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Initial experience with a novel robotic surgical system in abdominal surgery

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Introduction: The emergence of robotics in surgery has led to a recent boom in the acceptance of such technology. This technology has been rapidly adopted in various fields, with the most prominent being general surgery. The number of abdominal procedures being performed using robotics is increasing as potential advantages continue to be highlighted. We herein report the use of the versius surgical robotic system for use in common abdominal procedures.

Methods: Three experienced robotic surgeons first gained experience and became familiar with the robotic system through both online modules and cadaveric training sessions. The initial cases performed using the versius robotic system at a single center was included in this study. Data reported included demographics as well as perioperative data.

Results: Fifty-five procedures were performed using the versius robotic system. Procedures included various hernia repairs (n=30), gallbladder surgery (n=22), as well as appendix surgery (n=2). Appendectomy had the fastest OR times at 35.81 +/- 21.84, while the slowest OR times were seen in the BIH group with an average time of 95.2 +/- 24. No complications or conversions were observed throughout this entire series.

Conclusion: This is the first report to demonstrate the usage of the Versius robotic surgical system for use in abdominal surgery. Our initial data confirms that regardless of patient demographics, the system is safe to use in such procedures; however, further larger-scale studies are required to assess its clinical utility.

Biography

Ghita ABID is a final year medical student in Mohammed VI University of Health Sciences in Casablanca, Morocco. During her undergraduate, she took her clinical electives in different hospitals whether it being in Morocco, France or Dubai. She was also fortunate to be mentored by some extraordinary doctors who piqued her interest in research and particularly in robotics. Outside of academics, she is an active member of Non-profit associations in Morocco, and is an avid traveller.

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