

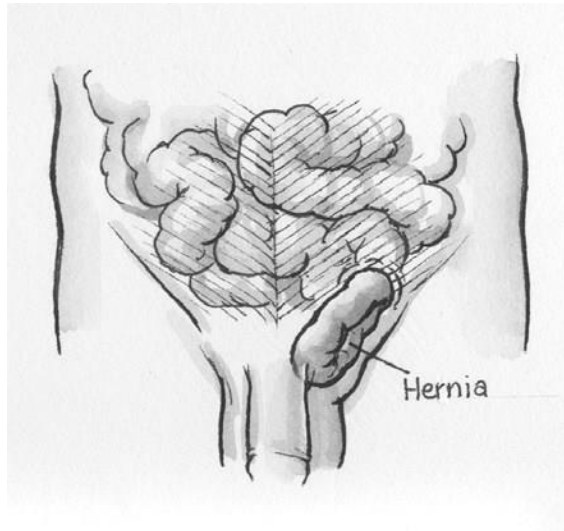


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Open Inguinal Hernia Repair

What do I need to know about this condition?

A hernia, sometimes referred to as a rupture, occurs when a part of an internal organ, sometimes the bowel, pushes through a weak point in the abdominal wall.



An inguinal hernia

Inguinal hernia is the most common type of hernia, and twenty times more common in men than in women. It is likely that about 1 in 20 men will develop an inguinal hernia. The inguinal canal is in the groin. The first signs of a hernia are pain and/or a lump.

What do I need to know about this Procedure?

Open surgery is performed under a general, spinal or local anaesthetic to repair the weakness in the abdominal wall.

A small cut is made at the site of the hernia. The weak area is repaired. Sometimes the weak area is reinforced with mesh.

What are the benefits of having this procedure?

The pain and lump will be relieved by the surgery. Planned surgical treatment of a hernia is much safer than leaving the hernia until an emergency happens.

What are the risks of not having this procedure?

The hernia will probably get bigger. Inside, the bowel may become trapped and blocked or gangrenous (that part of the bowel dies). This can be very dangerous and will need emergency treatment. Treatment may require extensive surgery to the bowel.



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What are some alternative treatments?

A truss may be worn which applies support to the weak area. The truss is not a cure and can be uncomfortable. It may cause pressure sores and is not always effective. The proper use of a truss requires medical advice.

My anaesthetic

This procedure will require an anaesthetic.

General Anaesthetic OR Epidural/Spinal Anaesthesia. If you have any concerns, discuss these with your doctor.

For more info, please refer to The State of Queensland (Queensland Health, 2011)
https://www.health.qld.gov.au/consent/documents/general_surgery_04.pdf
