

Radical prostatectomy +/- pelvic lymphadenectomy

(surgical removal of entire prostate gland, possible removal of pelvic lymph nodes)

Surgical approaches to radical prostate surgery:

- Laparoscopic/robotic
- Open/traditional

(Selection of surgical approach is usually determined by multiple factors including but not limited to patient's body habitus and comorbidities, previous surgical history, indication for the surgery, surgeon's experience, risks and benefits of each approach)

Possible indications or reasons for radical prostate surgery:

- Removal of entire prostate gland and cancer that is present within the gland

Possible benefits of radical prostate surgery:

- Treating prostate cancer by removing the cancer and the organ from which it originates
- May improve prostate gland related urinary symptoms if present

Other potential available options/alternatives to surgery:

- Doing nothing/observation alone (may lead to growth and spread of cancer, which may become incurable and lead to death)
- Watchful waiting (only treating prostate cancer if and when it becomes symptomatic. This is palliative, not intended to cure cancer)
- Active surveillance (avoids or delays treatment for certain types of prostate cancers)
- Second opinion from another doctor or institution
- Radiation therapy
- Thermal ablative therapy or "Cryoablation" (using extreme temperatures to freeze prostate cancer with the goal of destroying the cancer without actually removing it surgically. May lead to incomplete treatment and/or cancer recurrence)
- High intensity focused ultrasound or "HIFU" (using extreme temperatures to heat prostate cancer with the goal of destroying the cancer without actually removing it surgically. May lead to incomplete treatment and/or cancer recurrence)

Possible risks/complications/side effects of surgery:

- Bleeding and need for blood transfusion
- Infection
- Injury to surrounding muscles and nerves
- Injury to muscles and nerves related to your positioning during surgery. This may lead to muscle breakdown, muscle weakness and/or numbness
- Injury to surrounding organs such as ureter, spleen, stomach, duodenum, small bowel, large bowel, rectum, bladder, urinary sphincter, liver, gallbladder, blood vessels, nerves, lymphatic channels, gonads, gonadal vessels. Injury to some of the above said organs may lead to their total or partial removal or repair
- Need may arise to convert to open surgery if starting laparoscopically/robotically
- Erectile dysfunction, penile shortening, infertility, lack of orgasm, dry ejaculations, urine leakage during orgasm, urinary incontinence, narrowing at the bladder neck, urinary retention, need for prolonged urinary catheter
- Wound dehiscence, incisional hernia development, development of incisional seroma or fluid collection, development of lymph fluid collection or lymphocele, development of urine leak, urine collection and/or abscess, bowel obstruction
- Cancer recurrence
- Need for additional intervention in the future in the form of additional surgery and/or other medical treatments
- Heart attack, stroke, heart arrhythmias, respiratory insufficiency/failure requiring prolonged breathing tube, blood clots in extremities and/or lungs, kidney insufficiency/failure requiring temporary and/or permanent kidney replacement therapy such as dialysis, eye or corneal abrasion, pneumonia or lung infection, and even a small chance of death during or after surgery
- Anesthetic risks will be discussed with you separately by an anesthesiologist and/or their qualified representative

(Please note that the above mentioned list of risks/complications/side effects of surgery is not all inclusive and is not meant to be exhaustive. Other complications/side effects may arise that are not specifically mentioned here. Please also note that these complications/side effects occur only rarely and not in every patient or in every similar surgical case. Finally, please note that if and when complications do arise, there may be additional surgical and/or medical treatments that may be recommended to you).