

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE



BIARGS

British & Irish Association of
Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons

24 – 25 November 2023
Royal Society of Medicine, London

www.biargs.org.uk

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W E L C O M E

Dear Friends,

It is our great pleasure and honour to welcome you to London to participate in the BIARGS 13th Annual Scientific Meeting at the prestigious Royal Society of Medicine on the 24th and 25th of November 2023.

The local Organising Committee chaired by Mr Denis Tsepov and the BIARGS Council will be proud to host you in this beautiful venue in the centre of London.

The primary objective of this meeting is to update you on the latest developments in robotic surgery in gynaecology and share the latest evidence, experience, techniques and opinions which will enable us to further raise the standards in surgical care for women.

Our scientific programme, delivered by experts in robotic surgery, will be relevant to any surgeon currently working in, or looking to explore, this new and exciting way of operating. We will focus on surgical outcomes, patient experience, surgical safety and standardising robotic surgical approaches to complex oncological and benign gynaecological pathology. We will cover all aspects of training in robotic surgery and discuss ways to establish and maintain robotic programmes. This year, we have placed a special focus on the significance of multidisciplinary surgical practice.

There's a packed agenda with some great highlights, including an interactive surgical video delivered by robotics experts, which aims to improve the technical knowledge of robotics surgeons at all stages of their careers.

The meeting is sponsored by world-leading industry partners from across the field of medical robotics who will display their latest products and developments at the industry exhibition.

London, with its timeless allure, is always a beautiful city, but never more so than at Christmas. We look forward to seeing you for the conference and for the networking opportunities. Let's learn, teach, and work together so this will be the best BIARGS conference yet!



DAY 1 - 24th November 2023

8.30am	Registration and coffee	
OPENING / SESSION 1 (9.00am-9.20am) Panel: Marielle Nobbenhius, Nahid Gul, Denis Tsepov, Manou Kaur, Corne Hurter, Nick Elkington		
9.00am	Welcome and opening remarks	Marielle Nobbenhius, BIARGS President
9.10am	Robotic programme in HCA Healthcare UK: History and perspectives	Corne Hurter, London, UK
9.20am	History of BIARGS	Nick Elkington, London, UK (recorded)
SESSION 2: ROLE OF ROBOTIC SURGERY IN BENIGN GYNAECOLOGY (9.30am-11.20am) Chairs: Nadine Di Donato, Denis Tsepov, Sujata Gupta		
9.30am	My rapid conversion to robotic surgery in deep endometriosis: reflection after 350 cases	Denis Tsepov, London, UK
9.50am	Robotic myomectomy and tips for tissue extraction	Tony Chalhoub, Newcastle, UK
10.10am	Robotic-assisted hysterectomy: Does size matter?	Nahid Gul, BIARGS President-Elect, Manchester, UK
10.30am	Ultra Conservative Robotic Endometriosis Surgery	Jean Philippe Estrade, Marcelle, France
10.50am	Robotic Hysterectomy -standardising the operation during the learning curve	Manou Kaur, London UK
11.10am	DISCUSSION	
SESSION 3: NEUROPELVEOLOGY & MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM IN COMPLEX BENIGN GYNAECOLOGICAL SURGERY (11.20am-1.20pm) Chairs: Nahid Gul, Daniel Wilby, Shaheen Khazali, Valerio Celentano		
11.20am	Pelvic nerves: How does the robot help when working in the tiger territory?	Shaheen Khazali, London, UK
11.40am	Robotic surgery for deep endometriosis: What is the current evidence?	Zeiad El Gizawy, Stoke on Trent, UK
12.00pm	Reconstructive urology: An update for the gynaecologists	Rajesh Nair, London, UK
12.20pm	Robotic NOSE colorectal resection in endometriosis	Danilo Miscovic, London, UK
12.40pm	Multidisciplinary decision making in robotic endometriosis surgery	Denis Tsepov, London, UK
1.00pm	DISCUSSION	
1.20pm	LUNCH AND VISITING INDUSTRY	
SESSION 4: INDUSTRY SPONSORED SESSION (2.00pm-2.15pm) Chair: Denis Tsepov, UK		
2.00pm	Intuitive Surgical speaker	Amer Raza, London, UK
SESSION 4A: BEST SELECTED ABSTRACTS (2.15pm-2.30pm) Chair: Marielle Nobbenhuis		
2.15pm	Robotic sentinel lymph node detection in gynaecological cancers in a tertiary centre	Jessica HC Lim, Ahmad Sayasneh, Gautam Mehra London, UK
2.22pm	Robotic Gynaecological surgery: patient’s perspective	Ghadah Ahsan, Stevenage, UK

SESSION 5: GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY (2.30pm-3.50pm)

Chairs: Thomas Ind, Anil Taylor

2.30pm	Boundaries for robotic surgery in gynae-oncology: Are there any?	Thomas Hebert, Tours, France
2.50pm	Role of robotic PA nodes: When and how?	Henrik Falconer, Stockholm, Sweden
3.10pm	Same day discharge after robotic hysterectomy	Adeola Olaitan, London, UK
3.30pm	The introduction of robotic surgery in Glasgow / Scotland	Rhona Lindsay, Glasgow, UK
3.50pm	COFFEE AND VISITING INDUSTRY	

PARALLEL SESSION 6: NURSES AND BED SIDE ASSISTANTS IN ROBOTIC SURGERY (2.30pm-4.00pm)

