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ROBOTIC-ASSISTED SURGERY FOR ENDOMETRIAL CANCER: ONCOLOGIC OUT- COMES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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In recent years, surgical practice has been changed since the introduction of minimally invasive surgery. Laparoscopic and robotic surgery have significant advantages compared with laparotomy. Robotic technology has helped surgeons overcome many technical difficulties of conventional laparoscopic surgery. Robotics are feasible in the treatment of endometrial cancer with a short learning curve. Operative time is longer compared to laparotomy, but similar or shorter than laparoscopy. Robot docking time increases the global length of the procedure, but it decreases with experience. The overall morbidity rate seems lower than with other approaches. Hospital stay, postoperative pain and time to recovery are decreased when compared to laparotomy as well as to laparoscopy for some authors. Robotics may offer significant advantages in the treatment of morbidly obese patients who represent the vast majority of endometrial cancer patients. Robotic techniques have benefits over traditional open surgery for management of endometrial cancer, especially in the group of obese patients for whom laparoscopy presents significant limitations. The main limit for the diffusion of robotic surgery is accessibility because of its important cost.

BIOGRAPHY

Ioannis G Papanikolaou was born in Athens in 1985. In 2009 he takes the Medical Degree with excellent votation. Afterwards, he was selected to participate in the two years Postgraduate programme in Robotic surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery and Telesurgery, in the University of Athens, Medical School, Greece. In 2011 he was distinguished again with excellent votation and obtains the title of "Master of Science" from the Athens Medical School in "Robotic surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery and Telesurgery. He was distinguished with the PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) from Athens Medical School, Greece with Excellent votation in 2018. He has gained the first Prize in "Robotic Surgery Marathon" as well as the First Prize in the "Laparoscopic Simulation Cup". He is the author of many publications in national and international journals and he is also selected as reviewer for many journals such as *The British Medical Journal*, *Stem Cells International*, *Surgical Laparoscopy Endoscopy & Percutaneous Techniques*, *The International Journal of Medical Robotics & Computer Assisted Surgery*, *The European Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology*. Currently he works in the 1st Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology of the University of Athens, Medical School in Greece, in "Alexandra" Hospital.

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