Center for Robotic Surgery THORACIC FACT SHEET

Beebe Healthcare's Center for Robotic Surgery was launched in 2018 with the addition of Kurt Wehberg, MD, Board Certified and Fellowship Trained cardiothoracic surgeon. Dr. Wehberg has performed more than 500 robotic surgeries over the course of his career. He will serve as the Co-Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery, the Chief of Robotics, and Vice President of Clinical Innovation.

Beebe purchased and installed the da Vinci Xi robotic system in June 2018. Intuitive Surgical, Beebe's partner in the creation of the Center for Robotic Surgery, works with Beebe team members to train them on the protocols and procedures. Beebe's first surgeon-assisted robotic surgeries are planned for July 2018.

Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery

The first procedures performed by Beebe's Robotic Surgery team will be thoracic surgeries or those procedures on the lungs, esophagus, or organs of the central part of the body.

Patients with lung cancer have options. In the past, lung surgery was an open procedure. Now, Beebe is able to offer a minimally invasive alternative to open surgery.

What will your surgeon do?

During robotic-assisted surgery, your surgeon will use a 3D high-definition camera for a magnified and clear view of your lungs. The surgeon will sit at a console next to you and operate through a few small incisions using tiny instruments, including a camera. Your surgeon will operate through the gaps between your ribs, without having to open the ribs. Your surgeon fully controls all instruments. Every hand movement is translated by the da Vinci system in real-time to bend and rotate the instruments so the surgeon can remove the tumor.

Thoracic Procedures at Beebe

There are different types of lung cancer procedures and depending on your type of cancer and recommendations from your doctor, you might be able to have minimally invasive robotic surgery procedures including:

Wedge resection: surgical removal of a triangular slice of tissue or tumor Lobectomy: surgical removal of a section of lung Pneumonectomy: surgical removal of entire lung.

All surgery carries with it some amount of risk. With robotic surgery, patients can expect less scarring, quicker recovery time, and more precise removal of tumors. Studies have shown:

- Patients experience less blood loss
- Lower risk of infection
- Patients in 86% of cases are released from the hospital sooner.

Talk to your doctor about whether you might be a candidate for robotic surgery. Learn more at: <u>www.beebehealthcare.org/robotic-surgery</u>.





ROBOTIC SURGERY TEAM (302) 644-4282



Kurt Wehberg, MD Board Certified and Fellowship Trained Cardiothoracic Surgeon Has performed more than 500 robotic surgeries in his career.



Ty Huskey, PA-C Certified Physician Assistant with specialized training in robotic surgery *Has assisted more than 500 robotic surgeries in his career.*

