

## **Minimally invasive surgery ... FAQ**

*What is a minimally invasive surgery?*

Minimally invasive surgery involves techniques that are designed to minimize the pain and discomfort after surgery by using small incisions rather than traditional larger incisions. For abdominal surgery, the term for minimally invasive surgery is laparoscopic surgery. Many of these techniques have been proven to be safe and effective and often reduce the length of hospital stay and the length of recovery after major surgery. The cosmetic result is often much better as well.

*Am I a candidate for minimally invasive surgery?*

All patients are considered for minimally invasive surgery at Colon and Rectal Surgery of New England. Factors that may make patients ineligible are:

- Prior abdominal surgery
- Emergency surgery
- Other significant medical problems

*Is there a chance that my laparoscopic operation will be switched to one with a traditional larger incision?*

Yes, your doctor will go over the specifics of the planned operation. He will also discuss with you all the risks and benefits including the risk that your laparoscopic operation needs to be converted to an open operation. This conversion may occur during your operation while you are asleep. It may be done because proceeding with the laparoscopic operation is unsafe or will be ineffective and needs to be converted.

*What conditions can be treated with laparoscopic surgery?*

Diverticulitis  
Colorectal cancer  
Crohn's disease and Ulcerative colitis  
Rectal Prolapse

*Call our office with any questions or concerns*

*Innovative Surgical Care  
774-776-2991*