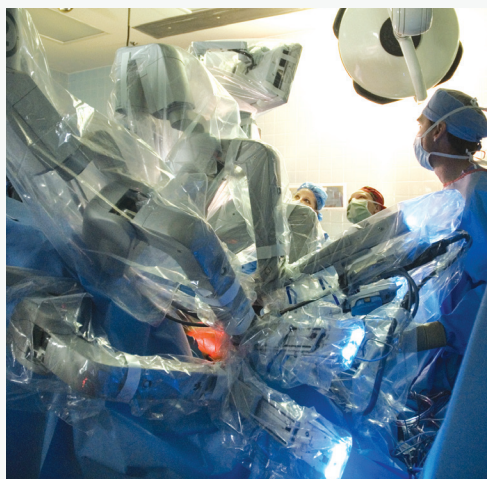


Robotic-assisted surgery



To learn more about da Vinci robotic surgery, including a list of surgeons, visit our Web pages at:

Mercy Hospital
allinahealth.org/mercy

Unity Hospital
allinahealth.org/unity

Robotic-assisted surgery is changing the way doctors operate – and the way patients recover

Our expertly trained surgeons use less invasive robotic-assisted surgery to perform complex operations that were previously impossible without open surgery. Like other minimally invasive procedures, robotic-assisted surgery is performed through a few tiny incisions. However, it offers surgeons higher magnification, better flexibility and more precision than conventional laparoscopic surgery.

Surgeons use robotic-assisted surgery to treat problems affecting the prostate, colon, hernia, gallbladder, esophagus, kidneys, bladder, uterus, heart and lung. Robotic surgery offers many potential benefits, including shorter hospital stays and a quicker return to daily activities.

Advanced technology, increased precision

Robotic surgery is performed using advanced technology known as the da Vinci® Surgical System. The doctor sits at a console near the patient, using hand and foot pedals to control robotic arms that hold micro-instruments and a miniature camera. The special 3D camera projects a color image to the console, giving the surgeon a view magnified 10 times.

The da Vinci robot is essentially an extension of the surgeon's hands and eyes, with the surgeon initiating and controlling every movement. It does not perform surgery by itself. The tips of the robotic arms rotate like the human wrist, allowing surgeons to use many of the same techniques they learned for open surgery. Robotic technology gives surgeons more flexibility, increased precision and greater reach even while operating through tiny incisions, and sometimes a single incision.

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What are the benefits of robotic surgery?

Although every patient and every surgery is unique, robotic surgery offers important advantages for patients and surgeons alike. The da Vinci system has been used successfully for thousands of procedures. It is considered the best surgical option for many conditions.

Advantages for patients	Advantages for surgeons
Smaller incisions and less scarring	Increased range of motion
Less pain and discomfort	More precision and control
Shorter hospital stay	Better depth of field
Quicker recovery	Ergonomic console and seating
Less blood loss and fewer transfusions	Easier to see – visually immersed in patient’s body
Fewer side effects and complications	
Reduced risk of infection	
Better outcomes	

How does robotic surgery compare?

Robotic surgery is quickly becoming the preferred method for many common surgical procedures. The innovative da Vinci system makes it possible for doctors to perform complex and delicate procedures that were previously impossible without more invasive open surgery.

Traditional open surgery	Robotic surgery
Large incisions, often 6 to 12 inches	Incisions usually 1 cm long
Lengthy hospital stay, several days or more	One or two days in the hospital, some same-day procedures
Extended recovery period	Precise, minimally invasive procedure
Invasive procedures involve significant disruption and trauma to surrounding tissue	Back to normal routine in several days to a couple weeks

Consider robotic-assisted surgery

Mercy Hospital
4050 Coon Rapids Blvd.
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763-236-6529

Unity Hospital
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Fridley, MN 55432
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