Chairs: Claudia So, Marie Taniacao

2.30pm	How to run "Formula One" robotic theatre	Claudia So, London
2.45pm	Education pathways for Robotic bed site assistants – where are we now?	Marie Taniacao, London
3.00pm	BSA training in Norway	Maaria Miros-Salonen, Oslo
3.20pm	Starting robotic surgery service: Training programme for scrub staff from the scratch	Carmine Civile, Manchester, UK
3.40pm	The Role of the First Assistant in Robotic Surgery	Liza Mills, London UK
4.00pm	DISCUSSION	

SESSION 7: VIDEO SESSION AND FREE COMMUNICATION (4.10pm-5.30pm)

Chairs: Shaheen Khazali, Gaby Moawad, Denis Tsepov, Jeffrey Ahmed

4.10pm	Robot assisted hysterectomy – steps to avoid unrecognised injury	Nadine Di Donato, Janet Berry, Matthew Dipper, Luiza Placintescu and Arohan Sapkota, Portsmouth, UK
4.17pm	Robotic pectineal suspension to treat recurrent vault prolapse	Rupa Nair, London, UK
4.24pm	Emergency robotic surgery for pelvic sepsis	Richard Flint, Olivia Raglan, Manou Kaur, Amer Raza, Jeffrey Ahmed. London, UK
4.31pm	Robotic excision of severe endometriosis- bowel shaving and excision of vaginal nodule	Arohan Sapkota, Portsmouth UK
4.38pm	Robotic excision of bladder and ureteric endometriosis	Olivia Raglan, Richard Flint, Manou Manpreet Kaur, Jeffrey Ahmed, Amer Raza, London, UK
4.45pm	Robotic radical upper colpectomy	Aslam Shiraz, Barton D, Nobbenhuis M, London, UK
4.52pm	Implementation of robotic unilateral pectineal suspension for the correction of apical prolapse in a high volume laparoscopy center	Charlotte Maene, Stephen Bafort, Ostende, Belgium
4.59pm	Newsflash: Robotic vessel sealer rescues common iliac artery (CIA) from lymph node attack!	Mr Krish Harikrishnan, Nottingham, UK
5.06pm	Robotic infrarenal para-aortic nodal dissection for endometrial cancer recurrence	Gabriella Yongue, London, UK
5.13pm	Keeping an eye on the hypogastric nerve: robot excision of endometriosis including appendectomy	Nadine Di Donato, Janet Berry, Matthew Dipper, Luiza Placintescu and Arohan Sapkota, Portsmouth, UK
5.20pm	The combined robotic-assisted laparoscopic and thoracic approach in the management of diaphragmatic, pleural and pericardial endometriosis	Shaheen Khazali, Averyl Bachi, Andrea Bille London, UK

5.30pm - DAY CLOSURE**5.30pm - AGM BIARGS****7.30pm - BIARGS EVENT PARTY**

DAY 2 - 25th November 2023

8.00am	Registration	
SESSION 8: SURGICAL VIDEO TALK SHOW (9.00am-11.00am)		
Each speaker presents 2 x 10minute surgical video case presentations of robotic surgical cases		
Moderators: Zeiad El Gizawy, Shaheen Khazali, Denis Tsepov, Manou Kaur		
8.30am	Robotic surgery for deep endometriosis: standardization of approach to achieve excellent outcomes	Gaby Moawad, Washington DC, USA
9.00am	Robotic excision of peritoneal endometriosis, Robotic rectal shaving for deep endometriosis	Denis Tsepov, London, UK
9.20am	Robotic ureteric reimplantation, Robotic segmental bowel resection	Shaheen Khazali, London, UK
9.40am	Robotic hysterectomy for big patient, Robotic hysterectomy for big uterus	Tony Chalhoub, Newcastle, UK
10.00am	Robotic surgery in gynae cancer: are there boundaries?	Marielle Nobbenhuis, BIARCS President
10.20am	Robotic surgery with Versius platform	Helen Nicks, Guildford, UK
10.40am	Featured lecture: robotic assisted pelvic floor repair consensus, results and thoughts	Tomaso Simoncini, Pisa, Italy
11.00am	DISCUSSION	
SESSION 9: UPDATES IN ROBOTIC GYNAE-ONCOLOGY (11.30am-1.00pm)		
Chairs: Simon Butler Manuel, Marielle Nobbenhuis, Thomas Ind		
11.30am	The current state of lymph node mapping in patients with endometrial/cervical cancers: Anatomy and methodology (online presentation)	Jan Persson, Lund, Sweden (online)
11.50am	Train the trainers in robotics education	Thomas Ind, London, UK Ariane Sickinghe, Utrecht, Netherlands
12.10pm	Robotics in gynae cancer: The Guildford way	Hersha Patel, Guildford, UK
12.30pm	Use of advanced energy for malignant hysterectomies	Philippe Van Trappen, Brugge, Belgium
12.50pm	Machine learning in the optimisation of robotic surgery in gynaecological oncology	Mohammed Otify, Liverpool, UK
1.10pm	Introducing a novice surgeon to an experienced robotic gynaecological oncology team: an observational cohort study on the impact on outcomes of cervical cancer surgery (accepted oral presentation)	Ilse G.T. Baeten, Utrecht, Netherlands
1.20pm	LUNCH AND VISITING INDUSTRY	
SESSION 10: INDUSTRY SPONSORED SESSION		
Chairs: To be confirmed		
2.00pm	Panel discussion with presentations from Cardiff Hospital, Bangor Hospital and Milton Keynes Hospital	Ms Aarti Sharma, Mr Richard Peevor from Bangor, and Ms Nidhi Singh from Milton Keynes
2.20pm	Session details to be confirmed	

