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Liverpool Hospital hosts cutting-edge robotic surgery training for surgical and nursing trainees

In a first for the Australasian region, Liverpool Hospital hosted a comprehensive robotic surgery training seminar specifically aimed at surgical and nursing trainees.

Professor Les Bokey, Director of Surgery and Research, South Western Sydney Local Health District, said the three-day training event also included introductory training in using the Mimic robotic simulator.

“Robotic surgery is the next frontier in surgery and Liverpool Hospital was the first public hospital in Australia to have the Robot Simulation Training Mimic System and the Dual Console da Vinci Xi Clinical Robot,” he said.

“We have led the way in giving our surgeons the tools to perform cutting-edge robotic surgery, and now we are leading the way in providing this inaugural training program.”

Professor Bokey said the program was specifically aimed at trainees in urology, gynaecology, colorectal, general and head and neck surgery.

It included lectures, simulation exercises on the Mimic system and live surgery demonstrations conducted by Liverpool Hospital robotic surgeons, which were transmitted to a lecture hall from the operating theatres.

The training program attracted about 100 surgical registrars and specialist surgical nurses who learnt invaluable skills in using surgical robots.

Professor Bokey said previously Australian doctors wanting to learn these skills had to travel to the United States, South Korea or China.

“Being able to offer such advanced training is a huge step for Liverpool Hospital,” he said.

“This will not only expand the skills of the District’s robotic surgeons, but it allows clinicians and nurses from out of state and even internationally to benefit from the state-of-the-art equipment and the exceptional talent we have here in the District.”

The NSW Government has invested \$740 million to redevelop Liverpool Hospital and transform it into an academic, health and research precinct.

The redevelopment will include a comprehensive, integrated cancer therapy centre and new maternity and neonatal intensive care units along with improved diagnostic and outpatient services and research facilities.