

## Typical Patient Experience Laparoscopic Nephrectomy

Laparoscopic Nephrectomy (removal of the kidney through small incisions) is most often required where there is a cancer in the kidney. Occasionally, the kidney needs to be removed for non-cancerous (benign) problems.

Laparoscopic nephrectomy patients report to Same-Day Surgery at Peninsula Regional Medical Center on the day of surgery. They will have the opportunity to meet with both the urologist and anesthesiologist to have any remaining questions answered. Once in the operating room, the procedure will take about two hours. At the conclusion of surgery, the patient is moved to the Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) for about an hour. The patient is then brought to their medical center room where the family may visit.

There is traditionally some mild to moderate discomfort at the incision sites for the first 24 hours, and is usually well controlled with oral pain medications. Patients are restricted to liquids the night following surgery, but can usually resume a regular diet the following day. A patient will be discharged home after he or she is able to stand and walk, consume food without nausea and is tolerating pain well through oral pain medicines. The surgeon will usually call the patient with pathology results about one week after the operation. Follow up is scheduled for 2-4 weeks after surgery.