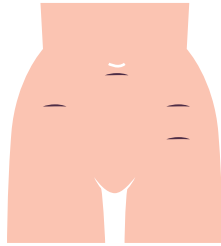


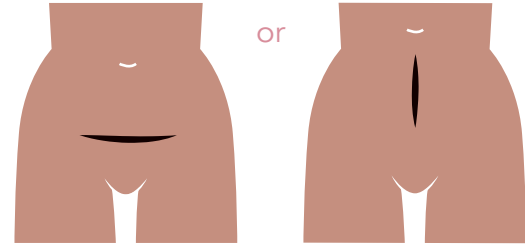
There are different ways to remove a uterus. **The approach recommended by your surgeon will depend on multiple factors including your diagnosis, the size of your uterus, your past surgical history, and which structures are being removed.** While many people can have a hysterectomy through a minimally invasive approach (laparoscopic or vaginal), it is not possible for all patients.

Laparoscopic Hysterectomy



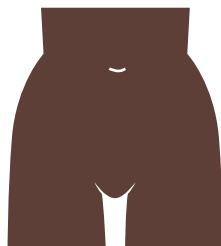
Approximately 4 incisions (typically less than 1.0 cm) are made to allow for insertion of a small camera and surgical instruments, used to complete the entire hysterectomy. The uterus can be removed through the vaginal opening or through one of the abdominal incisions, which may be made slightly larger to accommodate removing the uterus. Incision sites are closed at the end of surgery.

Abdominal (Open) Hysterectomy



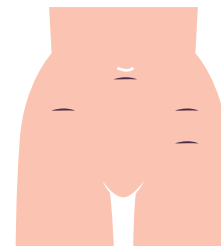
An incision is made on your skin to allow your surgeon to remove the uterus. There are different types of incisions that may be made, either vertical or horizontal. Your doctor cannot guarantee the size or orientation of your incision. They should make an incision that will allow them to complete your procedure safely.

Vaginal Hysterectomy



The operation is done through the vagina, without requiring any abdominal incisions. The uterus is removed through this vaginal opening. No scars will be visible on the abdomen.

Laparoscopic Assisted Vaginal Hysterectomy



The procedure is started laparoscopically and completed through the vaginal approach. Scars from this surgery will be similar to that of a laparoscopic hysterectomy.

References

1. Lefebvre G, Allaire C, Jeffrey J, Vilos G. No. 109-Hysterectomy. J Obstet Gynaecol Can. 2018 Jul; 40(7):e567-e579.

This material is intended for use by Canadian residents only. It is solely intended for informational and educational purposes. The information presented in these handouts is not to be used as a substitute for medical advice, independent judgement, or proper clinical assessment by a physician. The context of each case and individual needs differ between patients and this material cannot be applied without consultation with a trained doctor. This information handout is not intended for the diagnosis of health concerns or to take the place of the care of a medical professional. This material reflects the information available at the time of preparation.

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Lim J, Uzelac A, O'Brien K, Shirreff L