

ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGERY

Patient Testimonials

"I feel fortunate to live in an area where I have access to premiere medical care. This was one of the most important priorities for me when I was diagnosed with cervical cancer last year. Pacific Gynecology Specialists at Swedish has performed more procedures than anyone in the northwest, and having them in my backyard so to speak was comforting to me during a difficult process."

- Kay Wieland, a cervical cancer survivor from Woodinville

"I was released from the hospital just one day after my prostatectomy. Within a week, I returned to my normal routine including walking four miles each day and hiking mountains. The operation was painless, and I had not taken a Tylenol throughout the entire process. With the availability of robot-assisted surgery and the benefits it provides for patients, I don't know why anyone would risk an open operation."

- Len Roughgarden, a prostate cancer survivor from Sammamish

"I underwent a robot-assisted hysterectomy to remove my uterus in August 2009 at Swedish since I was not a candidate for the traditional laparoscopic surgery. It was amazing at how quickly I recovered from surgery. It was totally noninvasive, and I felt great the next day. I went out to dinner with family the evening after the surgery and was back at work just two weeks later, compared to the eight weeks of recovery time for the traditional approach."

- Christine Krajcik, a hysterectomy patient from Richland

"Though I was diagnosed with endometriosis over 20 years ago, I decided to pursue a surgical treatment this year and was thrilled to learn I was a candidate for robot-assisted surgery. I had a hysterectomy at Swedish in April 2009 and was impressed by the minimally-invasive incisions and the quick recovery time. Sometimes it was even hard to remember that I'd just had surgery. If I had do to it over again, I would absolutely use robot-assisted surgery at Swedish."

- Debra Cawthon, an endometriosis patient from Bothell

"After ... deciding upon a radical prostatectomy, I quickly did extensive research regarding my options. When I discovered information about the procedure using the da Vinci Surgical System, I was convinced that this was the only option for me. I was back to work after four and a half weeks and even played racquetball after six weeks."

- da Vinci Prostatectomy patient, aerospace design engineer



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Doctor Quotes

"Benefits to patients include reduced blood loss, reduced post operative pain, a significantly shorter hospital stay and a quicker return to normal activities. Patients, who are treated by our team of gynecologic oncologists, and who require other treatments, such as radiation and chemotherapy, can move on to those treatments faster with fewer side effects and quite possibly higher cure rates."

- Dr. Pam Paley, Pacific Gynecology Specialists at Swedish Medical Center
Seattle, Washington

"Not only do I treat patients using da Vinci Prostatectomy ... I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. When I looked at what I had been doing, at the outcomes of my patients, it was a no-brainer ... I knew that I would go forward with the da Vinci Prostatectomy."

- Dr. James Porter, Swedish Urology Group at Swedish Medical Center
Seattle, Washington

"Previously, minimally invasive gynecologic surgery was available to only a narrow segment of the population. Robotic technology has dramatically expanded and it now is available to most of the population. Weight is no longer a factor and previous surgeries are no longer a factor."

- Dr. Dan Veljovich, Pacific Gynecology Specialists at Swedish Medical Center
Seattle, Washington

The precision and flexibility of this type of computerized system will allow us to do things we haven't even thought of yet."

- Dr. William Kelley, Henrico Doctors Hospital
Richmond, Virginia

"In my experience, robotics allows for greater surgical precision which leads to improvements in cancer control, potency and urinary function."

- Dr. Mani Menon, Vattikuti Urology Institute, Henry Ford Health System
Detroit, Michigan