

The da Vinci robot experience

“ Following my diagnosis with prostate cancer, I explored my treatment options with my consultant Adam Jones. 12 weeks ago I became one of the first people to undergo a prostatectomy using the Royal Berkshire Hospital's da Vinci robot. I have been amazed at the speed of my recovery: within an hour I was sharing my experience with BBC South Today, two days later I was back at home and a couple of days after that, out shopping with my wife. Life is now back to normal. I am working and playing golf and the scars have all but disappeared. I would have no hesitation in recommending this surgery to other men faced with the same decision. ”

Peter Boltwood

“ When my consultant Adam Jones recommended that my prostate cancer should be dealt with by surgery using the da Vinci robot, my training as a journalist took over. Having researched the robot's credentials, I agreed to the op without any reservations and have no regrets. I reckoned anything that gave me a better chance of a full recovery and a normal life had to be worth signing up to. I can honestly say that I never experienced any pain, just a bit of soreness and just four weeks after the operation I am getting on with my life as usual, thankful that the most effective treatment for my condition was available. ”

Colin Gunney

Prostate Cancer: be aware

Prostate cancer is the number 1 male cancer and 1 in 12 men in the UK will be diagnosed with it during their lifetime. Symptoms that suggest a prostate problem include:

- **getting up at night to pass urine**
- **a reduced urine flow**
- **urgency to pass urine**
- **a feeling of incomplete emptying**

Often these symptoms are related to prostate problems other than cancer. But prostate cancer can have no symptoms. Therefore if older men have some or all of these symptoms, it is recommended that they should see their doctor. The combination of a simple blood test (where appropriate) and a digital rectal examination can go a long way towards giving reassurance.



To see 'Robbie' in action visit
www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/robotappeal

Robbie The Robot Appeal
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Royal Berks Charity Robbie the Robot Appeal

Robbie the Robot has arrived!

Delivering exceptional benefits with state of the art prostate cancer surgery

Please give your support and help us keep Robbie working



Supporting
Robbie the Robot Appeal



Introducing Robbie the da Vinci robot

In recent months the da Vinci robot, the latest in state of the art robotic assisted surgery, has transformed prostate cancer operations at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. The robot allows surgeons to perform radical prostate operations using all the clinical and technical capabilities of traditional open surgery, whilst enabling them to operate through the tiny incisions which characterise 'keyhole' surgery. For patients this brings a host of benefits, all of which contribute to radically shortened recovery times and a quicker return to normal life.

The da Vinci robot in action

The da Vinci robot uses four interactive robotic arms to carry out the surgery. At all times the surgeon is in complete control: his or her hand movements are scaled, filtered and seamlessly translated into precise real-time movements. The

3D view and magnification allow intricate dissection and complex reconstruction that would be difficult with conventional keyhole surgery. In many cases this brings about enhanced clinical outcomes amongst which can be, better cancer control and a reduced incidence of impotence and incontinence.

Soon we will expand the da Vinci robot's use across our other specialities, including gynaecology and bowel surgery, to deliver similar benefits to these patient groups.



The Royal Berkshire Hospital acquired the da Vinci robot thanks to a very generous donation. In order to keep the da Vinci robot operating in Reading, we need to raise a further £1million over the next 3 years.

Excellence in operation

As a centre of excellence in operating procedures, the Royal Berkshire Hospital is committed to providing the most effective and least invasive surgical procedures available. We advocate treatments which deliver real benefits and a better quality of life to our patients. The skill of our world-class surgeons, coupled with the state of the art capability of the da Vinci robot, significantly improves a patient's experience of surgery and hastens their return to normal life. Typically, compared to traditional open surgery, they will experience:

- significantly less pain
- less blood loss, fewer transfusions
- less risk of wound infection
- less scarring
- shorter hospital stay, quicker recovery time
- for many people, better clinical outcomes

In the experts' opinion

“ The da Vinci robot has allowed us to offer the benefits of keyhole surgery to a much larger group of patients. In conjunction with our brachytherapy* programme, it gives our patients the widest choice in state of the art prostate cancer treatments. ”

Surgeon, Mr Adam Jones

“ The robot is very intuitive and that makes it very easy to use. The vision is just incredible and it is fantastic to be able to use such advanced technology for our patients. ”

“ The robot offers a less painful procedure with a quicker recovery time and fewer side effects and has so far proven to be equally effective as open surgery for dealing with cancer, as well as being less likely to cause impotence or incontinence. ”

Surgeon, Lt. Col. Zaheer Shah

*brachytherapy is a form of radio therapy



Mr Adam Jones

Please support the Robbie the Robot Appeal by making a donation today.



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We will not share your details with any third party. However, we would like to keep you informed of our news, events, activities and appeals. If you do not wish to receive any information, please tick here.

Please give your support and keep 'Robbie' the Robot in Berkshire!

Thank you for your generous support