

ADVANCED OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

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Bringing a New Level of Healthcare to Today's Woman

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Surgical and Medical Risks

Surgery is generally considered safe, helpful and often lifesaving. However, medical or surgical procedures of any type involve the taking of risks, ranging from minor to serious (including the risk of death). It is important to be aware of the following possible risks before receiving the treatment you have elected. The following may be the reactions of your body to medical/surgical operation or procedure:

Infection: Invasion of tissue by bacteria or other germs occurs to some degree whenever a cut, incision or puncture is made. In most instances, through the natural defense mechanism of the body, healing of the affected area occurs without difficulty. In some instances, antibiotics are prescribed and at times, additional surgical measures may be necessary to combat infection.

Hemorrhage: The cutting of blood vessels causes bleeding and this occurs in every surgical incision. This bleeding is usually controlled without difficulty. However, at times, blood transfusions are required to replace blood loss. If blood transfusions are given, there are additional risks of liver infections, hepatitis, and other diseases or blood impairments. There is no absolutely reliable way to predict these unwanted reactions, some of which may be quite serious and even lead to death.

Drug reactions: Unexpected allergies, lack of proper response to medications, or illness caused by the prescribed drugs, are possibilities. It is important for you to inform us if you have any problems with reaction to drugs and which medications you have taken in the past six months including over the counter drugs, especially aspirin.

Anesthesia reaction: There may be unusual or unexpected responses to the gases, drugs, or methods used to anesthetize you that can lead to difficulties with lung, heart, or nerve function. Additional anesthetic risks may include, but are not limited to, damage to teeth or dental work, damage to vocal cords, respiratory problems, damage to arteries or veins, headaches, backaches, adverse drug reaction, brain damage, death, nerve damage, or worsening of pre-existing disease. Eating or drinking before anesthesia increases the risk of vomiting that may cause significant complications.

Blood vessel inflammation and clotting: It is impossible to predict the occurrence of blood vessel inflammation and clotting problems. If blood clots form, they can move from where they formed to other areas of the body and cause injury.

Injury to other organs or nerves: Contiguous organ injury may be possible because of the closeness of other organs to the area being operated on. This may require more extensive surgery to correct the injury.

Other risks: It is impossible to list all the possible risks and complications, and their variations that may arise in any surgical operation or medical procedure. Each situation depends upon the purpose and nature of the operation. If you have any questions, please discuss these issues with us.

Assistant Surgeon: Depending on the type of surgery to be done, another surgeon may assist your primary surgeon on the procedure. Ask your doctor if you have questions regarding this possibility.

(initial here) ***PLEASE NOTE:*** *There will be a \$150.00 charge for surgeries that are rescheduled or cancelled without at least a 1 business day notice.*

I have read and understood the above information. Questions have been addressed to my satisfaction.

Signature _____ Date ___/___/___ DOB ___/___/___