

Types of Hernia Repair

Bassini: The floor of the inguinal canal (Hasselbach's triangle) is tightened by sewing the transversalis and internal oblique fascia (conjoined tendon) to the inguinal ligament (Poupart's ligament).

Shouldice/Canadian repair: Like the Bassini repair, the floor of the inguinal canal (Hasselbach's triangle) is imbricated by four running suture lines.

McVay/Cooper's Ligament Repair: Unlike the Bassini and Shouldice repairs, which only repair direct and indirect hernias, a McVay repair will additionally femoral hernias. For this repair, the floor of the canal is opened, and the now free edge of the conjoined tendon is sewn down to Cooper's Ligament (the periostium of the superior pubic ramus).

Tension free/Lichtenstein mesh repair: Plastic mesh (usually polypropylene) is sewn or placed on top of the floor of the inguinal canal. A small slit is made in the mesh and dove-tailed around the spermatic cord to create a new deep inguinal ring.

Plug and patch: Similar to a Lichtenstein repair, but in addition a plug of mesh is placed and secured in hernia defect.

High Ligation/Marcy: Used in pediatric patients, high ligation (at the deep ring) and transection of an indirect hernia sac. Additionally, sutures are used to tighten the deep ring without repair of inguinal floor.

Stoppa/Giant Prosthetic Reinforcement of the Visceral Sac: Open pre-peritoneal (behind the rectus and oblique muscles and in front of the peritoneal cavity) hernia repair with mesh without violation of peritoneum. Like the McVay, it addresses indirect, direct and femoral hernias. Also used for incisional hernias.

Laparoscopic Procedures: These approaches are based on the Stoppa pre-peritoneal hernia repair, use a balloon to create a space behind the muscles, and use mesh to repair the hernia.

TAPP: Trans Abdominal Pre Peritoneal inguinal hernia repair. In this repair, the abdominal cavity is entered, the peritoneum peeled away, hernia reduced, mesh placed over the three potential hernia spaces, and the peritoneum secured back over the mesh either with tacks or sutures.

TEPP: Totally Extra-abdominal Pre Peritoneal repair. Similar to the TAPP, but the abdominal cavity is never entered. This is the safer approach, as there is little risk of bowel obstruction or future adhesion formation.