SESSION 11: EDUCATION AND EFFICIENCY IN ROBOTIC SURGERY (2.30PM-3.45PM)		
Chairs: Nahid Gul, Uzma Mahmood, Tom Coia, Dina El Hamamsy		
2.30pm	RCOG BIARGS SITM: Robotic-assisted gynaecological surgery and getting Grandfather accreditation	Nahid Gul, BIARGS President-Elect, Manchester, UK
2.50pm	Setting up robotic research	Christina Uwins, Guildford, UK
3.05pm	Supporting tools to optimize robotic surgery	Christoph Hemke, Castrop-Rauxel, Germany
3.25pm	CMR robotic experience in a multidisciplinary centre	Nidhi Singh, Kailash Nakade, Milton Keynes, UK
3.45pm-4.10pm	COFFEE AND VISITING INDUSTRY	
SESSION 10: COMPLEX BENIGN GYNAECOLOGY (4.10pm-5.30pm)		
Chairs: Denis Tsepov, Gaby Moawad		
4.10pm	Robotic reconstructive surgery for bladder and ureteric endometriosis	Daniel Wilby, Portsmouth, UK
4.30pm	Robotic sacro-colpopexy: what is best for the patient?	Alexander Popov, Moscow, Russia (online)
4.50pm	Diaphragmatic endometriosis: The role of the thoracic surgeon	Tom Routledge, London, UK
5.10pm	High-efficiency da-Vinici RAS: Not just a surgical tool	Jeffrey Ahmed, London, UK
5.30pm	DISCUSSION AND CLOSING REMARKS BIARGS 2024 PRESENTATION	

Helpful information for delegates

Accommodation

For local hotels please visit

www.bookings.com

To keep to date with the latest information regarding the event please visit the BIARGS website

www.biargs.org.uk

If you have any questions please contact us at

biargslondon2023@gmail.com

SPEAKERS



Marielle Nobbenhuis
Gynaecological Oncology
Surgeon, BIARGS President

Marielle Nobbenhuis is a gynaecological oncology surgeon and the clinical business lead for urology/GI/gynaecology at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London. She trained as an obstetrician and gynaecologist in the Netherlands and completed the sub-speciality gynaecological oncology fellowship at The Royal Marsden in 2009.

Ms Nobbenhuis has a special interest in robotic surgery, sentinel nodes and radical surgery for ovarian cancer and is a certified robotic surgeon and proctor. She is currently the president of the British and Irish Association of Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons and council member of the Society of European Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons.

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Miss Nahid Gul
BIARGS President-Elect,
Consultant Gynaecological Pelvic
Robotic and Laparoscopic Surgeon

Ms Nahid Gul trained in obstetrics and gynaecology /gynae-oncology and specialises in gynaecological cancer, complex gynaecological surgery, advanced deep endometriosis. She is an accredited neuropelvicologist and teaches other colleagues laparoscopic surgery and implementing robotic assisted surgery in the UK and abroad. Ms Gul is the new President of BIARGS and chair of the BIARGS training portfolio, having developed the BIARGS/RCOG robotic curriculum for gynaecological robotic training in the UK.

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Mr Denis Tsepov
Consultant Gynaecologist and
Laparoscopic Surgeon

Mr Tsepov is an internationally recognised BSGE-accredited endometriosis specialist. He performs minimal access robotic surgery using the da Vinci Xi robot at The Princess Grace Hospital. He established and continues to lead the multidisciplinary London Endometriosis & Advance Pelvic Surgery (LEAPS) at The Princess Grace Hospital and The Harley Street Clinic.

Mr Tsepov has been a member of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) since 2008 and has studied advanced endoscopic surgical techniques for excisional treatment of severe endometriosis in leading European endometriosis centres in France, Italy and Russia. Mr Tsepov teaches robotic surgery techniques, supporting robotic surgical centres in the UK and abroad.

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Ms Manou Kaur
Consultant Gynaecological
Surgeon

Ms Manou Manpreet Kaur specialises in the treatment of endometriosis, fibroids and other complex benign conditions and uses robotic techniques to improve surgical outcomes of patients with challenging pelvic conditions.

Collaborating with renowned experts in the field, she is highly skilled in laparoscopic and robotic techniques, which she has honed during her tenure as a substantive consultant at Liverpool Women's Hospital and Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

Ms Kaur is a member of the council for BIARGS and YEARS and is passionate about enhancing robotic and surgical training, regularly serving as faculty at various training courses.

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Dr Corné Hurter

Director of Medical Services,
HCA UK

Dr Corné Hurter is the director of medical services for HCA UK, and is responsible for the robotics service line. Dr Hurter completed her undergraduate degree in medicine at the University of Cape Town before training in paediatrics in the UK.

After working in South Africa as an independent practitioner, she returned to the UK as a resident doctor at The Harley Street Clinic. She then completed an HCA-sponsored master's degree in management and leadership, and is now undertaking a further master's degree in healthcare design.

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Mr Nick Elkington

Consultant Gynaecologist

Mr Nick Elkington is a kind, sympathetic and understanding gynaecological surgeon. He has always adopted the most up-to-date technologies, such as minimal access surgery and robotic surgery.

As a result of his dedication to providing the most modern care, Mr Elkington's patients reap the benefits of his superior treatments with less post-operative pain, lower risk of complications and a faster recovery.

Mr Elkington's patients describe him as approachable, kind, a great listener and a very skilled surgeon. He is well aware that gynaecological problems are extremely personal and can be embarrassing, but he is a master of making his patients feel comfortable and gaining their trust.

