

Informed Consent Handout – Abdominal Hysterectomy

This handout explains the risk of Abdominal Hysterectomy, which is surgical removal of the uterus and cervix through the abdomen as performed by Dr. Reilly. It is based on Dr. Reilly's complication rates. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Dr. Reilly's office at (519) 787-7418 or Palmerston Hospital at 519-343-2030 to book an appointment to review your questions. The information below is summarized in a chart on the other side of this page.

Dr. Reilly started independent practice in August 2005. Between August 2005 and Dec 31, 2017 Dr. Reilly has performed 77 Abdominal Hysterectomies. 45% of his patients experienced no complications.

The most common complications of Abdominal Hysterectomy are bleeding, infection, and issues with healing of the incision (surgical cut). These difficulties can range from a minor issue that does not require any treatment to death. In published studies, the risk of higher than average bleeding ranges from 2% to 12% while Dr. Reilly's patients experience this 39% of the time. Studies demonstrate a rate of incision issues of 1-2% while Dr. Reilly's rate is 14%. The higher rate of bleeding and incision issues are due to Dr. Reilly using Abdominal Hysterectomy only for removal of large uteruses with fibroids (non-cancerous tumours of fibrous tissues) Hysterectomy for fibroids is associated with a higher rate of bleeding and incision complications than hysterectomy for other reasons. For infection, the risk in published studies ranges from 3% to 25% while Dr. Reilly's rate is 6%.

Because Dr. Reilly is operating in the abdomen, there is a risk of damaging or interfering with the bladder, bowel, or important blood vessels. Damage to these organs may be fixed during your surgery and have no long term consequence, but could also result in additional surgery, long-term disability, and/or death. Of Dr. Reilly's patients, 5% have experienced bladder injury. Risk of bowel injury is 1% in studies and 2.6% in Dr. Reilly's patients.

Because your movement will be restricted for a time after surgery, there is a risk of blood clots forming in your legs or lungs. This is a rare event and Dr. Reilly has not yet had a patient experience this.

Summary

76 Abdominal Hysterectomies Performed

	Cases	% of Patients	% in Studies
No complication	35	45%	
1. Bleeding	30	39%	2 - 12%
2. Infection	5	6%	3 - 25%
3. Wound Complication	11	14%	1 - 2%
4. Bladder Injury	4	5%	
6. Bowel Injury	2	2.6%	1%
10. DVT / PE	0	0%	

Additional Resources

http://www.emedicinehealth.com/hysterectomy-health/page5_em.htm