

# Transoral Robotic Surgery

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.



## What is the technology?

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.

## What were the evaluation findings?



TORS afforded improved surgical visualisation and manoeuvrability and provided superior accessibility.



TORS is safe; with no major complications and no surgical infections.



Significantly, 86% of TORS patients avoided additional treatment with radiotherapy and none had chemotherapy.



Most (86%) TORS patients had negative margins in excised tissue.



TORS is less invasive, resulting in shorter hospital stays.



The majority of patients reported an improved quality of life after TORS.

## Where was it evaluated?

Department of Otolaryngology, Princess Alexandra Hospital (2017)

## Want more information?

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