Dr. Jason Rexroth
Medical Director,
Robotic Surgery

ADDED TO ARSENAL OF CANCER-FIGHTING TREATMENTS

robotic surgery

In the United States alone, surgeons perform 600,000 hysterectomies each year. The daVinci® Surgical System at Mercy Medical Center offers a quicker and easier surgery for hysterectomies, as well as the removal of fibroid tumors or uterine myomas.

Uterine myomas are the most common pelvic tumors in women, affecting 20 to 40 percent of childbearing-aged women. Most of these benign tumors are asymptomatic, but as they grow in size and number, they may lead to menorrhagia (excessive menstrual periods), pelvic pain and/or pressure, bowel and/or bladder dysfunction and, in some cases, infertility.

The daVinci Surgical System also offers improved results for treating prostate cancer, which affects one in six men. According to the American Cancer Society, prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in men. A robotic prostatectomy is a minimally invasive procedure and is one of the most innovative forms of treatment.

"The daVinci Surgical System allows surgeons to perform complex procedures using a minimally invasive approach," says Mercy's Medical Director of Robotic Surgery, Dr. Jason Rexroth. "With the advanced features of the daVinci robot, we can perform more procedures through just one to two centimeter incisions."

Surgeons operate the robotic surgical "arms and hands" while seated at a console viewing a 3D image of the surgical field. The system seamlessly translates the surgeon's hand, wrist and finger movements into precise, real-time movements of surgical instruments inside the patient. It's the best of both worlds – robotic technology guided by a skilled human medical expert.

By enhancing surgical capabilities, the daVinci Surgical System helps improve clinical outcomes and redefine standards of care.

Dr. Rexroth says patient benefits include: reduced trauma to the body, reduced blood loss and need for transfusions, less post-operative pain and discomfort, less risk of infection, shorter hospital stay, faster recovery and return to normal daily activities, and less scarring.

"We can perform more procedures through just one to two centimeter incisions."

Dr. Jason Rexroth

Members of Mercy's specially-trained robotic surgery team and Obstetrician/Gynecologist Shevonda T. Sherrow, MD assist Mercy's Medical Director of Robotic Surgery, Dr. Jason Rexroth who is seated nearby at a computer console.