Back to life. Faster.

MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY FOR WOMEN.

UF&Shands
The University Of Florida Health System
Nash S. Moawad, MD, MSc  
Assistant Professor  
University of Florida Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Medical Director, Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery

**Doctor’s note:**

"I am proud to be part of one of the nation’s foremost obstetrics and gynecology departments. As leaders in the field, UF gynecologists are committed to providing the most advanced surgical care, including the latest minimally invasive and robot-assisted techniques, delivered with a high level of personal attention.

Our mission is to empower women with more options and with a multitude of minimally invasive surgical techniques using the most advanced technology in the region. We look forward to providing every patient with the best care possible delivered with compassion and understanding."

**Make The Right Choice For Women’s Surgery**

For gynecological surgery, choose one of the leading centers in the nation: University of Florida Obstetrics and Gynecology at Shands at UF – consistently ranked among the top 50 nationwide by U.S. News and World Report. As leaders in the field, UF gynecologists are committed to providing you with the most advanced surgical care, including the latest minimally invasive and robot-assisted techniques, delivered with a level of personal attention that has earned us a five-star award for patient satisfaction. Expertise. Experience. Excellent care. The reasons are clear.

The team includes board-certified gynecologic surgeons experienced in using the latest surgical technologies. These skilled physicians work with nurses and technicians to provide women with a complete range of minimally invasive surgical approaches tailored to patients' individual needs.

**Offering Minimally Invasive And Robotic-Assisted Surgical Options**

New minimally invasive techniques allow UF gynecologists to perform a wide spectrum of surgical procedures through tiny incisions, often with the assistance of state-of-the-art robotic equipment. A complete range of minimally invasive and robotic-assisted approaches can mean shorter hospitalization, faster recovery, less blood loss and less pain.

Pictured above: UF gynecologists Sharon Byun, MD, Shireen Madani Sims, MD, and Michael Lukowski, MD.
Laparoscopic And Robotic-Assisted Surgery

Laparoscopy provides surgeons with an outstanding visualization of the pelvic cavity and excellent surgical precision. It involves the use of microsurgical techniques through tiny incisions rather than traditional surgery through a large incision. The surgeon performs the procedure with advanced video imaging technology and electrosurgical equipment inserted through the small incisions, along with very intricate, tiny instruments.

Robotic-assisted surgery adds a great tool that makes it possible to perform some procedures in a minimally invasive fashion instead of the traditional open approach. As with all minimally invasive approaches, robotic surgery shortens hospitalization, reduces recovery time and results in less blood loss and less pain for the patient.

Surgeons at the University of Florida are using the da Vinci® Surgical System, the leading robotic surgery technology in the nation, to perform minimally invasive procedures for both benign gynecologic conditions and certain types of gynecologic cancers. From the system’s console, the surgeon has a high-definition, 3-D magnified image of the operative site, and the ability to control the position of the camera as well as the movement and activation of tiny surgical instruments with amazing accuracy. These robotic instruments are delicate, miniature copies of those used in traditional approaches. The result is a very high level of precision.

Treating More Disorders With Laparoscopic And Robotic-Assisted Techniques

Minimally invasive surgery through laparoscopy alone or with the assistance of robotic technology is used to treat the following gynecologic conditions:

- Abnormal uterine bleeding
- Uterine fibroids
- Endometriosis
- Chronic pelvic pain
- Pelvic organ prolapse
- Ovarian cysts or masses

The range of procedures to treat these various conditions includes:

- **Laparoscopic hysterectomy**: Removal of the uterus through tiny incisions. Most patients go home the same day of the surgery.
• **Laparoscopic salpingo-oophorectomy**: Removal of the ovaries through tiny incisions, performed to treat ovarian cysts and masses or as part of treatment for pelvic pain caused by severe endometriosis or inflammatory disease.

• **Laparoscopic treatment of prolapse**: Laparoscopic sacro-colpopexy uses a permanent mesh to suspend the vagina and pelvic floor to the sacrum. Laparoscopic uterosacral vaginal vault suspension reattaches the vagina to the strong ligaments attached to the sacrum.

• **Laparoscopic ovarian cystectomy**: Removal of ovarian cysts while preserving the ovaries.

• **Laparoscopic excision of endometriosis**: Endometriosis is a common source of chronic pelvic pain and infertility.

• **Laparoscopic/hysteroscopic myomectomy**: Removal of fibroids for patients who desire to retain their uterus for childbearing. When the fibroids involve the cavity of the uterus they can usually be removed without any incisions (hysteroscopically).

• **Permanent sterilization**

• **Vaginal hysterectomy**: In some cases hysterectomy can be performed through the vagina with no abdominal incisions.

• **Vaginal prolapse repair**: Disorders of pelvic support may be treated vaginally in some patients. When appropriate, we perform traditional repairs and mesh-augmented repairs for patients at risk of recurrence of their prolapse.

**Shands Healthcare: Here For You**

Shands HealthCare, affiliated with the University of Florida, is a private, not-for-profit healthcare system among the most respected in the Southeast. The seven hospital system includes the academic medical center Shands at UF, a physical rehabilitation hospital, a behavioral-health hospital and two home-health agencies.

To learn more, visit our website at www.obgyn.ufl.edu or call to talk to a representative or make an appointment.

**Women’s Health at the Shands Medical Plaza**
2000 SW Archer Road, Fourth Floor
Gainesville, FL 32608  352-265-8200

**Women’s Health at Magnolia Parke**
3951 NW 48th Terrace, Suite 101
Gainesville, FL 32606  352-265-6200

Pictured opposite page: UF gynecologist and Director of Division of Gynecology John Davis, MD, in one of our comfortable private patient rooms.