

**Laparoscopic Nephrectomy
Associated Urologists, P.A.
785-537-8710**

You are scheduled for a nephrectomy or removal of the kidney. This is because of the suspicion of cancer in this kidney. This will likely be performed laparoscopically. There will always be the possibility of the physician requiring a larger incision below the rib cage in order to complete the procedure. There will likely be one incision in the midline of your abdomen. There will also be two or three other incisions towards the upper part of the abdomen.

After Surgery Care:

You will stay 2-3 days in the hospital. At the time of discharge your pain should be well controlled, you should be able to eat a small amount of regular food without having nausea, and should be able to walk without assistance.

Incision: You may bathe on the seventh day after surgery. Until then, sponge bathe or shower starting 3 days after surgery. There will be band-aids or dressings covering the incisions. These can be removed on post-operative day #2.

Activity: In order to prevent a hernia from forming, you should not lift greater than a gallon of milk for the first 6 weeks after surgery. Ask your physician when you can return to work as this is highly dependent on your level of activity at work.

Fever: You may have a fever up to 101°F on the day after surgery. This is likely from the lungs collapsing during surgery. It is important to use your incentive spirometer which the nursing staff will explain how to use this.

Anticoagulation: Ask your physician when you can resume your anticoagulation including aspirin, coumadin, or plavix.

Follow Up

An appointment is generally made 2 weeks following surgery. Call the above number to schedule an appointment if one was not made before you were discharged.

Call your doctor if:

- Fever greater than 101°F after the first day of surgery
- The incision line comes apart
- Nausea and vomiting
- Swelling and pain in one leg greater than the other
- You have any questions or concerns.