World First: all-female team to use next-generation surgical robot at Cristo Re Hospital

Rome, Italy - 08 March 2022. This International Women's Day, Cristo Re Hospital in Rome together with CMR Surgical (CMR), a global medical device company headquartered in Cambridge (UK), present the first all-female robotic surgery team to be trained on the Versius Surgical Robotic System®.

The medical team, formed by Dr. Pasquina Tomaiuolo, Dr. Giada Di Flumeri, Dr. Giulia Moretti and Dr. Alessia Di Leo, will be the first female only team in the world to use the Versius robot for minimally invasive surgery, including colorectal and abdominal wall reconstruction surgery.

Dr. Pasquina Tomaiuolo, Specialist in General Surgery, says, “Over the years, the number of women enrolled in medical school has gradually increased, but few still decide to pursue a career in surgery. Being an entirely female team to use Versius for minimally invasive surgery, I hope will send a message and encourage young women who would like to pursue this profession but still consider it a ‘male-only’ field. Biases and stereotypes can be challenged and sometimes, as in our case, overturned.”

Dr. Giada Di Flumeri, Specialist in General Surgery, comments, "Robotic technology is the future of surgery and we are delighted to be part of this next generation of surgeons and nurses helping to advance patient care. It’s exciting for us to be the first of hopefully many all-female Versius teams here in Italy, but also worldwide.”

Cristo Re Hospital installed Versius in 2021 to use as part of a multi-specialty robotic programme across gynaecology, urology and general surgery. With Versius, the hospital aims to significantly increase patient access to minimally invasive surgery which is associated with benefits including quicker recovery time, less scarring and less pain for patients.¹

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The Versius® Surgical Robotic System

Versius® resets expectations of robotic surgery. Versius fits into virtually any operating room set-up and integrates seamlessly into existing workflows, increasing the likelihood of robotic minimal access surgery (MAS). The small, portable and modular design of Versius allows the surgeon to only use the number of arms needed for a given procedure.

Biomimicking the human arm, Versius gives surgeons the choice of optimised port placement alongside the dexterity and accuracy of small fully-wristed instruments. With 3D HD vision, easy-to adopt instrument control and a choice of ergonomic working positions, the open surgeon console has the potential to reduce stress and fatigue and allows for clear communication with the surgical team. By thinking laparoscopically and operating robotically with Versius, patients, surgeons and healthcare professionals can all benefit from the value that robotic MAS brings.

But it's more than just a robot. Versius captures meaningful data with its wider digital ecosystem to support a surgeon’s continuous learning. Through the Versius Connect app, Versius Trainer and CMR clinical registry, Versius unleashes a wealth of insights to ultimately improve surgical care.

About CMR Surgical Limited

CMR Surgical (CMR) is a global medical devices company dedicated to transforming surgery with Versius®, a next-generation surgical robot.

Headquartered in Cambridge, United Kingdom, CMR is committed to working with surgeons, surgical teams and hospital partners, to provide an optimal tool to make robotic minimal access surgery universally accessible and affordable. With Versius, we are on a mission to redefine the surgical robotics market with practical, innovative technology and data that can improve surgical care.

Founded in 2014, CMR Surgical is private limited company backed by an international shareholder base.

References