



養和醫院
Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital

For Immediate Release

Latest da Vinci Xi Robotic Surgical System First Introduced in Asia by Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital

(25 September 2014 – Hong Kong) Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital (HKSH) has installed the latest model of da Vinci Xi robotic surgical system since mid July, making Hong Kong the first in Asia to apply the advanced technology in surgery.

In the first two months following installation, the hospital has conducted a total of 28 surgeries on patients, including 21 prostatectomy. The new system replaced the older model used and features a series of advancement in terms of application and technology, bringing even greater benefits to patients and surgeons.

In announcing the introduction of da Vinci Xi surgical system in Hong Kong, Deputy Medical Superintendent of HKSH, Dr. Joseph CHAN, said the new system offers a state-of-the-art treatment option for patients.

“At HKSH, our mission is to serve our patients and bring medical excellence with advanced medical technology. We are proud to have brought in the da Vinci Xi system to Hong Kong in July, just three months after worldwide launch in the US,” said Dr. CHAN.

The da Vinci Xi robotic surgical system consists of three components, i.e., a surgeon’s console, a patient-side robotic cart with four robotic arms manipulated by the surgeon and a high-definition three-dimensional (3D) vision system.



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Dr. Michael LI, Director of Minimally Invasive & Robotic Surgery Development at HKSH, explained that the system is more compact in size and easier to move into different locations. Its rotary boom enables placement of the surgical cart at any position around the patient while allowing four-quadrant anatomical access. The system has a magnified 3D high-definition vision system and its tiny wristed instruments also enable surgeons to maneuver greater than the human wrist.

“As a result, da Vinci Xi robotic surgical system enables the surgeon to operate with enhanced vision, precision, dexterity and control,” Dr. LI noted.

HKSH has made efforts to develop minimally invasive surgery and robotic surgery services in recent years. The hospital is the first private hospital to have set up Minimally Invasive Surgery Centre, back in 2003, and four years later, introduced the first generation robotic surgery service. “Minimally invasive surgery is one of HKSH’s development strategies. We have performed the largest number of robotic surgeries in local private hospitals with more than 600 surgeries conducted since 2007.” Dr. CHAN said, adding that as patients nowadays are becoming more receptive to the treatment option of minimally invasive surgery, the hospital will have the second da Vinci Xi system installed in early 2015.

For worldwide application, Dr. LI said, there are over 3000 da Vinci systems installation around the world and the annual number of procedures has increased from about 130,000 in 2008 to over 500,000 in 2013. The system is mainly applied in Urology, especially in Prostatectomy, which represents about 80% of da Vinci surgeries at HKSH.



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Dr. WONG Wai Sang, Director of Urology at HKSH, who performed the first surgery in Asia with da Vinci Xi system on a prostate cancer patient in mid July, explained, “Compared with open surgery and laparoscopic surgery, patients using robotic surgery techniques can expect a shorter hospital stay, less blood loss and transfusion, faster recovery, fewer complications and smaller incisions for minimal scarring. The retaining of or reduction of impact on urinary and erectile functions is most important to the patients.”

Dr. WONG added that in view of the desirable outcome of the technology on prostate cancer patient, the use of robotic surgery may become “gold standard” in prostate cancer in future, while Dr. LI expects to see a wider application of robotic surgery in other surgical specialties including general surgery, gynaecology, and head and neck surgery in the next decade.

“While bringing in new technology to Hong Kong, HKSH is equally committed to putting patient safety first and will spare no efforts in ensuring credentialing of medical staff in using the system.” Dr. CHAN remarked.

“Doctors and nurses are required to undergo proper training before they will be allowed to perform operations using da Vinci Xi system,” Dr. CHAN said. Meanwhile, HKSH will donate the outgoing system to The University of Hong Kong for doctors’ training.

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Patient Case 1

Mr. KWONG, aged 52, was diagnosed with kidney cancer in stage T1a in July. He underwent the operation on 26 July 2014, one day after consultation with Dr. Wong Wai Sang. He is the 1st kidney cancer patient in Asia using the da Vinci Xi robotic surgical system to do the operation. He just stayed in hospital for 4 days after the operation and travelled to Japan one week after the surgery. “I am very glad that the operation is so successful. The wound is so small and the recovery is fast. I can go back to work after 3 weeks.”

Patient Case 2

Mr. CHING, aged 40, suffered from Cushing’s syndrome, which is the abnormal secretion of corticosteroids due to adrenal hyperplasia, causing fats to accumulate around the abdomen. He weighed 250 pounds before the operation and suffered from hypertension and diabetes. Mr. Ching underwent adrenalectomy on 27 August 2014. He is the 1st general surgery case in Asia having the operation by da Vinci Xi robotic surgical system. “I just feel very tired but not painful, and I can get off the bed after 1 day of the operation. I have 220 pounds right now and will see the dietitian to control my weight afterwards.”



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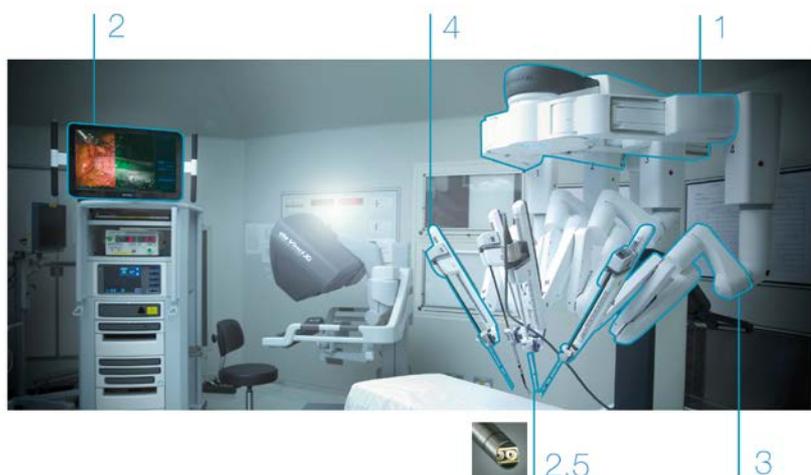
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Key Features of the da Vinci Xi System

- 1 A new overhead arm - anatomical access from all positions
- 2 A new endoscope - high-definition quality
- 3 New arm joints - extended range of motion
- 4 Longer instrument shafts - greater operative reach
- 5 3D camera - hand-held or installed on any arm of the Patient Side Cart



About Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital

Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital is one of the leading private hospitals in Hong Kong. With the motto “Quality in Service Excellence in Care”, the Hospital is committed to serving the public as well as promoting medical education and research.

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Photos:

1. Dr. Joseph CHAN (Left), Deputy Medical Superintendent of HKSH , Dr. Michael LI (Right), Director of Minimally Invasive & Robotic Surgery Development and Dr. WONG Wai Sang (Middle), Director of Urology at HKSH believe that more patients will be using robotic surgery in future as it is going to become more receptive.



2. Dr. CHAN (Middle) says HKSH will have its second da Vinci Xi installed in early 2015.



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3. Dr. WONG (Right) demonstrates how to operate the robotic arm in suturing as Dr. CHAN (Left) and Dr. LI (Middle) look on.



4. Mr. KWONG (second from right) and Mr. CHING (Left) received surgeries using da Vinci Xi in July and August respectively, and both are recovering fast and well.

