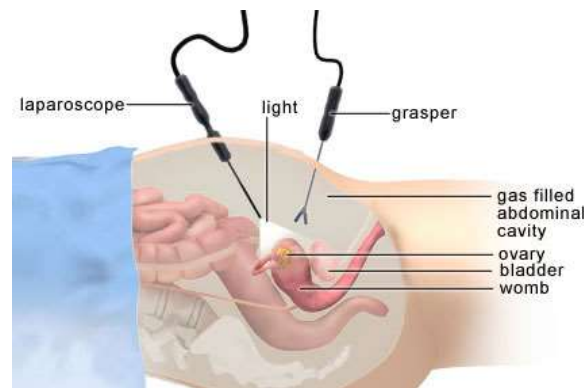


# Community Gynaecology Service

## Laparoscopy Under General Anaesthetic

### ***What is a Laparoscopy?***

A Laparoscopy is a minor Gynaecological operation which involves the surgeon looking inside the abdomen and pelvis with a telescope. You will have a small incision further down your abdomen, one at the navel and one a little lower on one side.



### ***What to expect after your operation***

You will be awakened in the theatre recovery area where the staff will check your blood pressure and pulse before returning you to the Day Surgery Unit to complete your recovery. Some pain or discomfort after your operation is quite normal, and you will be given painkilling tablets for this.

You may have some aches and pains in your shoulders for 48 hours. This is due to the Carbon Dioxide gas used during the procedure. This will be relieved by taking the painkilling tablets prescribed on discharge from the unit and by lying down.

Your next period may be a bit lighter or heavier than normal and you may have some vaginal staining. This is normal. If the staining becomes heavy or bright red please seek further advice as instructed further on in this leaflet.

After surgery you will be allowed to rest for a few hours and assuming there are no complications you will be allowed home the same day. If for any reason you are requiring to stay in hospital overnight following your operation, a bed will be made available for you and we will inform your relatives at your request.

### ***Risks of Laparoscopy***

The main risk of a laparoscopy is inadvertent damage to bowel or bladder.

### ***Once you are home***

It is advisable to rest for 24-48 hours after discharge, as you may not feel up to doing very much. Take the painkillers you have been given, and always follow the instructions on the pack.

### ***Follow up***

You may or may not require a hospital follow up visit and this will be discussed with you prior to your discharge after your surgery. If you develop problems or require advice following discharge you should initially contact your GP.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call us on 01727 823 111.