

Laparoscopic Radical Prostatectomy

Laparoscopic Radical Prostatectomy (LRP) is a minimally invasive surgical approach to removing prostate cancer that is fast becoming the standard approach for many academic surgical centers. This surgery is performed through small incisions (< 1/2 inch) that are made to allow the introduction of long surgical instruments and an operating camera that allows the surgeon to perform complex surgical procedures through keyhole openings in the patients body. Because these incisions are so small, the patient experiences less impact from the surgery and has a quicker recovery time and lower requirement for pain medication.

Laparoscopic Radical Prostatectomy requires significant skill to perform the procedure successfully and sufficient case volume to achieve the best outcomes for this surgery. We at Cheyenne Urological endeavor to provide this procedure with the best outcomes possible. To that end, we have developed our skills in minimally invasive prostatectomies to allow us to offer patients the best outcomes possible. We perform LRP's on a regular basis and have a fully equipped operating room that has specific instrumentation devoted to the laparoscopic approach such as the harmonic scalpel, Gyrus coagulators, pneumatic camera holders as well as a complete line of laparoscopic instrumentation specific to the LRP procedure.

Why Laparoscopic Prostatectomy?

Laparoscopic procedures are designed to allow patients a faster recovery time, smaller surgical incisions and a less invasive way to have prostate cancer removed. Since laparoscopic surgery allows the surgeon to have up to 30 times magnification, structures that are normally not seen well during conventional radical prostatectomy are seen extremely well during a laparoscopic operation. The inaccessibility of the prostate deep in the pelvis makes the laparoscopic approach uniquely appealing as well as uniquely challenging to the surgeon.

Nerve Sparing and potency. For many patients, maintenance of potency or sexual function is foremost among the considerations for choice of surgery over other options such as seed implant, radiation therapy, cryotherapy or standard radical prostatectomy. Laparoscopic prostatectomy affords excellent visualization of the cavernosal nerves which need to be preserved in order for a patient to be able to have erectile function following prostate surgery. Preliminary studies have shown that LRP afford a patient an excellent opportunity at preserving erectile function.