

# Considering Surgery for Pelvic Prolapse?

Learn why **da Vinci®** Surgery may  
be your best treatment option.



**da Vinci.**  **Surgery**

## The Condition:

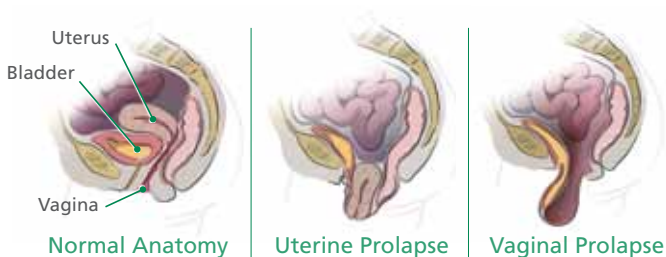
### Pelvic Prolapse

Pelvic prolapse is a condition that occurs when muscles and ligaments supporting your pelvic organs weaken. As a result, these organs (uterus, vagina, cervix, bladder, urethra, or rectum) slip from their normal position.

Severe uterine prolapse can cause the uterus to slip partially into the vagina. It may cause the upper part of the vagina to sag into the vaginal canal or even outside the vagina.

Some women with prolapse have no symptoms. Others experience a feeling of sitting on a ball; pulling in the pelvis; pelvic or abdominal pain; painful intercourse; protrusion of tissue from the vagina; bladder infections; vaginal bleeding; unusual discharge; constipation or frequent urination.<sup>1</sup>

Pelvic prolapse is common, affecting about one in every three women who have had a child.<sup>2</sup> One in nine women experience symptoms severe enough to need surgery.<sup>2</sup> Prolapse risk factors include multiple vaginal deliveries, age, obesity, hysterectomy and smoking.<sup>1</sup>



# The Treatment:

## Sacrocolpopexy

Typically, pelvic prolapse worsens over time and can only be fully corrected with surgery. The procedure is called sacrocolpopexy. It is considered the most effective way to correct pelvic prolapse and resolve symptoms.<sup>3</sup>

During this procedure, surgical mesh is used to hold the vagina in its correct position. The mesh remains in place permanently. Sacrocolpopexy may also be performed following a hysterectomy to treat prolapse and provide long-term support of the vagina.<sup>4</sup>

Sacrocolpopexy has traditionally been performed using open surgery. A long, horizontal incision is made in the lower abdomen to manually access



While clinical studies support the effectiveness of the *da Vinci* Surgical System when used in minimally invasive major complications. Before you decide on surgery, discuss treatment options with your doctor. Understand the *da Vinci* Surgical System may not be appropriate for every individual; it may not be applicable to your case. Your doctor can determine whether *da Vinci* Surgery is appropriate for your situation. The clinical information and opinions are not necessarily those of Intuitive Surgical, Inc. and should not be considered as substitute for medical advice or diagnosis. All rights reserved. Intuitive, *Intuitive Surgical*, *da Vinci*, *da Vinci S*, *da Vinci Si*, *Single-Site*, *InSite*, *TilePro* and *E* are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders. PN 871730 Rev D 04/12

the pelvic organs, including the uterus. While the success rate of open sacrocolpopexy is high, recovery time can be long.

Laparoscopic sacrocolpopexy is a minimally invasive alternative to open surgery. This approach is considered to be technically challenging due to the extensive suturing and dissection required, along with the limitations of traditional laparoscopic technology.



Open Surgery  
Incision

*da Vinci*  
Sacrocolpopexy Incisions

# da Vinci Surgery:

## A More Precise, Less Invasive Surgical Procedure

If your doctor recommends sacrocolpopexy to treat pelvic prolapse, ask about minimally invasive *da Vinci* Surgery.

State-of-the-art *da Vinci* Surgery requires just a few tiny incisions. The enhanced vision, precision, dexterity and control of *da Vinci* allows your doctor to perform a durable sacrocolpopexy even for women with complex cases.<sup>4</sup> *da Vinci* Sacrocolpopexy offers women many potential benefits over traditional open surgery, including:

- › Less blood loss<sup>5</sup>
- › Shorter hospital stay<sup>5</sup>

Additional potential benefits of *da Vinci* Sacrocolpopexy include:

- › Low rate of complications<sup>4</sup>
- › Small incisions for minimal scarring<sup>6</sup>

*da Vinci* Sacrocolpopexy offers women the following potential benefits compared to traditional laparoscopic surgery:

- › Shorter operation<sup>7</sup>
- › Less blood loss<sup>7</sup>
- › Shorter duration with catheter<sup>7</sup>



<sup>3</sup>Nygaard IE, McCreery R, Brubaker L, Connolly A, Cundiff G, Weber AM, Zyczynski H; Pelvic Floor Disorders Network. Abdominal sacrocolpopexy: a comprehensive review. *Obstet Gynecol.* 2004 Oct;104(4):805-23. <sup>4</sup>Elliott DS, Krambeck AE, Chow GK. Long-term results of robotic assisted laparoscopic high grade vaginal vault prolapse. *J Urol.* 2006 Aug;176(2):655-9. <sup>5</sup>Geller EJ, Siddiqui NY, Wu JM, Visco AG. Short-Term Obstetrics & Gynecology. 2008;112:1201-6. <sup>6</sup> Data on file with Intuitive Surgical, Inc. <sup>7</sup> Seror J, Yates DR, Seringe E, Vae obtained after pure laparoscopic and robot-assisted laparoscopic sacrocolpopexy. *World J Urol.* 2011 Aug 20. [Epub ah

# The Enabling Technology: *da Vinci* Surgical System

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.



Though it is often called a “robot,” *da Vinci* cannot act on its own. Instead, 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 life without the usual recovery following major surgery.

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

**Your doctor is one of a growing number of surgeons offering *da Vinci*<sup>®</sup> Surgery for Pelvic Prolapse.**

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 situation.

For more information and to find a *da Vinci* Surgeon near you, visit:  
**[www.daVinciSurgery.com](http://www.daVinciSurgery.com)**