

**Mayo Clinic Minute: Advances in treating kidney cancer**

Video	Audio
	<p>Most kidney cancer is discovered at an early stage when the cancer is small and confined to the kidney.</p>
<p><b>Aaron Potretzke, M.D.</b>  <b>Urologic Surgery</b>  <b>Mayo Clinic</b></p>	<p>"Many patients are diagnosed, again, coincidentally, by imaging of the abdomen with a small renal mass, and they have a lot of options."</p>
	<p>The surgical approach to kidney cancer has shifted over the years to preserving as much of the healthy kidney as possible. Mayo Clinic has adopted some of the most advanced techniques, such as use of robotics.</p>
	<p>"There is a focus, when it's safe and feasible, to removing just the tumor and leaving as much of the normal kidney behind as possible. That seems to be associated with increased long-term kidney function."</p>
	<p>Another option is to perform an ablation.</p>
	<p>"And they (radiologists) can stick a series of needles into the tumor and freeze it, or microwave it to death, and destroy the tumor while maintaining the normal healthy kidney. And there is a fair bit of evidence that, in the correct patient, each one of those strategies can be really successful."</p>
	<p>For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.</p>