

Whipple procedure for cancer becomes robotic

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Singapore: It is no longer a risky and invasive cancer surgery. Scientists at the Loyola Medical Center are among the first, to perform the Whipple procedure, a procedure which removes tumors from pancreatic patients, with a robotic system.

The Whipple procedure involves reconstruction of the digestive tract by removing the head of the pancreas, the gall bladder, the duodenum (first section of the small intestine), the common bile duct and sometimes part of the stomach, which usually requires an incision of 8-10 cm or longer. However using robotics, only a 3cm incision was sufficient. This meant faster recovery, less blood loss and less medications.

Loyola Medical Center also boasts of a successful rectal cancer treatment using robotic system. This advancement in cancer treatment, has helped surgeons to remove difficult-to-reach cancer tumors with increased vision, precision, dexterity and control.