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## Asia's 1st robotic vascular surgery performed successfully

**New Delhi, Apr 20 :** A team of doctors used robotic arm for the first time to perform a vascular surgery saving life in a Asia-first operation using robotic technology.

Robotic surgeons, led by Professor Arvind Kumar, Director, Institute of Robotic Surgery (IRS), Sir Ganga Ram Hospital here, used the robot to repair a complex blood vessel defect that would have proven fatal if left untreated.

"IRS is pleased to inform that we performed Asia's first robotic aortic surgery on April 7, in the very first month of our existence," Dr Arvind told a press conference here today.

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They were suffering from an abdominal aortic aneurysm, which is the weakening the wall of the main blood vessel that runs from the heart to the abdomen, causing part of it to swell.

"Aorta is the main blood vessel carrying blood in human body. There are various diseases of aorta like blockade (atherosclerosis) or ballooning (aneurysm), which require surgical repair. Traditionally, it has been performed by open heart surgery, leaving big scars and taking long time to recovery," Dr Anand informed.

"It can be extremely difficult to fit a metal stent by hand so surgeons used a robotic arm, directed with a joystick, to implant it in the swollen section," he added.

He said they have performed 30 successful robotic aortic procedures across five specialities in its first month.

Coming heavily on the critics terming surgical robot as a toy for the boys, he signed off describing it as 'an ultimate surgical tool'. (UNI)

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