

## da Vinci<sup>®</sup> for Kidney Cancer

Each year, kidney cancer is diagnosed in nearly 200,000 people worldwide, mostly between the ages of 50 and 70. Since kidney cancer doesn't have any early symptoms, you need to see your doctor as soon as you see any signs.





## Symptoms

Check with your doctor if you experience any of the following symptoms:

- » Blood in your urine
- » Lump in your abdomen
- » Unexplained weight loss
- » Pain in your side
- » Loss of appetite

## Causes and Risk Factors

Several risk factors make you more likely to develop kidney cancer:

- » Smoking
- » Hypertension
- » Obesity
- » Chronic kidney failure and/or dialysis
- » Diet with high caloric intake or fried/sautéed meat

## Screening and Testing for Kidney Cancer

There are no blood or urine tests for kidney cancer. When kidney cancer is suspected, a doctor can order a kidney imaging study. The initial image study is usually an ultrasound or CT scan.

If it appears that cancer is present, the doctor may order additional tests to see if the disease has spread to other parts of your body.

## Treatment

The primary treatment option for kidney cancer is to remove all or part of the kidney and the tumor. Kidney cancer does not respond well to radiation or chemotherapy.

A new procedure for surgery employs the daVinci Robotic Surgical System. The goal of using the daVinci system is to remove the least amount

of the kidney possible. This is extremely important in patients with diabetes or high blood pressure, as these conditions would put a great deal of stress on the remaining kidney.

The daVinci system consists of four robotic arms and many tiny instruments that attach to the arms. These instruments are controlled by a surgeon at a panel next to the patient in the operating room. During the procedure, the four robotic arms precisely replicate the surgeon's hand and finger movements with a highly magnified, 3-D view of the surgical field, and unsurpassed surgical dexterity and control. Using tiny incisions and precise cuts, only the cancerous parts are removed saving as much of the kidney as possible. It's the most advanced surgery for kidney cancer today and incorporates the advantages of both open surgery and traditional laparoscopy.

The daVinci robotic system has been safely used in complex laparoscopic cases for over a decade and has been revered as the safest and most effective minimally invasive treatment for kidney tumors. Even though laparoscopic partial nephrectomy is relatively new, results have been excellent.

The Health & You segment  
entitled “da Vinci si for Kidney Cancer”  
was presented by Dr. Champ Weeks,  
Medical Director of  
Memorial Robotic Surgery.  
Call (228) **867-5000**  
with any questions.



Information for this brochure  
was obtained at <http://www.davincisurgery.com>  
<http://www.gulfportmemorial.com>

*The information provided is not meant to diagnose or treat possible health problems. Consult your health care provider if you have any questions or concerns about da Vinci for Kidney Cancer.*



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