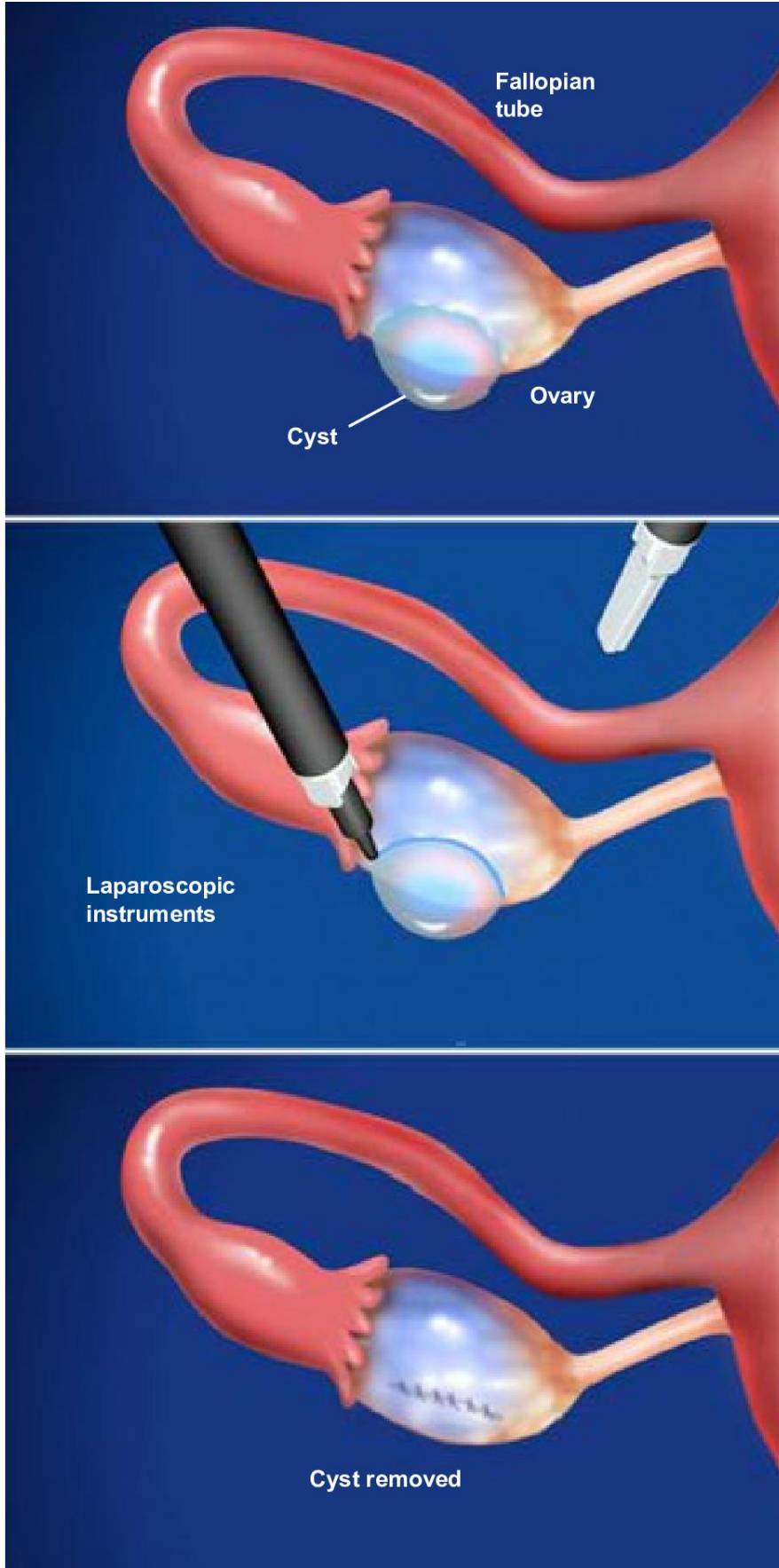




Ovarian Cystectomy (Laparoscopic)



Overview

This minimally-invasive surgical procedure is performed to remove a cyst that has developed on an ovary. It is performed with the aid of a lighted viewing telescope, called a laparoscope, and is performed in an outpatient setting.

Accessing the Ovaries

In preparation for the procedure, the patient is positioned and general anesthesia is administered. The surgeon creates one to three tiny incisions in the abdomen to reach the ovary. The surgeon carefully inflates the abdomen with carbon dioxide. This lifts the abdominal wall and separates the organs, creating space so the surgeon can insert the laparoscope and safely access and visualize the pelvic organs.

Removing the Cyst

The surgeon uses slender instruments to carefully separate the cyst from the ovary. The surgeon removes the cyst from the abdomen with forceps or suction. This tissue will be sent to the pathology lab for closer examination.

End of Procedure

When the procedure is complete, the incisions are closed and bandaged. The patient will be able to return home the same day as the surgery. Strenuous exercise and sexual activity should be limited for a few days. Recovery usually takes about two weeks.