

Symptoms

- Bulge in the groin, genitals, or abdomen
- Discomfort or pain with physical activity

Treatment

- Observation
- Truss
- Surgical repair-usually with mesh
 - Open vs. Laparoscopic

Reason for Repair

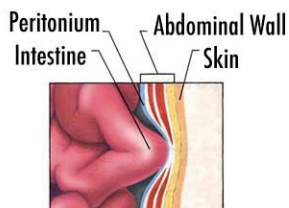
- Incarceration
- Strangulation
- Discomfort
- “Presence”

Anesthesia

- Local & sedation
- General
- Spinal
- Epidural
- “Presence”

How Hernias Form

The Wall Weakens or Tears



The Intestine Pushes into the Sac



The Intestine May Become Trapped



The Intestine May Become Strangulated



Complications & Risks

General

- Blood clots (DVT/PE)
- Pneumonia
- Heart attack
- Stroke
- Bleeding
- Infection

Specific Inguinal

- Recurrence of hernia
- Mesh complications
- Bowel or bladder injury
- Urinary retention
- Chronic numbness or pain in groin or leg
- Damage to testicles or testicular function

Specific Ventral/Umbilical

- Recurrence of hernia
- Mesh complications
- Bowel or bladder injury
- Seroma
- Recovery
- Three to six weeks with:
 - No straining
 - No lifting
 - No excessive twisting, turning, etc.