Robotic RAB
1st International Congress
on Robotic Assisted Bronchoscopy
& Transbronchial Ablation Update

BRESCIA, Italy
15th -17th June 2023

Robotic Assisted Bronchoscopy (RAB) in the US, is a highly promising and fast developing part of the future of Advanced Bronchoscopy & Interventional Pulmonology, with 2 current systems being sold and a third being released in early 2023. There are currently over 500 RAB systems installed in the US.

In Europe at present there is no location to learn and discuss RAB and help plan for its future in Europe.This is why an international congress on Robotic Bronchoscopy has to be planned and arranged to be an interactive congress for attendees : and should be hosted in one of the most beautiful, welcoming and « robotics protagonist » countries of Europe: Italy.

Since the FDA approval of the **Da Vinci Surgery System in 2000** for general laparoscopic surgery (10), the use of robotics has expanded from the field of **general** surgery, to **gynecologic** and **urology** as well as **cardiac** and **thoracic** surgery and has become an integral part of surgical procedures in the United States and Europe.

The first robotic system to be introduced in the field of bronchoscopy was the Monarch™ platform by Auris Health which received FDA approval in March 2018.

Subsequently another robotic bronchoscopy platform, the Ion™ Endoluminal System developed by Intuitive Surgical received FDA approval in February 2019. The introduction of robotic bronchoscopy to the field of Advanced Bronchoscopy & Interventional Pulmonology has been a source of great excitement in the era of lung cancer screening which has increased the detection of lung nodules.

The need to safely and effectively sample these lung lesions, has led to the development of virtual bronchoscopy (VB), 3D Fluoroscopic guidance, radial endobronchial ultrasound (r-EBUS) and electromagnetic navigation (EMN).Robotic assisted bronchoscopy systems allow the operator to navigate through smaller airways under direct visualization while continuing to offer either EMN guidance combined with image recognition (**Monarch™ platform by Auris Health** Inc.) or Shape Sensing Technology (**Ion™ Endoluminal System by Intuitive Surgical**)

In addition to their potential for improving diagnostic yield when sampling peripheral lung lesions, the RAB platforms will soon guide ablative therapies for treating oligometastatic lesions or inoperable peripheral lung tumors.

Bronchoscopic ablation emerged as a new treatment for peripheral malignant pulmonary nodules with a rapidly growing body of experience over the past few years. There are a range of technology and techniques as the procedure continues to evolve.

Aims

- To bring together technology developers and clinicians from the US and Europe and other countries in the world to discuss current knowledge, new centers of development in

Organizing secretariat

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Europe, and needs and opportunities as we move towards an extensive spreading of Robotic Assisted Bronchoscopy.

Objectives

- To understand how Robotic Assisted Bronchoscopy, Imaging Guidance and Ablation Technologies can fit in with the wider range of technologies becoming available for the most updated management of lung nodules.
- To understand the range of endobronchial approaches, imaging modalities used to facilitate bronchoscopy and different ablative energies.
- To understand the need and opportunities of integrating new developing techno-devices and instruments into peripheral diagnosis of lung nodules.
- To facilitate discussion to guide HTA evaluation and reimbursement strategies for Robotic Assisted Bronchoscopy and complementary technologies in the USA & Europe.
- To drive discussion to guide next generation technology development and clinical trial design in this field.

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