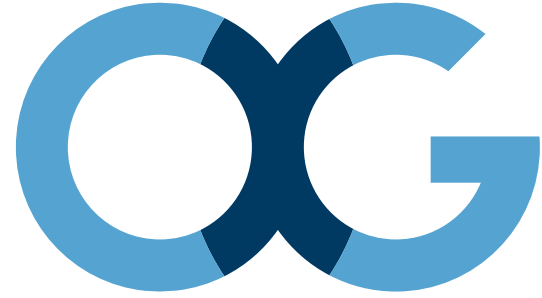


Laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis



How can a diagnostic laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis help?

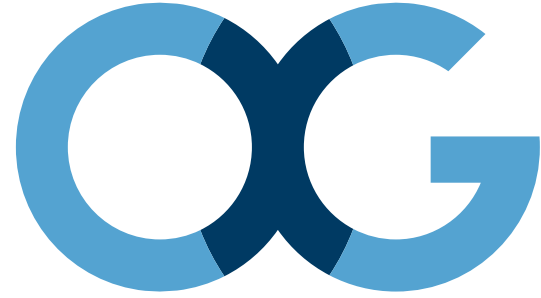
Diagnostic laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis is a keyhole operation to look inside the abdomen (tummy) and remove any scar tissue that may be present. The commonest problem that leads women to have this procedure is abdominal or pelvic pain.

Keyhole surgery, where possible, has benefits over open surgery. These benefits include: a quicker recovery; less pain; less time in hospital; and a faster return to work.

What are the risks of diagnostic laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis?

All treatments and procedures have risks and we will talk to you about the risks of diagnostic laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis. Risks can be divided up into two categories common (less serious) and rare (more serious).

Laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis



Problems that may happen straight away

Common risks of diagnostic laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis include: general abdominal pain; shoulder pain; wound infection; urinary tract infection; pelvic infection; difficulty passing urine; and bleeding. It may not be possible to remove all the scar tissue. There can be side-effects associated with general anaesthesia and include nausea, vomiting and a sore throat. The anaesthetic doctor will discuss these.

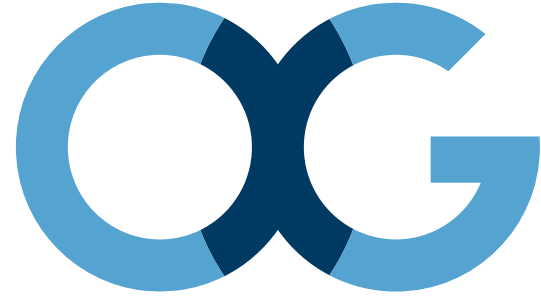
Problems that may happen later

Future risks can include re-developing scar tissue within the pelvis and a failure to treat the pain.

Problems that are rare, but serious

Rare but more serious complications include injury to internal organs such as the bowel, bladder, ureters (tubes that connect the kidneys to the bladder) or major blood vessels. There is also a risk of forming blood clots in the legs or lungs or having a severe allergic reaction to drugs used during surgery. There is a small risk of developing a hernia at the site of the cuts.

Laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis



What additional procedures may be required?

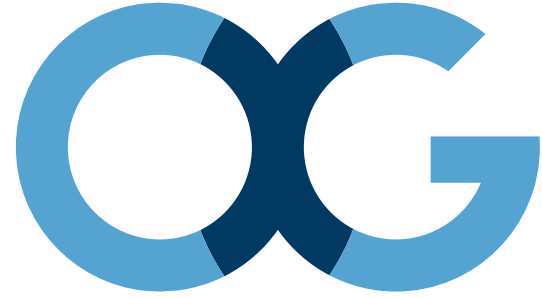
Additional procedures that may become necessary but are not planned during your surgery include a blood transfusion if there is heavy bleeding. If this bleeding continues or there is injury to other organs, the surgery may be converted from keyhole to open surgery to try and stop the bleeding or perform a repair of an injury. This can be associated with more pain and a longer recovery period.

Formation of a stoma (where the bowel is brought to the tummy wall, requiring a bag on the tummy to collect stools) is very rarely needed.

What will happen if I choose not to have diagnostic laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis?

If you choose against having a diagnostic laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis the symptoms which led you to the gynaecological clinic are likely to continue.

Laparoscopy with or without adhesiolysis



What alternatives are available?

The alternatives available include: doing nothing; taking medical treatments; and other surgical procedures.

Doing nothing is unlikely to change your symptoms. Medical treatments can help control pain but do not remove the adhesions. Medical treatments can also have side-effects.

These should be covered in your consultation with the doctor.