Gyn Cancer Surgery in the elderly

Is there a place for robotic surgery in elderly patients?

Issues physiology

- Decreased
  - Physiologic function, responsiveness, reserve
  - Muscle mass: Sit up, move, cough

- Increased
  - Comorbidities
  - Function Limitations

20th Century: Laparoscopy

2-D

- Unsteady image
- Counter-intuitive hand movement
- Straight rigid sticks

21st Century: ROBOTICS

Welcome aboard

- Overcomes the limitations of conventional laparoscopy
- More complex cases via MIS
  - 3D visualization
  - Fully wristed
  - No
  - Assistant
  - Tremor
**Comparison of approach**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Traditional</th>
<th>L-scopy</th>
<th>Robotic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Age</strong></td>
<td>74.7 years</td>
<td>75.9 years</td>
<td>78.2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conversion</strong></td>
<td>29.9%</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time of surg</strong></td>
<td>148min</td>
<td>236min</td>
<td>205min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EBL</strong></td>
<td>356ml</td>
<td>286ml</td>
<td>42ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transfusion</strong></td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hosp. stay</strong></td>
<td>5.8d</td>
<td>3.0d</td>
<td>1.4d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wound</strong></td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quetelet: 29.9 – 29.4 – 29.8

**Benefits of computer assisted surgery in the elderly**

Enables GYNs to offer the potential benefits of MIS to more of their cancer patients

- Short hospital stay
- Minimal blood loss
- Fewer complications
- Less risk of infection
- Significantly less pain
- Faster recovery
- Improved cosmesis
- Equivalent or better outcomes

**Q.O.L. Survey**

- 50 questions
  - Approved by Research Ethics Committee
  - Informed consent
- **Complications**
  - 1 re-admission for ascites: spontaneous resolution
  - 1 UTI: oral AB
- **Overall health/emotional**: 7 unchanged, 2 improved
- **Pain**: not significant >POD.1, no pain medications
- **Assistance**: none required, no significant impairment
- **Social fct/relationship**: unchanged
- **Healing/recovery time**: all satisfied
- **All would recommend to a friend**