

PATIENT INFORMATION FOR TOTAL ABDOMINAL HYSTERECTOMY WITH/WITHOUT BILATERAL SALPINGECTOMY/SALPINGO-OOPHORECTOMY

Indication for surgery:

pelvic or abdominal mass /heavy menstrual flow / risk of cancer

Nature of procedure

- General anaesthesia
- Urinary bladder catheterized
- Peritoneal cavity entered
- Uterus removed; tubes and/or ovaries may be removed
- Vaginal and abdominal wounds closed

What to expect?

- No menstruation
- Hormonal status may or may not be affected depending on whether ovaries are removed at the same time
- Unable to get pregnant

Risks and complications may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Anaesthetic complications
- Bleeding, may need blood transfusion
- Wound problems
- Pelvic infection
- Injury to neighbouring organs especially the bladder, ureters and bowels
- Vault prolapse

Possible alternatives

- Observation
- Non-surgical treatment, e.g. medical treatment, progestogen containing intrauterine device
- Myomectomy (for uterine fibroid)

- Uterine fibroid embolization (for uterine fibroid)

Endometrial ablation (for dysfunctional uterine bleeding)

Remarks

The information contained is very general. There is individual variation in practice in different units. The list of complications is not exhaustive and other unforeseen complications may occasionally occur. In special patient groups, the actual risk may be different. For further information please contact your doctor.