





In July, Michelle revealed that her doctor had advised her to have a full hysterectomy. As she prepares for the op, Mr Tony Boret, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist at Spire Bushey Hospital in Hertfordshire, talks new! through the procedure.

"A hysterectomy involves removing the womb and usually the ovaries and cervix," he said. "It can be done in two ways - through an open procedure through the stomach, which can take up to an hour, or through keyhole surgery, where the womb is taken out through the vagina. This can take up to an hour and a half." Mr Boret told us that while the

open procedure is the most common. if Michelle opted for keyhole surgery, she may suffer less pain and only have to spend up to two days in hospital. He also outlined the major

"As with any major surgery, there are always risks. With hysterectomies there is a risk of heavy bleeding and haemorrhaging during the op, a risk of infection in the pelvis or the wound after the op and a risk of injury to the bowel and bladder during the

procedure," he said.

While Michelle recovers, she won't be able to exercise for up to six weeks. And Mr Boret said she will start the menopause once

"She will start getting all the symptoms, such as hot flushes, night sweats and low moods. In some women, the symptoms are so severe they require HRT," he said. "The menopause also has a significant impact on a woman's sex life. Their libido goes and they don't lubricate as much."

a fellow patient about the life-changing op, where her womb and ovaries will be removed in the hope it will prevent her from developing cancer. two, and seven-month-old Aaron

Michelle - who carries the BRCA2 gene, which increases the risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer - had been in contact with the woman prior to her op last Wednesday and asked her to keep her informed about how it went. When the woman tweeted that it

"went well", but took "four hours", Michelle replied, "Good on you honey. Was that 4 hours in theatre or 4 hours with recovery ward?"

Michelle, who underwent a

double mastectomy in 2012, has been keen to fill her time ahead of the upcoming procedure. She spent a few days in Las Vegas with hubby Hugh Hanley, where they partied and ditched their strict diet regimes by gorging on cheesecake.

Michelle, 35, who is mum to Faith, Jay, said of the holiday, "That's one of the reasons we've taken this time out... ahead of the big op."

Meanwhile, Hugh, 35, paid tribute to his wife, tweeting, "What a great few days in Vegas with my beautiful wife @wonderwomanshel. We head back to the reality of Michelle's histerectomy in the next couple

weeks and the road to recovery. I am blessed to have such a great wife who inspires me daily with her inner strength and resolve to face this challenge. Been a tough choice but it's

right for us and our

family, #family," Michelle has also thrown herself into work, teaming up with Lorraine Kelly and Breast Cancer Awareness to launch the Bin Your Bra. campaign. And she's been hitting the gym - after revealing she'd "piled on the pounds" during her trip to Sin City, she was back in training last week.

Sharing a snap of herself working out, she told her fans, "No rest for the wicked .. Post Vegas .. #cardio #dedicated #fitness #jetlagged lol." We wish you well, Michelle!

KARMEL DOUGHTY