

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Robots and the Gynaecological Patient – Do They Really Mix?



Would women in the future really feel comfortable having a hysterectomy or a total pelvic floor repair done by not a specialist doctor but by a robot?

‘Robots and women mix very well and in fact are compatible for cohabitation as so elegantly declared by Issac Asimov in his science fiction short stories *Robbie* and *Feminine Intuition*’, said Dr Suresh Nair, who is presenting a lecture on the use of robots in gynaecological procedures, at the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting. The meeting is held in conjunction with the XXIst Asian and Oceanic Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOCOG 2009) in Auckland, New Zealand, at the Sky City Convention Centre from today, Thursday 26 March until Monday 30 March 2009.

‘In the da Vinci ‘robot-assisted’ laparoscopic surgical system, the surgeon is, for the first time in the history of surgery, seated comfortably remote from the patient, at a console with his hand resting upon the visual system comprising a binocular device for three dimensional vision’, according to Dr Nair.

‘Furthermore, the surgeon has telemanipulators that can be controlled by both his hands with fine finger and wrist movements that can remotely produce intuitive movements of ‘robotic’ laparoscopic instruments passed into the abdomen through trocars allowing seven degrees of freedom of movement.

‘This restores the full dexterity of the human hand and removes the need for counterintuitive movements that hinders technically demanding surgery such as suturing in conventional laparoscopic surgery. This quantum leap has allowed surgeon to perform gynaecological procedures in women such as, myomectomy, tubal reanastomosis, radical hysterectomy, total pelvic floor repair’, said Dr Nair.

Over 900 health professionals from around the world are expected to attend the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Attracting obstetricians, gynaecologists, medical trainees, GP-obstetricians, midwives and other health professionals from across Australia, New Zealand, London, America, Switzerland and Thailand, the meeting will showcase over four days of presentations from overseas and interstate presenters, who provide current thinking on all the main areas of obstetrics and gynaecology.

**For further information, media arrangements or to obtain an available abstract, contact:**

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A copy of the meeting program: [www.aocogranzcoq2009.co.nz/](http://www.aocogranzcoq2009.co.nz/)

