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# Transoral Robotic Surgery

Initiative Type

Technology

Status

Deliver

Added

01 February 2018

Last updated

23 April 2018

URL

<https://clinicaexcellence.qld.gov.au/improvement-exchange/transoral-robotic-surgery>

## Summary

Transoral Robotic Surgery (TORS) uses the da Vinci Surgical System for surgical treatment of oropharyngeal cancers. The da Vinci system is composed of a console at which the surgeon is seated, a surgical cart, and four robotic arms. The da Vinci surgical system provides surgeons with improved dexterity and precision, and can overcome a number of the limitations associated with traditional surgical approaches, such as line of site obstruction and a limited operative field.

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## Key dates

Sep 2017

Sep 2019

## Implementation sites

Princess Alexandra Hospital

## Partnerships

Healthcare Improvement Unit

## Key Contacts

Jacqui Thomson

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[paul.blee.hiu](mailto:paul.blee.hiu)

Manager, Healthcare Evaluation and Assessment of Technology

Healthcare Improvement Unit

(07) 3328 9283

secretariat\_hta@health.qld.gov.au

## Aim

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Provides an opportunity to pilot and evaluate new technologies within 'real world' clinical settings in the Queensland context.

## **Benefits**

The potential benefits of this technology include:

- TORS afforded improved surgical visualisation and manoeuvrability and provided superior accessibility.
- Significantly, 86 per cent of TORS patients avoided additional treatment with radiotherapy and none had chemotherapy.
- TORS is less invasive, resulting in shorter hospital stays.
- TORS is safe; with no major complications and no surgical infections.
- Most (86 per cent) TORS patients had negative margins in excised tissue.
- The majority of patients reported an improved quality of life after TORS.

## **Background**

This technology was funded through the New Technology Funding and Evaluation Program (NTFEP). The NTFEP funds the introduction and evaluation of new technologies that:

- Are safe and effective
- Provide better health outcomes
- Provide value for money
- Provide greater access to care.

The evaluation findings will inform recommendations regarding the future use and/or investment of the technology within Queensland.

## **Evaluation and Results**

Key findings will be published at the end of the evaluation period.

## **Resources**

PDF saved 06/01/2025