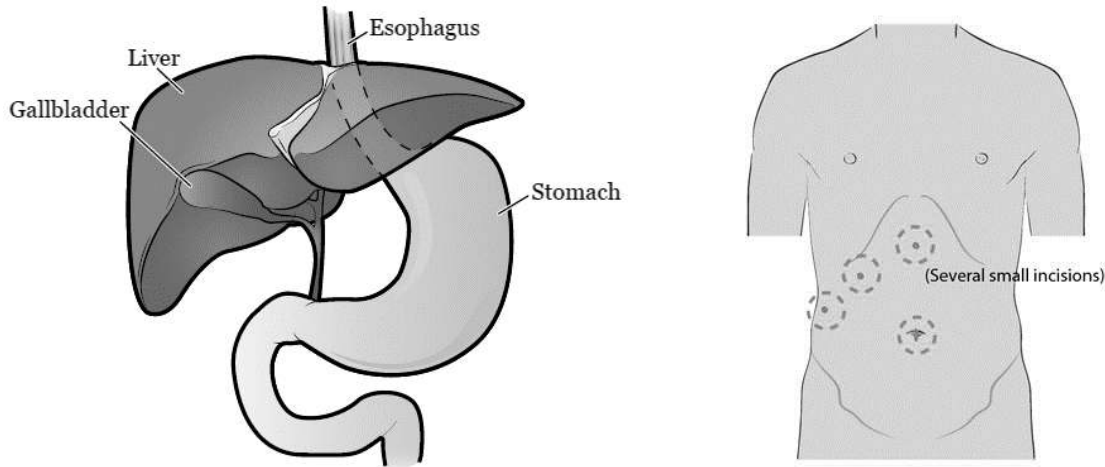


## Gallbladder surgery



### Role of the gallbladder

The role of the gallbladder is store bile. Bile is made by the liver to help digest fatty foods. In some people, stones form in the gallbladder and can cause pain.

People live well without their gallbladder, as the liver continues to make bile

### Surgery for the gallbladder

- Done under a general anesthetic
- Usually as a day surgery
- Laparoscopically – with a camera and small incisions
- Risks of the operation
  - Bleeding - <1% risk of life threatening bleeding
  - Infection – 1-2% risk of wound infections or
  - Bile leak/Bile duct injury – 0.5%
    - Bile duct injuries are one of the most serious complication of a gallbladder operation, it often requires additional procedures or surgeries to fix
  - Conversion to a larger incision – 5%

For more information:



[www.lapcholepathway.ca](http://www.lapcholepathway.ca)

### Recovery time

- Most people need 2-3 weeks off work to recover, and need to wait 4 weeks prior to any heavy lifting