Robotic knee surgery: better, faster results for patients

Patients who have robotic-assisted knee surgery can expect better experiences before, during and after their operation. The technology may even allow them to be treated as day cases in the future.

INTERVIEW WITH:

MR MATTHEW BARTLETT
Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust and Clementine Churchill Hospital

“I rarely perform knee replacement surgery without robotic assistance these days,” says Mr Matthew Bartlett, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust and BMI the Clementine Churchill Hospital.

“I tell patients that if I perform robotic-assisted knee surgery, we’ll be able to operate more quickly as a result. ‘We’re getting better and better at this technology,’ he says. ‘With conventional surgery, a rod is inserted in the femur to ensure the knee replacement is aligned correctly. With robotic-assisted knee surgery, a surgeon sits and directs the robot to make the knee replacement perfectly aligned.’

Mr Bartlett adds that robotic-assisted knee surgery is set to become a cornerstone of the knee replacement surgery of the future.

‘I’ve been using robotics for over a year. The biggest benefit is the freedom it gives surgeons; once the robot is set up, it makes the procedure faster and safer, allowing the surgeon to focus on the patient and their needs, as well as ensuring the knee is accurately aligned and the patient can return to normal life more quickly as a result. ‘We’re getting better and better at this technology,’ he says. ‘With conventional surgery, a rod is inserted in the femur to ensure the knee replacement is aligned correctly. With robotic-assisted knee surgery, a surgeon sits and directs the robot to make the knee replacement perfectly aligned.’

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Northern Ireland is a hotbed for healthcare innovation, says Dr Laura Hamilton, Chief Executive of BMI Holkham, which has recently introduced robotic-assisted knee replacement surgery. ‘We’re seeing a lot of exciting developments in the field of healthcare, and we’re proud to be at the forefront of this,’ she says. ‘Our patients can expect better experiences before, during and after their operation, and the technology may even allow them to be treated as day cases in the future.’

Mr Matthew Bartlett, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust and BMI the Clementine Churchill Hospital, says: ‘I rarely perform knee replacement surgery without robotic assistance these days,’ he says. ‘I tell patients that if I perform robotic-assisted knee surgery, we’ll be able to operate more quickly as a result. ‘We’re getting better and better at this technology,’ he says. ‘With conventional surgery, a rod is inserted in the femur to ensure the knee replacement is aligned correctly. With robotic-assisted knee surgery, a surgeon sits and directs the robot to make the knee replacement perfectly aligned.’

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