

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**MONDAY 13 MAY 2019**

## **Cutting edge surgical robots land in Canberra for local-first operation**

National Capital Private Hospital (Healthscope) changed the surgical landscape in Canberra on Saturday morning 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 with the first local commercial use of the latest in surgical robotics – the ROSA robotic system.

Initially developed for brain surgery in France, the ROSA robot has been used globally and arrived in Canberra as part of a multi-robot acquisition by National Capital Private Hospital (NCPH).

National Capital Private Hospital (NCPH) General Manager, Elizabeth Porritt, said “The acquisition of the ROSA system, along with a da Vinci robot and the Mako systems, is a continuation of our multi-million-dollar investment and will contribute to make the hospital a robotic centre of surgical excellence in the ACT and southern New South Wales region.”

“Australia has been fortunate to be the first market to gain access to the exciting ROSA technology. To date, cases have been completed in Victoria and Sydney, and Canberra is now the fourth centre in Australia to get this technology,” Ms. Porritt continued.

“Dr Brendan Klar from Canberra Knee Clinic is the first surgeon in the ACT to be trained in the use and application of the ROSA system, and to offer his patients access to this technology.”

“The engagement of robotics in the surgical process, combined with innovations in implant technology and operating procedures, will likely improve accuracy in total knee replacements, potentially improving post-operative outcomes for patients and getting them back on their feet as soon as possible.”

“All of these benefits add up to ensure that Canberrans and patients travelling to the hospital from across the region have access to the best technology, most skilled surgeons and innovative facilities that have only been available previously in larger metro centres. “

“This is a real game changer in Canberra,” Ms Porritt concluded. Dr Klar and his surgical team utilised the ROSA robot on Saturday morning to perform Canberra’s first robotic total knee replacement on a local 61-year-old resident.”

Dr Klar said, "I've been operating on knees since 1994 and have performed thousands of total knee replacements. Introducing the ROSA robot into my procedures is one of those moments that surgeons only used to dream about."

"To be the first surgeon in Canberra to perform a total knee replacement using ROSA is exciting not only for me, but for the whole surgical team in the operating theatre, and for our patient, Beverly, who was excited to be the first on the list when ROSA arrived in Canberra. We brought the future directly into the theatre."

"The sub millimetric accuracy delivered by the ROSA robot will hopefully reduce the potential for recurring problems for patients and achieve consistent results that the human hand and eye together likely can't match."

"We are the first surgical team in the ACT and southern New South Wales to have access to this technology and have been anticipating its delivery for the last six months."

"I was asked last week if the robots were going to put us out of work. I laughed at the prospect! A robot is a tool to enhance the skills honed by expert surgeons through decades of practice. I still perform the surgery but ROSA ensures the accuracy of what we do. With Australians requesting knee replacements at an all-time high, it is extremely exciting to be able to make this technology available to our patients. Combining market leading implants with ROSA holds exciting promise for patient outcomes. Having ROSA on our staff at National Capital Private Hospital is certainly a welcome addition to our surgical team," Dr Klar concluded.

The first operation using the ROSA system successfully took place at 9am on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 (Canberra time) at National Capital Private Hospital, Garran, ACT.

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### **Media interviews and in-theatre image opportunity**

Interviews, vision and photo opportunity will be available at the National Capital Private Hospital. Two robots will be on site along with surgical and management team members.

**WHEN:** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 11.30am

**WHERE:** National Capital Private Hospital, Corner Gilmore Crescent & Hospital Road, Garran ACT.  
Meet at main reception.

**AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS:**

Elizabeth Porritt, CEO, National Capital Private Hospital

Dr Brendan Klar, Canberra Knee Clinic

Theresa Moran, Peri-operative Nurse Unit Manager, National Capital Private Hospital

**Note:** The patient will not be available for interview

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**For more information, interviews or images, contact:**

**Kimberley Roberts-Salee – Threesides Marketing**

[kimberley.roberts.salee@threesides.com.au](mailto:kimberley.roberts.salee@threesides.com.au)

0401 723 282

**Media backgrounder**

In 2018, 94% of Australian knee surgery patients had a total knee replacement rather than a revision procedure or partial or half knee replacement.

ROSA is the only robotic platform available in the Australian market that has been designed from the ground up for total knee replacement surgeries.

ROSA offers a combination of cutting-edge technologies including computer navigation, soft tissue balancing, patient-specific implants and robotics in one package.

The difference with ROSA compared to other robotic systems on the market is its proven accuracy as well as the time-neutral procedure duration. It has been well-known well for many years that the length of the surgical procedure is proportionate to potential complications. Much effort has gone into developing the ROSA robotic platform to allow surgeons to complete the knee replacement more accurately and in a time-neutral fashion, compared to other surgical techniques.

Combining the Biomet ROSA robotic system market-leading knee replacement implants in the Australian Joint Replacement Registry is a powerful combination.

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**Canberra Knee Clinic**

<https://www.canberrakneeclinic.com.au/>

**National Capital Private Hospital**

<http://www.nationalcapitalprivatehospital.com.au/>

**ROSA Knee System - Zimmer Biomet**

<https://www.zimmerbiomet.com/medical-professionals/knee/product/rosa-knee.html>