



Common medical procedures

PROCEDURE NAME	DESCRIPTION
Acromioplasty (remove some shoulder bone surface)	A surgical procedure where tissue and bone are removed from a part of the shoulder bone to help relieve pain.
Adenoids, removal of	A surgical procedure to remove patches of tissue that are located at the back of the nasal cavity. The adenoids are part of the immune system and they help to trap and destroy germs.
Anal skin tags and polyp removal	A procedure to remove noncancerous growths from the skin or internal lining around the anus.
Ankle replacement	A surgical procedure where a damaged ankle joint is removed and replaced with an artificial joint made of metal and plastic.
Anterior Cruciate Ligament repair	A surgical procedure where a damaged anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) is repaired using a piece of ligament from elsewhere in the body. The ligament is connected to the knee joint with screws or anchors.
Antrostomy (maxillary sinus clearing)	A surgical procedure to clear the opening to the hollow spaces in the bone underneath the cheekbones. This helps unblock and drain the spaces to stop infection. It is sometimes called FESS (functional endoscopic sinus surgery).
Apronectomy (remove excess abdominal skin and fat)	A surgical procedure to remove excess fat and skin that hangs like an 'apron' from the lower abdomen and can cause skin problems.
Arthroscopy	A procedure where a thin tube with a camera passes through a small cut into a joint. This helps diagnose and treat some joint problems.
Axilla lymph node biopsy (armpit) with or without excision in the setting of breast cancer	A procedure to remove a piece of lymph tissue from the armpit. The tissue is tested for cancer cells.
Bladder cystoscopy to remove tumour or other lesion (abnormal tissue)	A procedure where a flexible tube with a camera is used to look at the inside of the bladder. Abnormal growths or tissue are viewed and then removed.
Breast Biopsy	A procedure where a sample of tissue is taken from the breast. The tissue is tested for abnormal cells.
Breast reconstruction with muscle flap	A surgical procedure, for medical purposes, to recreate a breast, using muscle from another part of the body, or a muscle and skin flap. This is after the natural breast tissue was removed.
Breast reconstruction with prosthesis	A surgical procedure, for medical purposes, to recreate a breast using a permanent implant. This is after the natural breast tissue was removed.



Breast reconstruction with removal of tissue expansion unit and insertion of prosthesis	A surgical procedure, for medical purposes, to recreate a breast using an expandable implant. In this procedure the expandable implant is removed, and a permanent implant replaces it.
Breast reconstruction with tissue expansion procedures	A surgical procedure, for medical purposes, to recreate a breast using an expandable implant to stretch the skin. This is after the natural breast tissue was removed.
Breast reduction	A surgical procedure, for medical purposes, to make a breast smaller and change the position of the nipple.
Bronchoscopy and related procedures	A procedure using a specialised tube to look at the airways and lungs to help with diagnosis or treatment.
Caesarean section major complexity	Delivery of a baby by Caesarean section (C section) where there are conditions that may complicate the labour or birth.
Caesarean section minor/intermediate complexity	Delivery of a baby by Caesarean section (C section) where there are no complications with the labour or birth.
Carpal tunnel release (cut carpal ligament)	Surgery to cut a ligament in the wrist to help reduce pressure on nerves in that area.
Cataract extraction and lens insertion	Surgery to remove the lens from an eye because it is no longer clear. It is replaced by an artificial lens so the person can continue to see.
Chemotherapy (direct to body cavity)	A procedure to place chemotherapy medicine into a space in the body.
Chemotherapy (intravenous - over 6 hours)	An injection of a medicine into a vein to treat cancer. Treatment is given as an infusion, lasting more than 6 hours.
Chemotherapy (intravenous - up to 6 hours)	An injection of a medicine into a vein to treat cancer. Treatment is given as an infusion, lasting up to 6 hours.
Chemotherapy (load drug delivery device)	A procedure to fill a device with chemotherapy medicine/drugs. The medicine is then given as an infusion into a vein, artery or the spine.
Cochlear implant	Surgery to place an implant into the inner ear to help improve hearing. The air spaces in the bone behind the ear are also removed.
Colonoscopy with or without biopsy	A procedure using a specialised tube to look inside the large intestine and to remove a tissue sample or polyps. If inflammation or bleeding is present this may be treated at the same time.
Coronary artery bypass graft (CABG)	Surgery to improve blood flow to the heart by replacing blocked arteries with blood vessels from another part of the body.
Curette	Surgery to remove tissue from inside the uterus. This may be done to end a pregnancy or following a miscarriage.
Cystoscopy (examine bladder)	A procedure where a flexible tube with a camera is used to look at the inside of the bladder.
Cystoscopy with biopsy (examine bladder)	A procedure where a flexible tube with a camera is used to look at the inside of the bladder. A sample of abnormal or unusual tissue is removed for testing.
Dialysis	A regular procedure that helps filter the blood when the kidneys are not working correctly. There are two types - haemodialysis where a machine is used, or peritoneal dialysis where the lining of the abdomen is used.



