

Experience Matters!

- Does the surgeon specialize in parathyroidectomies?
- How many years has the surgeon been performing parathyroidectomies?
- How many does the surgeon perform daily/weekly/monthly?
- How many parathyroidectomies has the surgeon performed to date?
- Does the surgeon do a pre-operative sestamibi scan? What happens if the scan is negative? Will the surgeon still do the surgery?

Surgical Methods Matter!

- What is the typical length for the surgery? The time required can vary greatly from surgeon to surgeon. Are we talking minutes or hours?
- What type of anesthesia is required for the surgical procedure?
- What method does the surgeon use to locate the tumor(s)?
- Does the surgeon perform minimally invasive parathyroid surgery (MIP) ?
- Does the surgeon perform minimally invasive radio guided surgery (MIRP) ?
- Is the surgery done on an out-patient basis or is an overnight stay required ?

Success Matters!

- There is always a possibility that there is more than one tumor. Does the surgeon check all 4 parathyroid glands during the surgery? If yes, all 4 are checked, what advanced techniques do they use to do that or do they explore? (Exploring creates scar tissue that may prevent a cure if a second surgery needs to be performed.)
- Will PTH levels be monitored during surgery to help ensure all adenomas have been found? How long does each of the measurements take?
- What other methods, if any do they use to help ensure success?
- What is the surgeon's success rate?
- What complications may possibly arise?

Follow-Up Matters!

- Will the surgeon be available for follow-up questions/appointments?
- What will their role be, if complications develop following surgery?
- What is your surgeon's recommendation for Calcium and Vitamin D supplementation post surgery?