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Ms Nadine Di Donato

Consultant Gynaecologist,
Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgeon

Ms Nadine Di Donato is a consultant gynaecologist and a laparoscopic and robotic surgeon. She is also the clinical lead for the endometriosis centre in Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth.

Ms Di Donato is currently a senior council member of the British Society Gynaecology Endoscopy and is the chair of the hysteroscopy portfolio. She also works as part of the robotic multidisciplinary team for complex endometriosis surgery at The Princess Grace Hospital.

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Dr Jean-Philippe Estrade

Consultant Gynecological Surgeon

Dr Jean-Philippe Estrade is a gynecological surgeon specialising in robotic surgery for endometriosis in Aix-En-Provence. He is also the president of the French Society of Gynecological and Pelvic Surgery, playing a vital role in promoting surgical excellence and disseminating knowledge and advancements in gynecological surgery.

Dr Estrade is an accomplished speaker and trainer and is a member of the French Surgery Academy, regularly sharing his expertise at national and international conferences. His commitment to clinical excellence and dedication to advancing healthcare for women make him a respected and admired professional in his field.

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Miss Sujata Gupta
Clinical Head of Gynaecology

Miss Sujata Gupta is the Clinical Head for the division of Gynaecology, St Mary's Hospital MCS, Manchester Foundation trust senior council member, British Society of Gynaecology Endoscopy Senior council member and a member of BIARGS (British and Irish association of Robotic gynecological surgeons).

Miss Gupta is an expert in minimal access surgery including robotics for complex benign gynaecology, including endometriosis. She is an accredited menopause expert and a specialist in paediatric and adolescent gynaecology.

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Mr Tony Chalhoub
Consultant Gynaecologist

Mr Chalhoub has been a consultant gynaecologist at the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust since 2012. During his tenure, he led the department and developed the RVI into an accredited endometriosis centre, a national and international training epicentre for robotic and advanced minimal access surgery. He is the director of the Northern Centre for gynaecological surgery, leading for complex gynaecological surgeries and management of fibroids in the Northern region. He is the clinical lead for the Surgical Skills Training Programme ST1-ST7 in the Northern Deanery (simulation/cadaveric and robotic). He has developed many courses and contributed widely as a recognised expert in others including the BSGE/ST5+ advanced laparoscopic hysterectomy programme.

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Mr Daniel Wilby
Consultant Urological and
Robotic Surgeon

Mr Dan Wilby is a consultant urological and robotic surgeon working with the London Endometriosis and Advanced Pelvic Surgery (LEAPS) team. He completed his higher surgical training in the Wessex region (UK) and undertook a fellowship in reconstructive urology at University College London Hospital.

In addition to endometriosis, Mr Wilby specialised in the management of pelvic and renal cancer and was the first surgeon to perform a robotic radical cystoprostatectomy on the South Coast in Portsmouth in 2015. He is now a proctor for Intuitive Surgical Ltd..

Twitter/X: [@dpwilby](https://twitter.com/dpwilby)



Dr Shaheen Khazali
Consultant Gynaecologist and
Laparoscopic Surgeon

Dr Shaheen Khazali is a consultant gynaecologist and laparoscopic surgeon. His practice focuses predominantly on advanced endometriosis surgery. He runs a high-volume endometriosis referral centre in London and his main interests are gastrointestinal and urinary tract endometriosis excision and neuropelveology.

Dr Khazali serves as the honorary secretary of International Society of Neuropelveology, is an executive board member of European Endometriosis League and is a member of international advisory board of European Society of Gynecological Endoscopy. His latest ventures include the monthly Lister Endometriosis Journal Club, and a yearly 6-day immersive "Endometriosis Bootcamp", held in the French Alps.

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Mr Valerio Celentano
Consultant Colorectal Surgeon

Mr Valerio Celentano is a consultant colorectal surgeon at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, where he is the lead for the inflammatory bowel disease and ileoanal pouch surgery centre. He has a special interest in surgical treatment and multidisciplinary treatment of deep infiltrating endometriosis.

Mr Celentano studied medicine and completed his general surgery training in Naples, Italy. Prior to becoming a consultant surgeon, he undertook colorectal surgery fellowships in nationally recognised Lapco training units in the UK, gaining vast experience in minimally invasive surgery. He also trained in the United States and France.

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Mr Zeiad El-Gizawy
Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist

Mr Zeiad El-Gizawy is a consultant gynaecologist at University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, and practices privately at Nuffield Health and Rowley Hall Hospital. He has a special interest in managing pelvic pain and endometriosis and is trained in minimally invasive surgical techniques.

Mr El-Gizawy obtained a degree in medicine and surgery before completing his training in the West Midlands Deanery. He received a postgraduate diploma in advanced gynaecological endoscopy from Surrey University and trained further in robotic surgery in Strasbourg and Paris. He has a diploma in medical education from Keele University, is a member of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and is affiliated with the British Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy.

Website: staffordshiregynaecology.com



Mr Rajesh Nair
Consultant Urological Surgeon

Mr Rajesh Nair is a consultant urological surgeon at Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital. He has a sub-specialist interest in open, laparoscopic and robot-assisted surgery with a particular focus on bladder, kidney, prostate and testicular cancer issues as well as reconstructive urological surgery.

Mr Nair completed fellowship training in robotics, uro-oncology and reconstructive urology at St. George's Hospital and Guy's Hospital in London and the Royal Melbourne Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Australia.

