### Robotics in General Surgery

Jennifer S. Schwartz, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Department of Surgery
Division of General & Gastrointestinal Surgery
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

### **Objectives**

- Brief History of Robotics in General Surgery
- Robotic General Surgery Procedures
- Advantages/Disadvantages of Robotic General Surgery
- Role of Robotic Surgery in Bariatric Surgery
- Role of Robotic Surgery in Foregut Surgery
- Role of Robotic Surgery in Ventral Hernia Surgery

#### History

- Multiple previous robotic devices created including Puma 560 (1985) for neurosurgical biopsies, AESOP (1993) for robotic assisted endoscopic surgeries, and ROBODOC for hip replacement surgery
- In 2000, the da Vinci Surgical System received FDA approval for minimally invasive surgery.
- Ohio State was one of the first robotic center worldwide (2000)
- First reports of robotic Heller myotomy (2001), Pancreatic resection (2001), and Four arm surgery (2004).

  ROBODOC



Lanfranco AR<sup>1</sup>, Castellanos AE, Desai JP, Meyers WC. Robotic Surgery: A Current Perspective. Ann Surg. 2004 Jan;239(1):14-21.



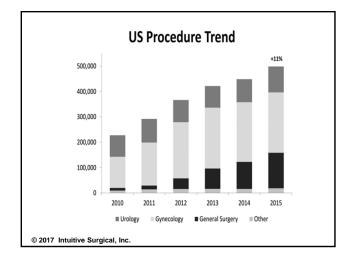
1999

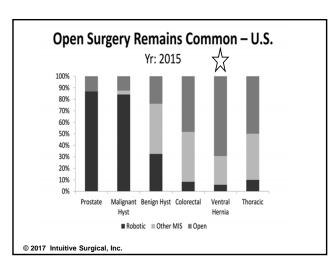


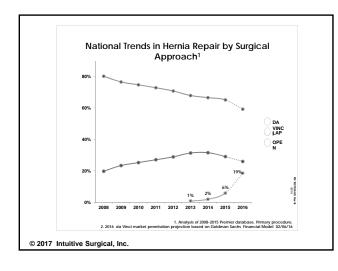


### da Vinci Robot

- Initially developed for Cardiac Surgery use
- Ultimately expanded to other specialties with specific traction in Urology and Gynecology
- Over 3,100 systems worldwide







### **Advantages**

- 3 dimensional viewing
- Wrist articulation



- Increased ability to perform fine dissection
- Minimally invasive approach to previous open procedures
- Better ergonomics for surgeons

### Disadvantages

- Cost
  - Capital investment
  - Instruments 10 use
- Longer Surgery Duration
- Learning Curve
- Patient advantage?

# Robotic General Surgery Procedures

FDA Approved procedures:

- Bariatric procedures (sleeve, gastric bypass)
- Foregut Surgery: Nissen fundoplication, Heller Myotomy
- Gastrectomy (benign, malignant)
- Hernia repair
- Cholecystectomy
- Pancreatectomy (benign, malignant)
- Colectomy
- Rectal resection

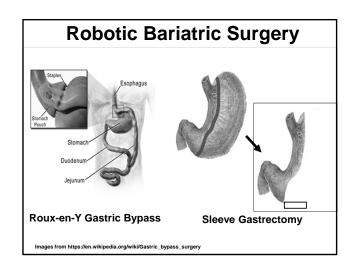
# Bariatric Surgery

# **The Obesity Epidemic**

- 78.6 million (34.9%) Americans are considered obese
  - More than doubled from 13.3% in 1960
- Obesity-related conditions affect nearly every organ system and are some of the leading causes of preventable deaths

- www.cdc.gov

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	158,000	173,000	179,000	193,000	196,000
RNY	36.7%	37.5%	34.2%	26.8%	23.1%
Band	35.4%	20.2%	14%	9.5%	5.7%
Sleeve	17.8%	33%	42.1%	51.7%	53.8%
BPD/DS	0.9%	1%	1%	0.4%	0.6%
Revisions	6%	6%	6%	11.5%	13.6%
Other	3.2%	2.3%	2.7%	0.1%	3.2%
Balloons					~700 cases
V-Bloc					18 cases



