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Farrer Park Hospital introduces robotic surgery for hip, knee replacement

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Individuals with joint diseases can be treated more accurately with robotic-arm assisted surgery

Farrer Park Hospital Singapore is the only private hospital in Singapore that implements Makoplasty Robotic-Arm Assisted Surgery for total hip replacements with total knee replacement procedure soon to follow.

Total hip replacement surgery involves the removal of arthritic bone and damage cartilage, and replacing them with hip implants that are designed to replicate the joint.

Meanwhile, partial knee replacement is a surgical procedure that helps relieve arthritis in one or two of the three compartments of the knee. Partial knee replacement will only be conducted at the damaged area, which may help to minimize trauma to healthy bone and tissue.

"Robotic surgery is akin to using a global positioning system (GPS) to direct accurate cuts and placement of components. The traditional surgery is like using a road map rather than a GPS plotter and planner.

In the near future, robotic systems to aid surgeons in surgery will become widely acceptable. Using smart phones withGPS is now the norm and it will be intuitive for patients to accept robotic systems. I think that it will be a matter of time before patients will be asking the surgeon whether they employ the use of a robotic system to help them conduct the joint replacement", said Dr Jeffrey Chew who practices at Farrer Park Hospital and is one of Singapore's foremost Orthopedic surgeons.