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Mr Danilo Miskovic
Consultant Colorectal Surgeon

Mr Danilo Miskovic is a consultant colorectal surgeon, currently practicing at St Mark's Hospital. He has a specialist interest in minimally-invasive surgery, particularly robotic surgery for cancer and other diseases of the bowel, including inflammatory bowel disease and diverticulitis.

Mr Miskovic trained in Switzerland and the UK, and has received specialist training in some of the best colorectal units in the country. He is active in the field of research and is a trainer for minimally-invasive and robotic surgery, nationally and internationally. He is also part of the colorectal and robotic surgery centre, based at The Wellington Hospital and Platinum Medical Centre.

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Mr Amer Raza

Lead Endometriosis and
Robotic surgeon

Mr Amer Raza is a consultant gynaecologist and robotic surgeon and leads two major endometriosis centres at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital and Cromwell Hospital. He started practising robotic surgery in 2021 and has so far completed over 300 cases.

His major laparoscopy training centre, Chelsea Centre for Minimally Invasive Gynaecology, has trained doctors nationally and internationally for over 10 years. Mr Raza has been published in peer-reviewed journals and continues to undertake research with a primary focus on non-invasive diagnostic methods. He also supports many major endometriosis research projects and works with a number of national endometriosis charities.

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Mr Thomas Ind

Consultant Gynaecological Surgeon

Mr Thomas Ind is a consultant gynaecological surgeon at the Royal Marsden and St George's Hospital, specialising in complex surgeries. He is also the head of department of gynaecological oncology and is the medical director of private care at the Royal Marsden.

Mr Ind is one of the country's most experienced laparoscopic surgeons and was one of the surgeons who performed the first robotic gynaecological procedure in the UK. He is well published in the field and is the past president of the Society of European Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons.

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Mr Anil Tailor

Consultant Gynae-Oncologist

Mr Anil Tailor is a consultant gynae-oncologist working in the training epicentre in Guildford, Surrey. He has been using the da Vinci platform since 2009. He is part of a team in Guildford who have accumulated the largest robotic gynaecological surgery experience in the UK having recently celebrated their 2000th case.

He also developed an extensive database for his gynaecology department in 2005 which has allowed his team to collect very comprehensive outcomes data on survival and morbidity. This has allowed them to publish their experience of robotic surgery in >1000 uterine cancers, ovarian cancer cytoreduction, minimal invasive surgery for early cervical cancer and pelvic exenterative surgery.

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Mr Thomas Hebert

Consultant Gynaecologic and
Gynaecological Oncology Surgeon

Mr Thomas Hebert is a consultant gynaecologic and gynaecological oncology surgeon at Tours University Hospital, France. He has a specific focus on endometriosis surgery, pelvic oncology and enhanced post-surgery recovery.

He is an ERAS/Encare-certified training team member and is the co-founder of EndoCentre, an endometriosis care network based in France. Mr Hebert is also the head of the robotic program in gynaecology at Tours University Hospital. He is the secretary treasurer of the Society of European Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons, a board member of the SCGP and a member of the European Society of Gynecological Endoscopy SIG.

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Professor Henrik Falconer
Head of Gynaecologic Oncology

Professor Henrik Falconer is the head of gynaecologic oncology at Karolinska University Hospital, Sweden. His research is currently focused on cancer epidemiology and clinical trials in robotic surgery.

Professor Falconer is the principal investigator for the international RACC-trial (Robot-assisted Approach to Cervical Cancer) and has been working with many aspects of robotic surgery for over 10 years, with a special interest in education. He is the chairman of the Swedish guidelines committee for cervical cancer and the president elect of the Society of European Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons.

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Miss Adeola Olaitan
Consultant Gynaecologist and
Gynaecological Oncologist

Miss Adeola Olaitan is a gynaecological oncologist with a clinical practice at The Wellington Hospital. She obtained her medical degree from the University College Hospital London with a merit in surgery. She then underwent sub-specialty training in gynaecological oncology at St Michael's Hospital, Bristol and is an accredited minimally-invasive surgeon offering both robotic and laparoscopic surgery. She is also accredited in colposcopy.

Miss Olaitan has an active academic interest and is the author of over 100 publications and book chapters. She co-published a book on treatment-related morbidity in gynaecological cancer and has lectured nationally and internationally.

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Dr Rhona Lindsay
Consultant Gynaecological
Oncologist

Dr Lindsay is the Clinical Lead for gynaecological cancer in the West of Scotland. The West of Scotland manages approximately 900 new gynaecological cancers per year

Dr Rhona Lindsay has been a consultant gynaecological oncologist for almost 10 years in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. As an experienced open and laparoscopic surgeon, she began robotic surgical training in June 2021 and completed 100 cases within 2 years.

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Miss Claudia So
Divisional Head of Robotic
Operations HCA UK

Miss Claudia So completed her Surgical Care Practice MSc at Edge Hill University in 2018. She is the first privately funded robotic SCP in the country thanks to the support from HCA UK.

Miss So began working at The Princess Grace Hospital in 2014, initially starting as a theatre nurse before going on to specialising in robotic surgery. She worked as the hospital's Robotics Coordinator and robotics bedside assistant until her recent appointment as the Divisional Head of Robotic Operations of HCA UK.

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Marie Taniacao
Surgical Care Practitioner

Maria Taniacao has worked as a nurse for 27 years in multiple specialties including CCU, theatres and recovery. Working in these roles Maria has a strong foundation in providing holistic surgical care to patients. Maria's interest in surgical care was consolidated by undertaking a BSc in Perioperative Care and a master's degree in Surgical Care Practice. This together with surgical mentoring has enabled her to become a Surgical Care Practitioner. In this role she performed invasive surgical interventions for open and robotic surgery, providing pre and postoperative care.

