

Laparoscopy

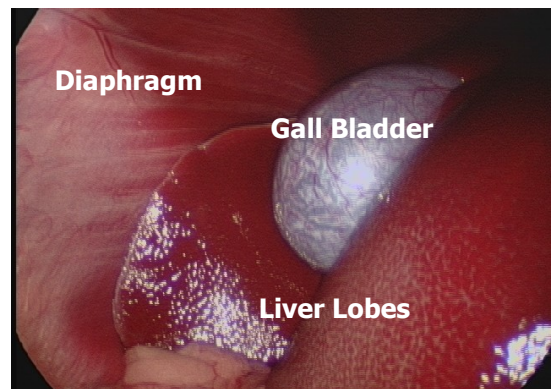
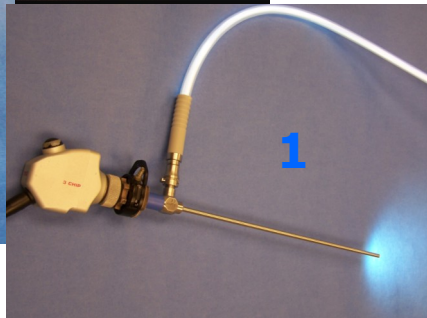
Laparoscopy is viewing the inside of the abdominal cavity using a 5mm diameter (dime size) lens or telescope **1**. The objectives are to provide better visualization, decrease patient discomfort and surgery time, while speeding recovery.

To perform laparoscopy, the abdominal cavity is first distended with CO₂ gas. This allows the surgeon to see and manipulate the internal organs. Small openings (portals **2**) are then placed through the abdominal wall that allow the telescope and other instruments to go in, while keeping the CO₂ gas from coming out. By triangulating the telescope, and specially designed instruments **3**, work can be done inside the abdomen through these small 5-15 mm diameter portals. At Vetcision, we use specialized staplers and vessel sealing devices (LigaSure) to make the surgery even safer and faster. When the procedure is finished, only a couple of staples are needed to close the skin.

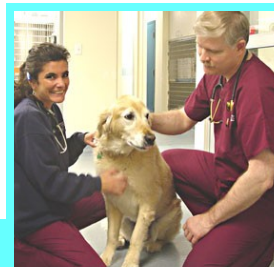
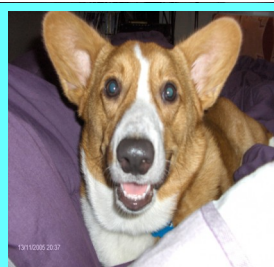
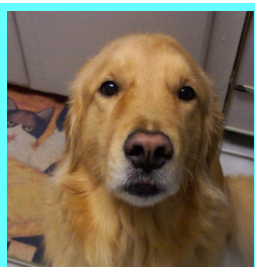


Common Laparoscopic Procedures

Laparoscopy is used for a variety of procedures in small animal surgery. General abdominal exploratory is useful in patients with cancer to determine the extent of the disease and to biopsy organs. Organs commonly biopsied include the liver, pancreas, intestine and kidney. Laparoscopy is much more precise and safer than ultrasound guided biopsy because the surgeon has direct visualization of the biopsy site. A very specific abnormal area can be biopsied using laparoscopy. If there is excessive bleeding, the surgeon can quickly and easily stop the bleeding.



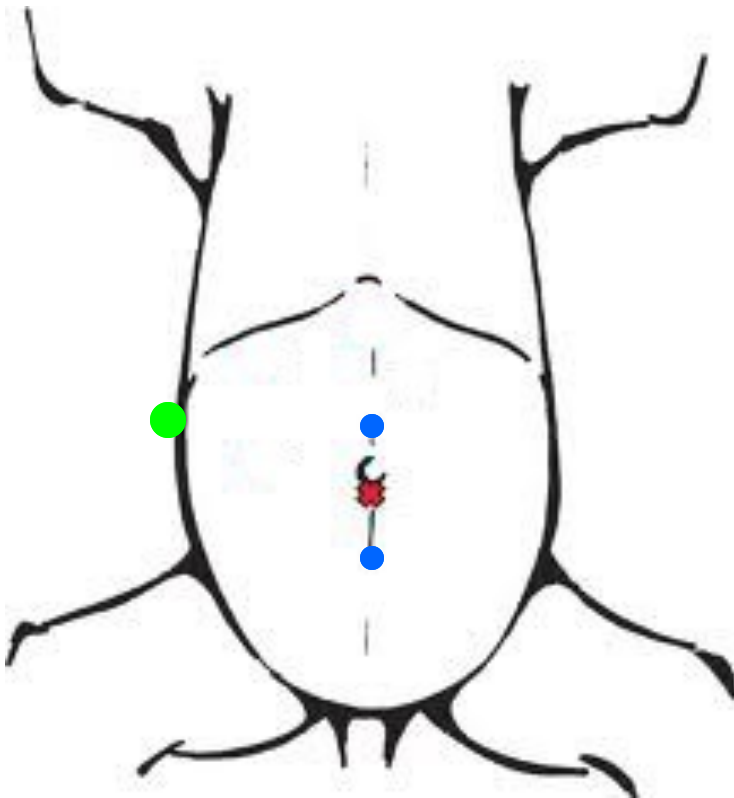
- 1:** Telescope with light and camera.
- 2:** Internal view of laparoscope port.
- 3:** Assorted laparoscopic instruments.



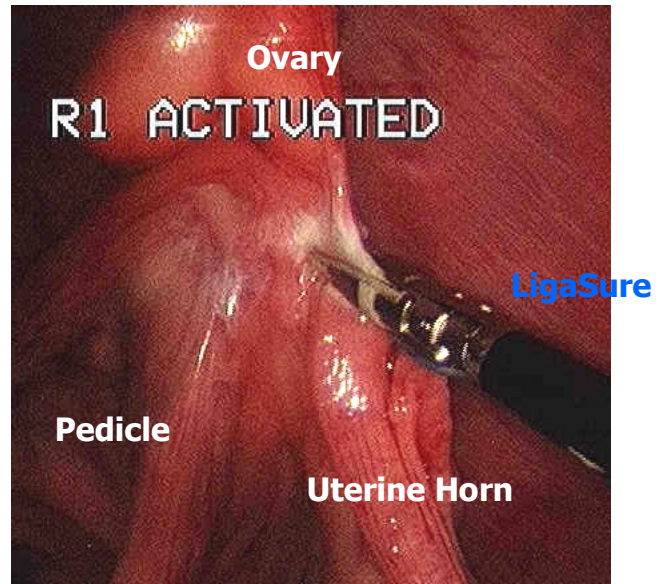
Urogenital Laparoscopy

Performing a laparoscopic spay is straight forward for an experienced surgeon. Typically, an ovariectomy is performed, without removing the uterus. Contrary to previous beliefs, this does not predispose the patient to pyometra since this requires the hormonal influence from the ovaries

Abdominal cryptorchid (undescended) testicles can be more easily removed using the laparoscope than through a traditional open abdominal approach.



Port placement: red-camera, blue-operating ports, green-pexy incision.



Ovariectomy being performed with LigaSure.

Laparoscopic Gastropexy

Prophylactic (preventive) gastropexy can be performed alone or while spaying or neutering a pet. Gastropexy is used to prevent gastric dilatation volvulus (GDV or bloat).

The stomach is positioned laparoscopically while a small 1-2" incision is made in the dog's right side behind the last rib. The edge of the stomach is pulled up against the body wall and sutured to the internal body wall muscles.



LEFT:
Grasping antrum of stomach for pexy.

RIGHT:
View over surgeons shoulder of stomach pexied to the body wall.

