removes only the uterus. Both usually require one day in the hospital and a one to two-week recovery.

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Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility

Summa’s board-certified reproductive endocrinologists perform surgical procedures to improve fertility, including laparoscopy, myomectomy, uterine septum excision and vaginal reconstruction, as well as in vitro fertilization.

Minimally invasive surgery (MIS) allows us to work through a 5mm incision for treatment of endometriosis, removal of pelvic adhesions, evaluation for infertility and removal of leiomyomas (fibroids). MIS also decreases recovery time, post-operative pain, adhesion formation and hospitalization.

Urogynecology

Our urogynecologists offer a variety of surgical procedures to treat the symptoms of urinary incontinence and pelvic floor disorders. For patients with less severe incontinence, our specialists can also provide nonsurgical evaluation and treatment.

Robotic Sacroccervicopexy for prolapse allows women with severe pelvic prolapse to be treated laparoscopically. Using the da Vinci® Surgical System, Summa surgeons perform a laparoscopic supracervical hysterectomy (LSH), then attach mesh between the cervix and the backbone to support the vagina.

Essure™ Tubal Ligation

The Essure device is the first noninvasive, FDA-approved alternative to tubal ligation, designed for women seeking a nonsurgical option to permanent birth control. The outpatient procedure can be performed in about 10 to 20 minutes, and patients usually go home in 45 minutes. Over 90 percent of women return to normal activities within 24 hours or less. In three-year clinical trials, the properly implanted Essure device was 99.8 percent effective against pregnancy...slightly better than standard tubal ligation or vasectomy.

Non-Surgical Endometrial Ablation

For women suffering from excessive menstrual bleeding (menorrhagia), Summa offers NovaSure Endometrial Ablation. This quick, safe and simple one-time procedure takes approximately four (4) minutes and requires no pretreatment. It removes the uterine lining while preserving the uterus and offers an excellent success rate...without hormones or hysterectomy.

For more information or the name of a specialist, ask your physician or visit our physician directory at www.summahealth.org.