

Preface

Where human dexterity wavers the robotic arm takes over and seamlessly scales, filters, and translates the precise movements of the hand with greater precision and lesser collateral damage. Robotic surgery is a breakthrough in minimally invasive approach to treatment of diseases across many surgical specialties. We see the future ahead, and the applications of robotics are poised to grow exponentially as advances continue.

Since the first edition of the book in 2007, the practice of Robotic Urologic Surgery has undergone a significant evolution. Something that was initially based on theory now has concrete answers. The early adopters have now amassed a significant amount of experience, allowing the newer converts to have a significantly shorter learning curve. The question now is no longer whether robotic surgery is feasible, viable, or the right way forward, but how to further improve the surgical outcomes and quality of life for the patient.

The first edition of our book focused mainly on robotic prostatectomy as this was believed to be the best indication. The current edition shows a greater breadth of urology as robotics has expanded into other organ systems and procedures.

This second edition of ‘Robotic Urologic Surgery,’ consistent with the goals of the initial endeavor 4 years ago, is not only a compilation of the knowledge and experiences of the best robotic surgeons around the world, but has also incorporated the recent advances and updates in the field. We are very grateful to the contributors who have shared their expertise and to all urologists who have accepted this book and given valuable suggestions after the publication of the first edition.

As Albert Einstein said, “To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old questions from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advances in science.” We hope this second edition of Robotic Urologic Surgery answers questions that arise on robotic surgery and also raises new questions that will spearhead further advances and improved techniques in the field of robotic surgery, for, Man and Machine are here to stay!

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