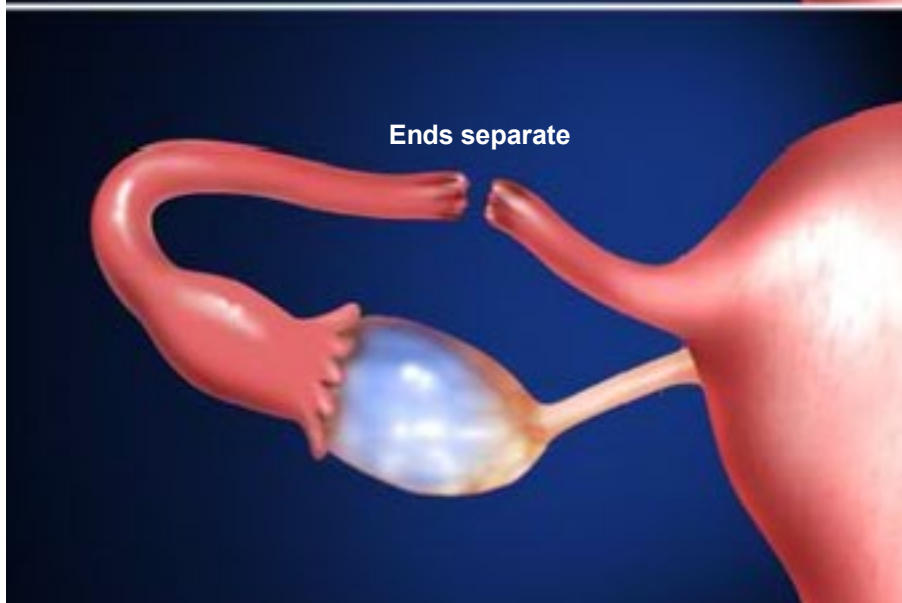
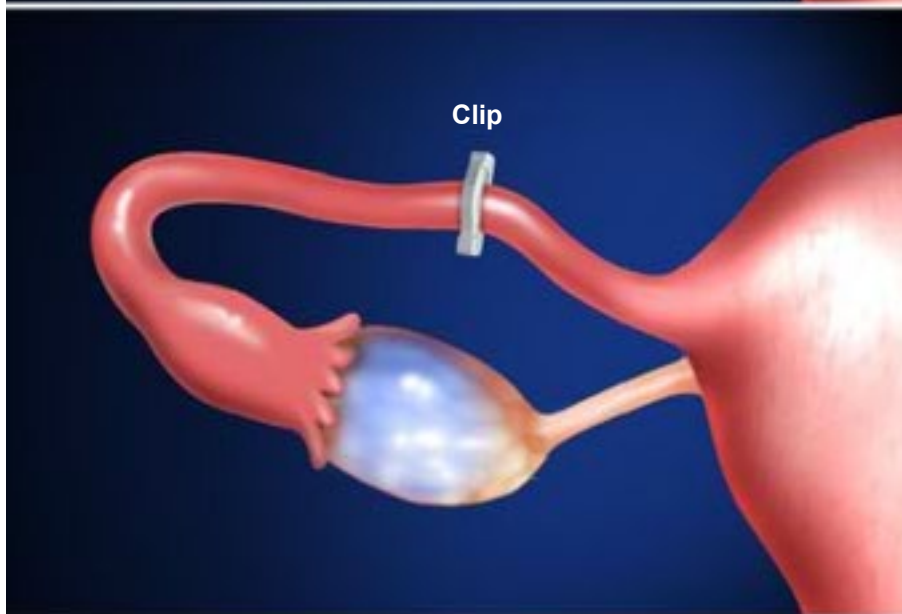
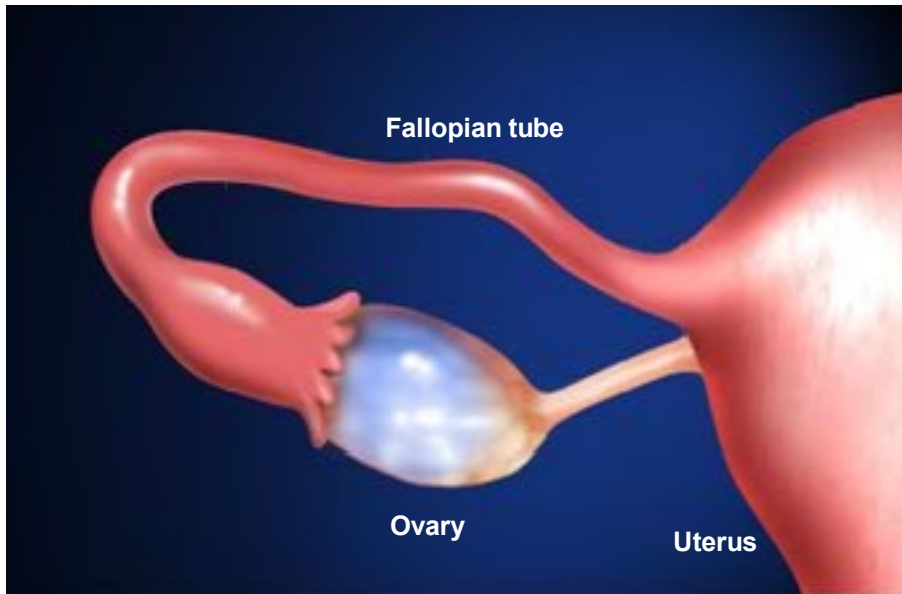


Tubal Ligation (Laparoscopic Tubal Clip Sterilization)



Overview

This procedure, commonly called "having one's tubes tied," is performed to block the fallopian tubes to prevent pregnancy. It is performed with the aid of a lighted viewing telescope, called a laparoscope, and usually takes about 30 minutes to complete.

Preparation

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

Placing the Clips

The physician uses surgical instruments to isolate the fallopian tube. A tiny, hinged clip is inserted and placed around a small section of the tube. The clip locks tightly down around the tube, compressing it to block the passage of sperm and egg cells. A second clip is placed on the other fallopian tube. Over time, the tubal clips will cause the constricted sections of the fallopian tubes to scar and the ends of the tubes to separate.

End of Procedure and Aftercare

When the procedure is complete, the instruments are removed and the incisions are bandaged. After a short period of monitoring, the patient will be able to return home. Most patients will be able to return to work within a few of days of the procedure.