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.

The Enabling Technology: The da Vinci Surgical System

Though it is often called a “robot,” da Vinci cannot act on its own. Instead, the 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 normal activities faster — without the long recovery that usually follows open surgery.

The da Vinci System has been used successfully worldwide in hundreds of thousands of procedures to date.

For more information and to find a da Vinci surgeon near you, please visit: www.daVinciProstatectomy.com

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 individual situation.
Recent clinical studies suggest that da Vinci® Prostatectomy may offer excellent cancer control, faster return of urinary continence and sexual function, shorter hospital stay, lower level of pain, less blood loss and transfusions, lower risk of infection, complications and faster recovery and return to normal activities.

In addition, compared to radiation treatment, prostatectomy offers men with localized prostate cancer improved survival rates. As with any surgical procedure, these benefits cannot be guaranteed as surgery is both patient and procedure specific.

While clinical studies support the effectiveness of the da Vinci® System when used in minimally invasive surgery, individual results may vary. Surgery with the da Vinci Surgical System may not be appropriate for every individual. Always ask your doctor about all treatment options, as well as their risks and benefits.

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The Condition:
Prostate Cancer

The prostate is a walnut-sized gland that is part of the male reproductive system. Its function is to produce a fluid that is part of male ejaculate or semen.

Prostate cancer is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form inside the prostate. Worldwide, more than 900,000 men were diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2008, making it the second most common cancer in men behind lung cancer.

Widespread screening, early detection and improved treatment have improved prostate cancer survival rates. When found while it is localized or still contained in the gland, 5-year survival approaches 100%.

When prostate cancer is detected early, radical prostatectomy - surgical removal of the prostate gland - offers patients a potential cure. In fact, according to the American Urological Association’s 2007 Guidelines for the Clinical Management of Prostate Cancer, “The major potential benefit of radical prostatectomy is a cancer cure in patients in whom the prostate cancer is truly localized.”

Treatment options for prostate cancer may include radiation (either external beam or seed implants) or cryotherapy. These treatments work by radiating, burning or freezing the prostate. However, surgery is the only treatment that actually removes the cancerous prostate from the body.

All prostate cancer treatments can affect urinary continence, as well as sexual potency and function. Talk to your doctor about all available treatment options and what to expect before, during and after treatment.

The Treatment:
Radical Prostatectomy

Radical prostatectomy is the most common treatment for prostate cancer. Until recently, prostatectomy was usually performed using an 8- to 10-inch incision. This approach commonly resulted in substantial blood loss and a lengthy and uncomfortable recovery.

Today, if your doctor recommends surgery to treat your prostate cancer, you may be a candidate for a very effective, minimally invasive procedure called da Vinci Surgery. This procedure uses state-of-the-art technology designed to help your doctor perform the most precise and least invasive prostate cancer surgery available today.

For most patients, da Vinci Surgery offers numerous potential benefits over open surgery including:

- Excellent cancer control
- Faster return of urinary continence
- Faster return of sexual function
- Shorter hospital stay
- Low level of pain
- Less blood loss and transfusions
- Lower risk of infection, complications
- Faster recovery and return to normal activities

In addition, compared to radiation treatment, prostatectomy offers men with localized prostate cancer improved survival rates. As with any surgical procedure, these benefits cannot be guaranteed as surgery is both patient and procedure specific.

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