As the BIARGS nursing representative Maria actively encourage nurses to pursue such opportunities.

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Carmine Civilli
Surgical First Assistant,
Robotic Surgery

Carmine Civilli started his healthcare journey aged 14 in a hometown voluntary organisation. This led him to a nursing degree and subsequent passion for surgery. Carmine Civile advanced from a scrub nurse to surgical assistant, then managing surgical theatres. Introduced to Doctors Without Borders, he undertook a challenging mission in war-torn countries in Africa. Later, intrigued by robotic surgery's advancements, he moved to the UK, becoming a Surgical First Assistant and pursuing a master's degree in Surgical Care. Today he specialises in robotic assisted surgery across gynaecology, urology and colorectal, training surgeons and healthcare professionals.

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Maaria Miiros-Salonen
Registered Surgical and
Anaesthetic Nurse

Maaria Miiros-Salonen is a registered surgical and anaesthetic nurse with a Master's in Social Sciences from the University of Helsinki and an MSc in Social Policy and Planning from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

She has 15 years experience in robotic surgery, with the last 5 as a G-grade operating theatre nurse where she has been responsible for urology and robotic surgery.

Maaria Miiros Salonen has also worked as an internal robotic surgery consultant at Oslo University Hospital and has in the last year started robotic surgery with gynaecologists.

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Liza Mills
Robotic Surgical
Care Practitioner

Liza Mills is a Surgical Care Practitioner at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital. Her specialism is robotic thoracic surgery.

She qualified as a registered nurse in 2014. She completed an MSc in Surgical Care Practice in 2020. She has first assisted for 3,000 cases and is a passionate trainer and educator both in the UK and in Europe.

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Dr Gaby Moawad

Professor of Obstetrics
and Gynecology and
Gynaecological Surgeon

Dr Gaby Moawad is a gynaecological surgeon specialising in minimally-invasive procedures and laparoscopic and robotic techniques. He is the founder of The Center for Endometriosis and Advanced Pelvic Surgery in Washington DC.

He is also the Director of Robotic Gynecologic Surgery, Fellowship Co-Director and an Associate Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology at The George Washington University. He holds the award for excellence in endoscopic procedures from the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists (AAGL) and is the chair of research committee and robotic committee, and is a board member for the foundation. Dr Moawad has more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and is a recognised national and international speaker.

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Miss Helen Nicks

Consultant Gynaecologist

Miss Helen Nicks is a consultant gynaecologist with over 20 years of experience in the field. She currently has an NHS practice at Surrey and Sussex NHS Trust.

Her special interests include minimal access surgery, both laparoscopic and hysteroscopic, pelvic pain and endometriosis. She trained in gynaecological ultrasound at UCLH and has a postgraduate diploma in minimal access surgery from the University of Surrey. Miss Nicks is one of the first gynaecological surgeons in the UK to be trained on the Versius CMR robot.

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Mr Simon Butler-Manuel

Consultant Gynaecological
Oncology Surgeon

Mr Simon Butler-Manuel is a consultant gynaecologist specialising in surgery for gynaecological cancer and complex benign disease. He is experienced in laparoscopic surgery and is renowned in the UK and internationally in the field of minimal access gynaecological surgery and oncology.

Mr Butler-Manuel completed his post-graduate training at St. Thomas's, Queen Charlotte's and St. George's in London and Surrey before beginning his MD in research on autonomic nerve injury following radical pelvic surgery, and then completing a Macmillan oncology fellowship in Wessex. He was a founding member of BIARGS and was a committee member from 2010 to 2018.

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Professor Jan Persson

Senior Consultant Division
of Gynaecological and
Robotic Surgery

Professor Jan Persson is a member of the medical faculty of Lund University, Sweden. The majority of his research and clinical interest lies in oncologic and advanced benign applications in minimally-invasive surgery and robot-assisted surgery.

He has 72 peer reviewed publications in addition to book chapters and invited reviews. He is supervisor to seven PhD students and since 2008 has organised 61 international masterclasses in robot-assisted advanced surgery.

His main research interest during has been development of a structured anatomically based sentinel node algorithm for endometrial and cervical cancers and further studies in lymphatic anatomy of the pelvis as well as fertility sparing surgery in cervical cancer and later years research on premature birth and related prevention measures.

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Professor Tommaso Simoncini

Professor of Obstetrics and
Gynaecology

Professor Tommaso Simoncini is Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine of the University of Pisa and Head of the OB/GYN Division. Professor Simoncini has published over 320 original papers on high-impact scientific Journal, with a global IF of over 1,000 and an H index of 51. His publications have been cited more than 12.000 times.

Professor Simoncini is an experienced surgeon, having performed over 10,000 procedures including open, vagina, laparoscopic and robotic surgery. TS has performed over 1,000 robotic procedures including benign gynecology, endometriosis, gynecologic oncology, and pelvic floor reconstructive surgery and over 150 vNOTES procedures.

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Mr Mohamed Otify

Consultant Gynaecological
Oncology Surgeon

Mr Mohamed Otify is a consultant gynaecological oncology surgeon at Liverpool Women's Hospital and honorary clinical lecturer at the University of Liverpool. After rigorous training in obstetrics and gynaecology in London and Edinburgh, he refined his skills at St. James's Institute of Oncology in Leeds, achieving subspecialty accreditation.

