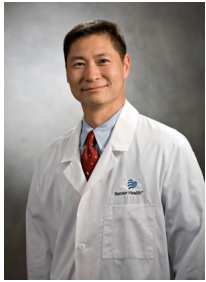


Ask the Expert: Minimally Invasive Surgery and Children

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Q: What are the benefits of minimally invasive surgery for children?



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A: Unlike traditional surgery, in which a large incision is needed to expose the body cavity, minimally invasive surgery uses tiny incisions to allow surgeons to complete the operation. These incisions are usually less than 1 cm each. Surgeons use specially designed instruments that are inserted into the body to perform the necessary procedure. Because only tiny incisions are made, less trauma is exerted on the body. Children especially benefit from this type of operation because of their delicate body tissue.

The benefits of minimally invasive surgery include:

- More precise visualization of the operative field
- Faster healing with less scarring
- Less post-surgical pain
- Less blood loss
- Shorter hospital stay after surgery
- Faster return to normal activity

Many surgical procedures can be performed safely with minimally invasive surgery. It is recommended that you discuss this option with your surgeon before the surgery is scheduled.

Our team of board-certified pediatric specialists uses minimally invasive surgery techniques in urology, general surgery, orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery and adolescent gynecology.