Ectropion (repair outward turned lower eyelid)	Surgery to repair an eyelid that is not sitting correctly.
Embryo or oocyte transfer (hospital admitted procedures only) -	A type of fertility treatment where frozen or donor embryos, donor eggs or sperm and egg are placed into the uterus (womb) or fallopian tubes.
Endarterectomy (removal artery lining blockage)	Surgery to remove a blockage in one or more arteries located in the neck.
Endoscopy examination of nose sinus pharynx or larynx	A procedure using a specialised tube to look inside one or both sides of the nose, the throat or the voice box.
Endoscopy of bile ducts and pancreas (ERCP) & related procedures	Surgery using a specialised tube and X rays to diagnose problems in the ducts that carry bile from the gallbladder and hormones from the pancreas. If gallstones are present, they may be removed or if the bile duct is narrowed it may be widened at the same time.
Excise or laser pre cancer cells (cervix and/or other female genitals)	A procedure using a specialised heated loop of wire to remove abnormal cells from the cervix and other parts of the female genitalia.
Facet joint denervation (nerve disruption) using a percutaneous probe (via skin)	A treatment using heat from radio waves or extreme cold to destroy nerves around joints in the spine. Imaging is used to guide the treatment.
Female contraception (fallopian tube procedures)	Surgery to remove part or all of the fallopian tubes to prevent future pregnancies.
Gall Bladder surgery	Surgery to remove the gallbladder.
Gastric band	Surgery where a band is placed around the top of the stomach to help with weight loss in a person with severe obesity.
Gastric bypass	Surgery to reduce the size of the stomach to help with weight loss in a person with severe obesity.
Gastroscopy (or upper gastrointestinal endoscopy)	A procedure using a thin flexible tube to look inside the food pipe, stomach, small intestine or all these areas. A biopsy or widening may be done at the same time.
Grommets	A procedure to insert a small tube into the eardrum to keep the middle ear dry.
Heart related Angiogram	A test where a specialised dye is injected into the heart, arteries or major blood vessels to check for blockages. Any blockages will show on a scan that is done at the same time.
Heart rhythm studies (electrophysiology - EPS)	A test to measure the electrical activity and electrical pathways of the heart. This is to work out why there are abnormal heart beats or rhythms and to decide on a suitable treatment.
Heart Valve replacement (not TAVI)	Surgery to replace a valve in the heart. The valve may be artificial or made of animal tissue.
Hemicolectomy (remove part of colon)	Surgery to remove part of the large intestine. The remaining intestine may be joined together or an end of the intestine is attached to an opening in the abdomen.



Hip replacement (bilateral)	Surgery to replace both hip joints with artificial joints. The surgery also includes minor bone grafting.
Hip replacement (single)	Surgery to replace a hip joint with an artificial joint. The surgery also includes minor bone grafting.
Holmium laser ablation (removal of tissue for enlarged prostate - HoLEP)	A procedure using a laser to reduce the size of the prostate. At the same time, a specialised tube may be used to look inside the bladder or the urinary tract.
Hysterectomy	Surgery to remove all or part of the uterus. It may be completed by an incision in abdomen area or through the vagina.
Hysteroscopy (examine uterus) with removal of scar tissue or polyps or insertion or removal of a device	A procedure to look inside the uterus/womb. The procedure may include treating abnormal growths or blockages. A contraceptive device such as an IUD (intrauterine device) may also be inserted or removed.
Hysteroscopy with biopsy (examine uterus)	A procedure using a specialised tube to look inside the uterus/womb and take a tissue sample of the inside lining, to be tested.
Inguinal or femoral hernia	Surgery to fix a weak spot in the muscle layers of the abdomen or near the groin.
Intrauterine device implant and removal	A procedure to insert or remove a device that sits in the uterus/womb and prevents pregnancy or helps control heavy bleeding.
Knee replacement	Surgery to replace a knee joint with an artificial joint.
Laparoscopic tissue removal - multiple organ or lengthy keyhole procedure for endometriosis	A procedure using keyhole surgery to treat endometriosis in and around the uterus/womb and other parts of the pelvic area.
Laparoscopy - keyhole surgery to abdomen or pelvis, including for endometriosis	A procedure using keyhole surgery to treat different conditions affecting the ovaries, the uterus/womb, fallopian tubes or pelvic area.
Lumpectomy (remove abnormal/cancer tissue from breast)	Surgery to remove cancerous or noncancerous tissue from the breast. The tissue will be tested during the procedure.
Lymph node biopsy (neck)	Surgery to remove lymph tissue from the neck for testing.
Lymph node removal (neck)	Surgery to remove one or many lymph nodes from the neck.
Male contraception (e.g. vasectomy)	Surgery to cut one or both tubes that carry sperm from the testicles. It is done to prevent future pregnancies.
Management of loss of pregnancy	Care of a person following a miscarriage of a pregnancy between 14 and 16 weeks (approximately).
Mastectomy	Surgery to remove the entire breast including skin and nipple.
Mastectomy (nipple preserving)	Surgery to remove all breast tissue but leave the skin and nipple.
Oocyte retrieval (hospital admitted procedures only)	A procedure to collect eggs from the ovaries for treatment to help get pregnant. The eggs will be used in a fertility treatment such as IVF.



