

Laparoscopic Abdominal Cerclage

Cerclage is a term used to describe a procedure which is used to close the cervix. The cervix is closed to help keep a pregnancy. This procedure is done when “cervical insufficiency” or “cervical incompetence” has been diagnosed.

Cervical insufficiency means that your cervix is opening and thinning before it should and may not allow you to carry a pregnancy to full term.

The laparoscopic abdominal cerclage is for women in which a vaginal cerclage has not worked or they cannot have a vaginal cerclage due to previous cervical surgery:

- LEEP (abnormal tissue from the cervix has been removed)
- Trachelectomy (cervix has been removed)
- Conization (part or a wedge of the cervix has been removed)

The laparoscopic abdominal cerclage provides support at the internal opening of the cervix. It is placed in a different location of the cervix than the vaginal cerclage.

Prepare for surgery:

- Please review the checklist that was provided by your nurse in the Pre-op Clinic.
- You can have nothing to eat or drink after midnight before your surgery.
- You need to be in Same Day Surgery 2 hours before your surgery time.
- You will have an intravenous (IV).
- You will have a general anesthetic (put to sleep) in the operating room.
- You will go home the same day as your surgery.
- Recovery time is about 2 weeks. **Please note**
 - Birth control is recommended before surgery.
 - When you have had a laparoscopic abdominal cerclage you will need a cesarean section (c-section) for your delivery.
 - Once pregnant, discuss your care with your obstetrician.