Beyond clinical work, he plays a pivotal educational role as a robotic surgery proctor for Intuitive, actively mentoring aspiring surgeons. With a commitment to innovation and excellence, Mr Otify has earned a reputation as a leading robotic surgeon, helping advance gynaecological oncology care in the North West of England.

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Mr Philippe Van Trappen

Consultant Gynaecological
Cancer Surgeon

Mr Philippe Van Trappen is a consultant gynaecological cancer surgeon, past council member and member of the academic committee of Society of European Robotic Gynaecological Surgery. He is also the head of department of gynaecology/oncology at AZ Sint-Jan Hospital, Bruges.

With more than 12 years of robotic surgery experience in both benign and oncological gynaecology, Mr Van Trappen has spoken at several international robotic conferences and has co-authored a series of papers on both benign and oncological gynaecology in robotic surgery.

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Miss Hersha Patel

Consultant Gynaecological
Oncology Surgeon

Miss Hersha Patel is a consultant gynaecological oncology surgeon at the Royal Surrey Hospital in Guildford, where she completed her sub-speciality fellowship in gynaecological oncology and in robotic surgery.

With her team, Miss Patel has published data on the largest UK series on robotic radical hysterectomies for the treatment of early stage cervical cancer and has set up the day case robotic hysterectomy protocol for gynaecological oncology patients. She is actively involved in research and has a number of peer-reviewed publications.

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Ms Aarti Sharma

Consultant Gynaecological
Oncologist

Ms Aarti Sharma is a consultant Gynaecological Oncologist based at University Hospital of Wales. She completed her subspecialty training from Nottingham following a PhD related to ovarian cancer screening in UCL. Her expertise is in surgical treatment of gynaecological malignancies

She is the lead for robotic surgery in gynaecology oncology at UHW and also the chair for the training and education subgroup on the All-Wales National Robotic programme.

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Dr Uzma Mahmood

Consultant Gynaecologist

Dr Uzma Mahmood is a graduate of Punjab University, Pakistan. She received her MD from the University College Cork, following studies on fetal microchimerism and maternal wound healing.

She completed specialist training in Ireland and has significant experience managing all aspects of pregnancy. She took up a post as consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist at UL Hospitals Group in 2018 where she is the clinical director for the peri-operative directorate and lead in robotic gynaecological surgery.

She has many published peer-reviewed papers and conference proceedings, with her research interests including polycystic ovarian syndrome, endometriosis, and minimally invasive and robotic gynaecological surgery.

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Mr Richard Peevor

Consultant Gynaecological
Oncologist

Mr Richard Peevor is a Consultant Gynaecological Oncologist, clinical lead for colposcopy and gynaecological oncology MDTs and is a member of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Bangor, North Wales, UK. Mr Peevor is starting his second year of robotics surgical practice having trained in the summer of 2022.

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Ms Nidhi Singh

Consultant Gynaecologist

Ms Nidhi Singh is a consultant gynaecologist working at Milton Keynes University Hospital. She trained in obstetrics and gynaecology at Indira Gandhi Medical College in India before completing postgraduate training in advanced gynaecological endoscopy at the University of Surrey.

Ms Singh has a vast portfolio of laparoscopic surgery and has completed almost 150 robotic procedures since August 2022. She is the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists tutor for Milton Keynes Hospital and is the clinical lead for outpatient hysteroscopy services and the cervical screening provider lead. She is also a professional clinical advisor in colposcopy to the East of England Screening and Quality Assurance Service.

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Mr Tom Coia
Senior Registrar

Mr Tom Coia is a senior registrar at the Royal Stoke Hospital. He is currently completing the advanced laparoscopy ATSM and has a very keen interest in robotic surgery. Mr Coia is a trainee representative for British and Irish Association of Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons.

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Miss Christina Uwins
Sub-Speciality Fellow in
Gynaecological Oncology, Senior
Clinical Research Fellow in Robotic
Gynaecological Oncology

Miss Christina Uwins is dedicated to exploring the world of robotic surgery in Gynaecological Oncology. This is the focus of her MD research. Miss Uwins leads the MIRRORS study, under the supervision of Mr Butler-Manuel and is committed to improving the quality of life of women with advanced ovarian cancer. Miss Uwins is a council member BIARGS and YEARS (part of SERGS). Christina is a BGCS Webinar Programme Convener, mentor for NIHR ARC KSS and the RCOG Sub-speciality Training Trainees' Representative. Miss Uwins has secured funding including the NIHR CRN KSS Greenshoots fellowship, GRACE charity grant, and Intuitive Foundation Grant.

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Dr Dina El-Hamamsy
Consultant Gynaecologist

Dr Dina El-Hamamsy is a consultant urogynaecologist with keen interest in minimally invasive and endoscopic surgery. She has completed her PhD in robotic surgery, studying the uptake and outcomes of robotic gynaecological surgery in England since its FDA approval to date and staff experiences in robotic theatres.

Dr El-Hamamsy has served two terms as the national representative for British and Irish Association of Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons (BIARGS) trainees and is currently serving as the BIARGS treasurer. She is also a council member of the Young European Advocates of Robotic Surgery (YEARS) section of the Society of European Robotic Gynaecological Surgeons (SERGS) and the lead for its new mentorship programme.

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Dr Christoph Hemcke
Consultant Gynaecological
Surgeon

Dr Hemcke is the head of the obstetrics and gynaecology department at St. Josefs Hospital, Dortmund and St. Rochus Hospital, Castrop-Rauxel, Germany, and has been a da Vinci® certified surgeon since 2017.