### **Robotic Bariatric Surgery**

- · Advantages:
  - Studies have shown at least equal outcomes to laparoscopic surgery
  - May decrease gastrojejunostomy leak rate, stricture rate, length of stay
- Disadvantages:
  - Procedure length of time
  - · Cost?
- More studies needed to determine if there is a true patient benefit

# **Foregut Surgery**

# **Robotic Foregut Surgery**

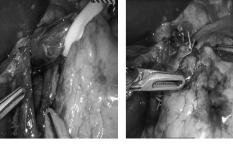
 Hiatal hernia repair with Nissen (360°) or Toupet (270°) fundoplication



• Paraesophageal hernia repair

https://medlineplus.gov/ency/presentations/100181\_5.htm

# Robotic Foregut Surgery



### **Robotic Foregut Surgery**

· Heller myotomy for achalasia





Author: Farnoosh Farrokhi, Michael F. Vaezi. - CC BY 2.0

### **Robotic Foregut Surgery**

- Advantages of Robotic Foregut Surgery:
  - 3D Visualization
  - Magnification of Surgical Field
  - Very useful for redo operations where more precise movement are needed
  - Very useful for Heller myotomy for achalasia where precise division of muscle fibers is critical to prevent esophageal perforation

# Ventral Hernia Repair

# Advantages: Minimally Invasive Approach

- Minimally invasive hernia repairs are associated with shorter length of stay, fewer wound-related complications, improved postoperative pain profiles
- Limitations of Laparoscopic ventral hernia repair:
  - intraperitoneal mesh placement
  - difficult to re-approximate the midline
  - high cost of mesh and fixation devices
  - Bulging/Eventration of the mesh with larger defects
  - · Technique not always equal to open

#### Robotic Pre-Peritoneal Ventral Hernia Repair – video



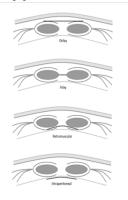
# Advantages: Minimally Invasive Approach

- Robotic ventral hernia repair may bridge the gap between open and laparoscopic repairs
- Robotic ventral hernia repair allows for larger defects to be repaired minimally invasively including myofascial releases:
  - Transversus abdominus release (TAR)
  - External oblique release
  - Bilateral postrectus sheath incision with retrorectus hernia repair

Gonzalez, A., Escobar, E., Romero, R. et al. Surg Endosc (2016).

#### Advantages: Minimally Invasive Approach

 Retrorectus hernia repair: brings fascial edges to the midline to create a more functional abdominal wall



# Advantages: Minimally Invasive Approach

- Recent study compared length of stay of robotic retrorectus ventral hernia repair (r-RVHR) to open retrorectus ventral hernia repair (o-RVHR)
- Evaluating value added to patients and the health system by assessing one component, length of stay

Carbonell AM, et. al. Ann Surg. 2017 Mar 27

#### **Advantages: Minimally Invasive Approach**





#### Robotic Retrorectus Ventral Hernia Repair - Video



#### **Advantages: Minimally Invasive Approach**

- Utilizing data from the Americas Hernia Society Quality Collaborative (AHSQC), evaluated the largest collection of r-RVHR to
- Length of Stay (statistically significant):
  - r-RVHR 2 days
  - o-RVHR 3 days
- Despite the increased cost of robotic platform, cost savings was noted from decreased length of stay, mesh choice.

Carbonell AM, et. al. Ann Surg. 2017 Mar 27

#### **Current Status of Robotics in Hernia**

- Growing experience and increasing number of studies, however still very little data available
  - Literature primarily single surgeon experience
  - Largest study: Multicenter retrospective study
    - 368 patients underwent robotic primary or incisional hernia repair by 5 surgeons
    - · Reproducibly safe
    - Short term outcomes comparable to laparoscopic results
- Scrutiny over cost vs. benefit

Gonzalez, A., Escobar, E., Romero, R. et al.

