Fast Facts: Johns Hopkins Minimally Invasive Whipple

200+
Minimally Invasive Whipples performed since 2014

Technique is identical to open but uses a smaller incision (3 cm vs. 20 cm)

Laparoscopic Whipple
The entire operation is performed through small incisions in the abdomen. A laproscope is a thin, lighted tube with a video camera that is passed through the tiny incisions allowing surgeons to see clearly. The surgeon inserts surgical instruments in the other incisions guided by the laparoscopic surgical images to conduct the operation.

Robotic Whipple
Surgical arms from a robot surgical device are placed in small incisions in the abdomen. The surgeon uses a remotely controlled interface in the OR to manipulate the arms. The robot also has a high definition binocular camera, providing surgeons with a three-dimensional view of the tumor.

*All patients may not be a candidate for minimally invasive surgery

Causes less postoperative pain, meaning less need for narcotics.

Oncological outcomes are similar to open.

Results in fewer postoperative infections.

Length of stay is similar to open.

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