Dr Christoph Hemcke's main focus is on benign gynaecology including endometriosis and urogynaecology with mesh support. Over the last four years, Dr Hemcke has completed over 300 da Vinci® robotic procedures.

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Professor Alexander Popov

Head of Gynaecology and
Oncology Surgery

Professor Popov Alexander is Head of the Department of Operative Gynaecology at the Moscow Regional Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. A robotic surgeon since 2012, he specialises in surgical treatment of deep infiltrative endometriosis with colorectal resection. He was the founder of the first endometriosis centre in Russia. He is a teacher of robotic vaginal and laparoscopic surgery and speaks at international congresses.

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Mr Jeffrey Ahmed

Consultant Gynaecologist
Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeon

Mr Jeffrey Ahmed is consultant gynaecologist and service director at Chelsea & Westminster Hospital London. His robotic practice encompasses complex benign surgery and endometriosis. His work on high efficiency robotic surgical programmes has been featured by the Prime Minister and Health Secretary.

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Mr Tom Routledge

Consultant Cardiothoracic
Surgeon

Mr Tom Routledge has been a consultant in thoracic surgery at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals since 2007, where he is now chief of thoracic surgery. He is currently the senior thoracic surgeon at London Bridge Hospital and helps lead the lung cancer multidisciplinary team. He attended Cambridge and then Oxford University, where he won scholarships in medical science. His surgical training took place in Cambridge, London and New York.

Working at the forefront of minimally-invasive robotic surgery, Mr Routledge is as an advisor and technology developer with Intuitive Surgical and the da Vinci robotic system. The techniques he has developed have widened the applicability of the technology so that more patients may benefit.

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BIARGS ROBOTICS COURSE

Thursday 23rd November 2023 in Oxford

A practical course with lectures and hands-on robotic skills on da Vinci® Xi surgical robot.

Course is limited to 12 delegates.

Course Director: Mr. Denis Tsepov, MRCOG, Consultant Gynaecologist

The Princess Grace Hospital, HCA Healthcare UK, Intuitive Labs,
The Schrodinger Building, Oxford Science Park, Heatley Road, Oxford OX4 4GE

8.00am	Registration	
8.30am	Robotics in complex benign gynaecology / endometriosis – what is the current evidence?	Mr Denis Tsepov, Consultant Gynaecologist, Princess Grace Hospital, London
9.00am	Urinary tract endometriosis and robotic ureteric re-implantation	Mr Dan Wilby, Consultant Urologist, Princess Grace Hospital, London
9.30am	MRI scan: The gold standard in pre-operative diagnosis and mapping of deep infiltrating endometriosis	Dr Priya Narayanan, Consultant Radiologist
10.00am	Robotic bowel resection for endometriosis: New trends and concepts	Mr Denis Tsepov, Consultant Gynaecologist, Princess Grace Hospital, London
10.30am	Robotic surgery safety and complication prevention	Ms. Marielle Nobbenhius, Consultant Gynae Oncologist, Royal Marsden Hospital, London
11.00am	How to set up an excellent robotic operating theatre	Claudia So, Robotic Theatre Coordinator
11.30am	COFFEE BREAK	
12.00pm	Robotic-assisted myomectomy and hysterectomy	Tony Chalhoub, Consultant Gynaecologist and robotic surgeon, Newcastle Upon Tyne
12.30pm	Robotic training curriculum	Nahid Gul, Consultant Gynaecologist
1.00pm	Pelvic nerves and deeper pelvic structures	Mr. Shaheen Khazali, Consultant Gynaecologist and Robotic Surgeon, Lister Hospital, London
1.30pm	LUNCH BREAK	
2.15pm	Overview of da Vinci® Xi robotic console	Intuitive surgical team and faculty members
3.00pm	Docking and port placement	Intuitive surgical team and faculty members
3.30pm	COFFEE BREAK	
4.00pm	Using the robot: Surgical lab exercises on da Vinci® Xi robotic console	Tony Chalhoub, Consultant Gynaecologist and robotic surgeon, Newcastle Upon Tyne
5.00pm	CLOSING REMARKS - FACULTY MEMBERS	

BIARGS 2023 FEES

EARLY BIRD RATES

Available until 23rd September

BIARGS member

£130.00 +£19.90 Eventbrite booking fee

Non-member

£230.00 +£19.90 Eventbrite booking fee

Trainee and nurses (member)

£30.00 +£3.22 Eventbrite booking fee

Trainee and nurses (non-member)

£70.00 +£6.55 Eventbrite booking fee

STANDARD RATES

From 24th September

BIARGS member

£160.00 +£14.05 Eventbrite booking fee

Non-member

£260.00 +£22.39 Eventbrite booking fee

Trainees and nurses (member)

£60.00 +£5.71 Eventbrite booking fee

Trainee and nurses (non-member)

£100.00 +£9.05 Eventbrite booking fee

NETWORKING EVENING

Friday 24th November 2023

The King's Fund, 11 Cavendish Square W1G 0AN
Drinks, food and live music from 7.30pm

Non-member tickets: **£60.00** + Eventbrite booking fee

Partner tickets: **£80.00** + Eventbrite booking fee

REGISTRATION AND ENQUIRIES

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Our group

The Harley Street Clinic
The Lister Hospital
London Bridge Hospital
The Portland Hospital
The Princess Grace Hospital
The Wellington Hospital
The Wilmslow Hospital
Private Care at Guy's
HCA UK at University College Hospital
The Christie Private Care
The Harborne Hospital
HCA UK Laboratories
HCA UK Primary Care
Sarah Cannon Research Institute

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