Pacemaker	Surgery to insert, remove or replace a small device in the chest that helps to control heart rhythm.
Paracentesis (needle or knife incision) for investigation or treatment of the eye	Surgery where a needle is inserted into the eye to remove fluid or inject medication. This is to diagnose or treat one or more conditions of the eye.
Patella stabilisation	A procedure using keyhole surgery to clean a knee bone to improve movement of that kneecap/knee.
Prostate biopsy	A procedure using a specialised needle is used to collect tissue samples from the prostate gland. An ultrasound scan is used to guide the needle.
Prostatectomy (endoscopic)	Surgery using a specialised tube to remove part of the prostate.
Pterygium (remove abnormal tissue from eye)	Surgery to remove a noncancerous growth from the surface of the eye.
Pyeloscopy (with or without kidney stone removal)	A procedure using a specialised tube to see inside the kidney. It may also include the removal of a kidney stone.
Radical prostatectomy	Surgery to remove the whole prostate and lymph nodes of the pelvis. The surgeon rebuilds the base of the bladder and does not remove surrounding nerves.
Rectal cancer - remove part of colon and part or most of rectum	Surgery to treat cancer with the removal of part of the colon and part/or most of the rectum. The remaining intestine will be joined or an external opening may be created.
Removal of skin lesion	Surgery to remove a noncancerous or cancerous skin tumour, lesion, lipoma, cyst, scar, or ulcer from the skin of the head, neck, genitals, hand or fingers, lower leg, or foot. A sample of the tissue is sent for testing.
Removal of skin lesion (larger excision and/or flap repair)	Surgery to remove a noncancerous or cancerous lesion, cyst, scar, or ulcer from the skin of the face, scalp, neck, nipple area, lower leg, or forearm. The area may be repaired with either a flap of muscle, skin or muscle and skin from another part of the body directly after.
Retinal detachment	Surgery to fix a retina that has separated from the back of the eyeball.
Rotator cuff repair	Surgery to repair the muscles and tendons around the shoulder joint.
Septoplasty (deviated nasal septum)	Surgery to repair the cartilage and bones of the nose to help straighten the septum.
Shoulder replacement	Surgery to replace a shoulder joint with an artificial joint. The surgery includes repair to the muscles and tendons around the shoulder.
Sinus surgery	Surgery on the air pockets in the bones of the upper jaw and nose.
Sleep Studies	An overnight sleep study to diagnose a sleep disorder in a person aged 18 years older. Many body functions like heartbeat, oxygen levels, breathing rate and brain activity are measured continuously during the study.
Sleeve gastrectomy (partial stomach removal)	Surgery to remove part of the stomach to help with weight loss in a person with severe obesity.
Sperm retrieval (by needle or open surgery)	Surgery to collect sperm from a testicle or the tubes around it using either a needle or an incision into the scrotum. The sperm is then tested or injected into an egg as part of a fertility treatment such as IVF.



Stenting blocked heart artery	Surgery to insert one or more artificial tubes into a blocked blood vessel of the heart. The procedure includes widening the artery using a specialised balloon.
Stress incontinence	Surgery to stop leakage from the bladder caused by weak or damaged muscles.
Thyroid tumour - total or partial thyroid removal	Surgery to remove part or all of the thyroid gland.
Tonsillectomy with or without adenoidectomy	Surgery to remove the tonsils from the back of the throat. The adenoids may also be removed at the same time.
Transurethral needle ablation (removal of tissue or enlarged prostate - TUNA)	A procedure using radio waves to reduce the size of the prostate. A specialised tube may be used to look inside the bladder or the urinary tract.
Turbinectomy (remove small nasal bones)	Surgery to remove small bones in the nostrils to help treat a blocked nose.
Umbilical hernia	Surgery to fix a weak spot in the abdominal muscles around or above the navel using a specialised mesh or other structure as part of the procedure.
Vaginal delivery major complexity	Delivery of a baby via the vagina where there are conditions that may complicate the labour or birth.
Vaginal delivery minor/intermediate complexity	Delivery of a baby via the vagina. There are no complications with the labour or birth.
Varicose veins (hospital admitted procedures only)	Surgery to correct varicose veins. The surgery may include removal or blocking of these faulty veins to improve blood flow in the leg.
Visual laser ablation (removal of tissue for enlarged prostate)	A procedure using a laser to reduce the size of the prostate. A specialised tube may be used to look inside the bladder or the urinary tract.
Wound debridement	A procedure to clean out a soft tissue wound. Pain relief may be given, and stitches may be used to close the wound.