



Robotic Assisted Surgery for Colorectal (bowel) Resection

Introduction

This leaflet should be read together with the leaflet which explains the specific bowel surgery you are going to have. This will be given to you by the consultant surgeon or clinical nurse specialist. It does not replace the discussion you have had with the surgeon and nurse; the aim is to help you understand more about what has been discussed.

What is robotic-assisted surgery?

This is an alternative to 'open' surgery and laparoscopic surgery which is also known as minimally invasive or keyhole surgery. Robotic assisted surgery is an advanced way of doing keyhole surgery. It involves the surgeon operating using a console. This allows them to see in 3-D, high definition and gives more controlled, precise movement than with conventional laparoscopic instruments. It is important to understand that the robotic system does not perform the operation, this is carried out by the surgeon, alongside the theatre team who are in control the whole time.

The robotic system has four arms that hold a camera and surgical tools. The surgeon controls the robotic system from a console which is in the operating theatre. The movement that the surgeon's hands make on the console directly result in accurate movement of the instruments and camera to remove your bowel cancer.

Part of the bowel will be removed as discussed with your surgeon but will not involve a large cut in your abdomen. Instead, you will have a few small incisions.

What are the advantages of robotic surgery?

- Shorter length of stay
- A faster recovery time
- Less post operative pain
- Commencing on diet quicker
- Fewer complications from the surgery
- The robotic instruments enable better movement in many directions
- The robotic instruments can get into small areas, for example deep in the pelvis

Are there any risks to robotic surgery?

The risks are similar to those that are associated with laparoscopic surgery:

- Infection, wound, abdomen or bowel join
- Minor bleeding and bruising around the incision site
- Hernia
- Damage to other structures, requiring a larger cut to repair
- Failure of the robot (which is unlikely) - this would result in the surgery taking place through a standard laparoscopic or open operation
- An injury to the bowel or blood vessel. This injury would be repaired
- Major bleeding - this would result in a standard laparoscopic or open operation taking place instead



University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust contact numbers:

Colorectal Nurse Specialist Teams (24-hour answerphone)

Heartlands/Solihull Hospitals: 0121 424 2730

Good Hope Hospital: 0121 424 7429

Queen Elizabeth Hospital: 0121 371 4501 Email: colorectalnursingcns@uhb.nhs.uk

Follow us on Twitter [@uhbcolorectal](https://twitter.com/uhbcolorectal)

The Patrick Room Cancer Centre

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Edgbaston

Birmingham B15 2TH Telephone: 0121 697 8417

Cancer Information and Support Centre Good Hope Hospital

Rectory Road

Sutton Coldfield B75 7RR Telephone: 0121 424 9486

Further Support:

Local:

Birmingham Cancer Support Centre (Help Harry Help Others): 0121 783 5407;

www.hhho.org.uk

Sutton Cancer Support Centre: 0300 012 0245, www.suttoncancersupport.org

The Holly Trust (Bowel cancer support group): www.hollytrust.org.uk

National:**Bowel cancer UK**

Call us on 020 7940 1760. We're open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Email us at admin@bowelcanceruk.org.uk

Ileostomy Association

Birmingham branch: 0121 3552745/07842 555070

Email: Mike Jameson mike.jameson@iasupport.org

www.birmingham.iasupport.org

Colostomy UK

Office Tel: 0118 939 1537- Monday- Friday 9am-5pm

Helpline open 24 hours a day: 0800 328 4257

hello@colostomyuk.org

www.colostomyuk.org

Beating Bowel Cancer

Beating Bowel cancer provide medical advice to patients through a specialist nurse advisor line on 08450 719301 or

Email nurse@beatingbowelcancer.org

Website: <http://www.beatingbowelcancer.org/>

Patient Voices

The Patient Voices Group is part of Beating Bowel Cancer and is the only UK national patient-to-patient network for people with bowel cancer.

The group has also expanded to include close relatives of bowel cancer patients. Members of the group are willing to help in a number of ways including patient to patient support, raising awareness, and fundraising.

General enquiries: 08450 719301

Macmillan Benefits

Advisor present

Alternate Tuesdays at Good Hope Hospital Sheldon Unit

Alternate Thursdays at Heartlands Hospital

Macmillan Cancer Line

0808 808 0000

www.macmillan.org.uk

This leaflet was originally developed by a range of healthcare professionals and the copyright is with permission of the former Pan Birmingham Cancer Network. The leaflet has now been adopted by University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust and reviewed and revised in line with trust policy.

Our commitment to confidentiality

We keep personal and clinical information about you to ensure you receive appropriate care and treatment. Everyone working in the NHS has a legal duty to keep information about you confidential.

We will share information with other parts of the NHS to support your healthcare needs, and we will inform your GP of your progress unless you ask us not to. If we need to share information that identifies you with other organisations we will ask for your consent. You can help us by pointing out any information in your records which is wrong or needs updating.

Additional sources of information:

Go online and view the NHS Choices website for more information about a wide range of health topics <http://www.nhs.uk/Pages/HomePage.aspx>

Accessibility

To view this information in a different language or use the text-to-speech reader visit www.uhb.nhs.uk, click the yellow and black circular icon in the bottom right of the web page to open the ReachDeck toolbar and then use the search bar to search by the name of the leaflet. If you require this information in another format such as braille or audio please email interpreting.service@uhb.nhs.uk.



How did we do? 😊 😐 😞

If you have recently used our services we'd love to hear about your experience. Please scan the QR code or follow the link to share your feedback to help us improve our services. Thank you! www.uhb.nhs.uk/fft

