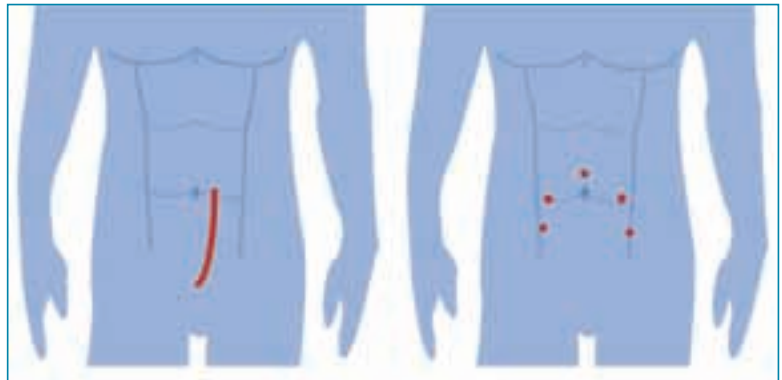


da Vinci Procedures Show Rapid Growth

Utilizing technology designed by NASA and the Department of Defense, da Vinci won FDA approval in 2000. In the last eight years, more than 867 of the robots have been installed in hospitals worldwide, including 647 installations in the United States, according to Intuitive Surgical, the technology's manufacturer. The only low-trauma robot on the market, da Vinci will be used in an estimated 130,000 procedures worldwide this year, an increase from 85,000 last year.



Open Prostatectomy Incision

da Vinci Prostatectomy Incisions

The da Vinci robot has most commonly been used in urology, with prostate removals accounting for 55,000 of 85,000 da Vinci operations last year worldwide. The technology is also finding a place in gynecologic, cardiothoracic, and general adult and pediatric surgeries. While cardiovascular operations such as bypass surgery and mitral valve repairs are still relatively rare with the da Vinci, Intuitive Surgical expects the volume in this category to grow by 30% to 35% this year.

"The feedback from our patients and physicians has been outstanding," said Dr. Stockton. "The robotic surgical system is a true step forward, and as a result, we are seeing better outcomes compared with open procedures. We anticipate that the number of patients who elect robotic surgery will increase not only in urology, but in gynecology, cardiology, and other areas."

* Figures as of July 15, 2008.



In comparison to standard laparoscopy, robotic assisted laparoscopy utilizes 3D magnified visualization as well as fine movement "wristed" instruments. Thus, the robotic minimally invasive approach facilitates the completion of delicate dissections and complex reconstructions.

September is Prostate Health Month

If diagnosed early, nearly 100% of men with prostate cancer survive. To raise awareness for Prostate Health Month, Lakeside Urology and Continence Center will offer **free prostate cancer education and screenings** open to the public in September.

"Meet the daVinci"

In a special engagement, patients can view the da Vinci robotic surgical equipment and learn about treatment options. The event is set for **Monday, September 8** in the Frederick S. Upton Education Center, Lakeland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph. From 4:30 – 6:00 p.m., Lakeland's robotic surgery specialists will be on hand to demonstrate the equipment and answer questions. At 6:00 p.m., Dr. Benjamin Stockton will speak about prostate cancer awareness, including symptoms, diagnosis, treatment options, and the benefits of robotic surgery. Patients need to pre-register at (269) 983-3455.

Free Screenings Offered

Lakeside Urology will hold free prostate cancer screenings for men ages 50 and older or those with a family history of the disease. The screenings will be held on **Monday, September 15** from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph office, and on **Thursday, September 18** from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Niles office. No appointment is needed. PSA tests courtesy of Lakeland Laboratory. For more information or to refer a patient, call Lakeside Urology and Continence Center at (269) 983-3455 or (269) 684-5447.