



Pelvic Adhesions

Pelvic Adhesions are the formation of scar tissue in the lower abdomen. They can be binding or capsular. Binding adhesions can cause scarring between the pelvic organs and large or small bowel, bladder, or other peritoneal surfaces within the pelvis. Capsular adhesions may cover the surface of the ovary or the ends of the tube resulting in a tubal obstruction. Adhesions may cause decreased fertility or infertility.

Causes of pelvic adhesions include pelvic infection from sexually transmitted diseases or ruptured appendix. Endometriosis can frequently cause pelvic adhesions. Prior surgery such as a myomectomy, or tubal or ovarian surgery can lead to dense adhesion formation. Adhesions secondary to surgery may be minimized by using barriers that can cover raw surfaces, and using microsurgical techniques and careful handling of tissue.

Treatment of adhesions involves abdominal or laparoscopic surgery to cut and remove adhesions and to try and prevent reformation by using special techniques. If adhesions reform the most successful treatment is In Vitro Fertilization (IVF).