

Where is this procedure performed?

The operation could be performed at a hospital or an outpatient surgery center usually under general anesthesia.

The average hospital stay is three to four days. If the surgery is performed as an outpatient, the patient could spend a couple of days in a post-operative recuperation center.

What is the post-operative follow-up and recuperation period?

During the hospital or recuperation facility stay the patient is confined to bed in a "jackknife" position for one day following the surgery. Afterwards ambulation in a flexed position is allowed. By the time the patient leaves the hospital he or she would be walking straight. Local care and dressing changes are done as necessary in the doctor's office. Drain tubes are removed 2-4 days post-operation and sutures are removed in seven to ten days.

Where are the incisions placed?

A "bikini" incision is used in the lower abdominal area and is usually covered by the patient's underwear or swimwear.

How long do the results of the surgery last?

If the patient maintains her regular weight without marked shifts only the natural process of aging or subsequent pregnancy would take place.

Can a patient still get pregnant?

Although not advisable a patient can still get pregnant. The internal sutures used to correct the ventral hernia would probably break and the skin would stretch again. The whole tummy tuck would probably have to be repeated again following delivery.