

Typical surgical procedures performed by USF IVF physicians include hysteroscopy, laparoscopy, and laparotomy. Hysteroscopy involves inserting a narrow telescope through the vagina and cervix into the uterus. Hysteroscopy can be carried out to diagnose and surgically treat abnormalities such as polyps, fibroids, intrauterine scar tissue, or abnormalities that some women are born with (congenital abnormalities) such as a uterine septum. Laparoscopy involves inserting a telescope through the abdomen, most often the belly button, to look at the outside of the uterus, the fallopian tubes, and the ovaries. Removal of fibroids, endometriosis, ovarian cysts, and severely damaged fallopian tubes can be carried out using a laparoscope. Repair of damaged fallopian tubes can also be carried out. A laparotomy incision is a bigger abdominal incision, reserved for the removal of large fibroids, or multiple fibroids. Use of an operating microscope through a mini-laparotomy is a procedure used to reconnect fallopian tubes that were previously ligated or tied. Surgery that is carried out using a hysteroscope or a laparoscope is called minimally invasive surgery.