Lovelace Women’s Hospital is proud to serve the community members of Albuquerque and surrounding communities across the State. We know you have choices for healthcare needs and want to ensure that we put your safety first. To reduce our surgical site infections related to Colon surgeries we implemented the ERAS (Enhanced Recovery After Surgery) program for all colon surgery in late 2018. Since that implementation, we have not had a surgical site infection since 11/13/2018.

ERAS is a multimodal perioperative care pathway designed to achieve early recovery for patients undergoing major surgery.

ERAS represents a paradigm shift in perioperative care in two ways. First, it re-examines traditional practices, replacing them with evidence-based best practices when necessary. Second, it is comprehensive in its scope, covering all areas of the patient’s journey through the surgical process.

The key factors that keep patients in the hospital after surgery include the need for IV pain medication, the need for intravenous fluids secondary to gut dysfunction, bed rest caused by lack of mobility.

The central elements of the ERAS pathway address these key factors, helping to clarify how they interact to affect patient recovery. In addition, the ERAS pathway provides guidance to all involved in perioperative care, helping them to work as a well-coordinated team to provide the best care.