
Transoral Robotic Surgery

Initiative Type

Technology

Status

Deliver

Added

01 February 2018

Last updated

23 April 2018

URL

<https://test.clinicalexcclence.qld.gov.au/improvement-exchange/transoral-robotic-surgery>

Summary

Transoral Robotic Surgery (TORS) uses the da Vinci Surgical System for surgical treatment of oropharyngeal cancers. The da Vinci system is composed of a console at which the surgeon is seated, a surgical cart, and four robotic arms. The da Vinci surgical system provides surgeons with improved dexterity and precision, and can overcome a number of the limitations associated with traditional surgical approaches, such as line of site obstruction and a limited operative field.

Key dates

Sep 2017

Sep 2019

Implementation sites

Princess Alexandra Hospital

Partnerships

Healthcare Improvement Unit

Key Contacts

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Aim

Provides an opportunity to pilot and evaluate new technologies within 'real world' clinical settings in the Queensland context.

Benefits

The potential benefits of this technology include:

- TORS afforded improved surgical visualisation and manoeuvrability and provided superior accessibility.
- Significantly, 86 per cent of TORS patients avoided additional treatment with radiotherapy and none had chemotherapy.
- TORS is less invasive, resulting in shorter hospital stays.
- TORS is safe; with no major complications and no surgical infections.
- Most (86 per cent) TORS patients had negative margins in excised tissue.
- The majority of patients reported an improved quality of life after TORS.

Background

This technology was funded through the New Technology Funding and Evaluation Program (NTFEP). The NTFEP funds the introduction and evaluation of new technologies that:

- Are safe and effective
- Provide better health outcomes
- Provide value for money
- Provide greater access to care.

The evaluation findings will inform recommendations regarding the future use and/or investment of the technology within Queensland.

Evaluation and Results

Key findings will be published at the end of the evaluation period.

Resources

PDF saved 11/05/2025