Argenteuil Hospital Center acquires second Versius in less than a year

- The centre becomes first European hospital to use the next-generation robot across four surgical specialties

Argenteuil Hospital Center is the first hospital in Europe to use the Versius robot in four surgical specialties – urology, gynaecology, digestive and thoracic. Impressed with the benefits of Versius for both patients and surgical teams, the hospital has announced the acquisition of a second Versius robotic system, less than a year since it acquired its first robot. This will allow the hospital to continue and intensify the shift towards becoming a robotics centre of innovation.

The Argenteuil Hospital Center was the first French public hospital to be equipped with Versius in October 2020 in order to perform surgical procedures for which minimally invasive robotic surgery brings significant patient benefits.

"We are proud to be the first European hospital to use Versius in four specialties. This is a testament to the speed with which our surgical teams were trained, persuaded by the benefits of minimally invasive robotic surgery for the patient as well as by the flexibility of the CMR Surgical robot," explains Bertrand Martin, Director of Argenteuil Hospital.

"Today, our objective is to accelerate the shift to robotic surgery with the acquisition of a second robot, which will enable us to better meet the needs of our patients and strengthen the attractiveness of Argenteuil Hospital for healthcare personnel - both surgeons and nurses."

After urological, digestive and gynaecological surgery, thoracic surgery began at the end of April 2021, with mediastinal procedures, thymectomies and pulmonary resections for cancer. The surgical team has been able to significantly benefit from the possibilities offered by the robot, particularly in terms of surgical approach: for thoracic surgery, it allows, with a single main site approach under the rib, to spare the chest wall. To date, the various specialties have performed nearly one hundred procedures with the Versius system.

According to Dr. Oro, urologist surgeon in charge of the robotics program, "the rapid adoption of the system is facilitated by its extreme user-friendliness, its small size and the remarkable agility of its arms. Moreover, because of the open console design, it maintains the important collaboration with the OR surgical team. It fits naturally into the usual functioning of the operating room rooms."

The arrival of a new system at Argenteuil Hospital will accelerate the deployment of robotic surgery in the four specialties, thanks to the increased competence of the teams and the multiplication of slots available for robot-assisted surgery. This will also allow for the integration of a training program.

"The arrival of a second robot is crucial in a general hospital if the objective is to allow all teams and all surgeons to benefit from the advantages of robotic surgery," emphasises Jean-Claude Couffinhal,
thoracic surgeon at the Argenteuil Hospital, delegate for robotics and innovation at the National Academy of Surgery, and member of the robotics group at the Ile-de-France Regional Health Agency.

"The objective is not to reserve access to the robot for a few select surgeons, but to initiate the in-depth robotic change necessary for the use of all the new technologies in the surgical ecosystem. Versius makes this possible, especially since it is fully adaptable to the needs of surgery - and its modular design is compatible with all operating rooms. The use of a video platform allows us to share robotic interventions in real time with our European colleagues and thus to build up an international community of experience from the outset."

The second robot arrives at Argenteuil Hospital in early July 2021 and is expected to be operational in September.

"We are very pleased that Argenteuil Hospital wanted to acquire a second system so quickly," said Mark Slack co-founder and Chief Medical Officer of CMR Surgical. "This is a testament to the value of our system, which is designed to fit into virtually any operating room in order to bring the benefits of minimally invasive surgery to as many patients as possible. I look forward to supporting these very skilled teams as they expand their surgical repertoire."

— ENDS —

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Notes to editors:
About Argenteuil Hospital
Argenteuil Hospital treats more than 35,700 patients and performs approximately 6,500 surgical procedures each year. At the heart of the 95-1 health territory (Val d'Oise), the Argenteuil Hospital responds to the health needs of the population in a living area of 350,000 inhabitants.

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 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.