#### **Robotics in General Surgery**



#### References

- 1. Lanfranco AR¹, Castellanos AE, Desai JP, Meyers WC. Robotic Surgery: A Current Perspective. Ann Surg. 2004 Jan;239(1):14-21.
- 2. asmbs.org
- 3. https://medlineplus.gov/ency/presentations/100181\_5.htm
- 4. https://www.sages.org/publications/
- 5. Carbonell AM1, Warren JA, Prabhu AS, Ballecer CD, Janczyk RJ, Herrera J, Huang LC, Phillips S, Rosen MJ, Poulose BK. Reducing Length of Stay Using a Robotic-assisted Approach for Retromuscular Ventral Hernia Repair: A Comparative Analysis From the Americas Hernia Society Quality Collaborative. Ann Surg. 2017 Mar 27. doi: 10.1097
- 6. Gonzalez, A., Escobar, E., Romero, R. et al. Robotic-assisted ventral hernia repair: a multicenter evaluation of clinical outcomes. Surg Endosc (2016). doi:10.1007/s00464-016-511.8-0

### Robotics in General Surgery

Michael Paul Meara, MD, MBA, FACS
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery
Division of General & Gastrointestinal Surgery
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

# **Objectives**

- Role of Robotic Surgery in Inguinal Hernia
   Surgery
- Role of Robotic Surgery in Biliary Surgery
- Role of Robotic Surgery in Surgical

**Resident Education** 

# Inguinal Hernia Repair

# **Inguinal Hernia Repairs**

- Wide Variety of Repairs
  - Open Tissue Repairs
  - Open Mesh Repairs
  - Laparoscopic Mesh Repairs
    - Totally Extraperitoneal
    - Trans Abdominal Repairs
  - Robotic Mesh Repairs

#### **Advantages: MIS Inguinal Approaches**

- Both open and minimally invasive inguinal hernia repairs continue to be largely outpatient procedures.
- Minimally invasive inguinal hernia repairs are associated with:
  - Smaller incisions
  - Fewer wound-related complications and mesh infections
  - Improved postoperative pain profiles
  - Fewer complications related to chronic nerve issues
  - · Bowel evaluation in emergent cases

# Limitations: MIS Inguinal Approaches

- Limitations of Laparoscopic Inguinal hernia repair:
  - Steep learning curve
  - High cost of fixation devices
  - Difficulty managing larger defects
  - Technique not always equal to open
  - Previous Repairs may necessitate different approaches

# Robotic Bilateral Inguinal Hernia Repair

# Advantages: Robotic Minimally Invasive Approach

- Robotic inguinal hernia repair avoid costly fixation devices
- Robotic inguinal hernia repair may provide improved ergonomics to the surgeon during placement.

# **Biliary Surgery**

# Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy

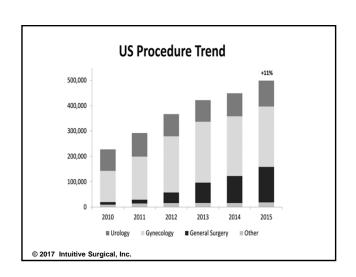
- First performed in September of 1985.
- Popularized as Standard of Care
- Gave birth to the Laparoscopic Revolution of Surgery
- Continues to be one of the most common procedures performed in the United States

# Minimally Invasive Advances in Biliary Surgery

- Fluorescence imaging popularize for improved anatomic identification and prevention of complications
- Continues to push the boundaries of MIS surgeries including complex cancer resections and reconstructions
- Provides a stable platform for resident and fellow training

Robotic Cholecystectomy with Fluorescence Imaging

# Robotics in Resident and Fellowship Training





# Robotic Training Requirements

- Online surgical system course work
- Simulation modules with passing metrics
- Beside assisting cases
- Primary cases as the Console Surgeon
- Simulation modules with passing metrics

