



May 3-4 May, 2012,
Athens, Greece

**A novel platform for
Scarless Robotic
Surgery:**

the ARAKNES

*(Array of Robots Augmenting
the KiNematics of
Endoluminal Surgery)*

**Integrating
Project**

ARAKNES Project
Coordinator
Prof. Paolo DARIO

Speaker:
Selene Tognarelli

Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna
Pisa, Italy

www.araknes.org



The ARAKNES (Array of Robots Augmenting the KiNematics of Endoluminal Surgery) Project has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement num. 224565.



Outline

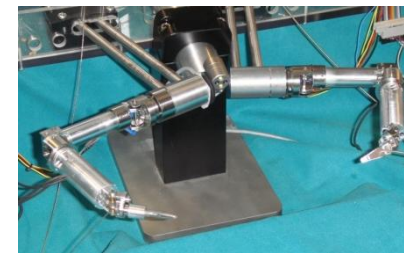
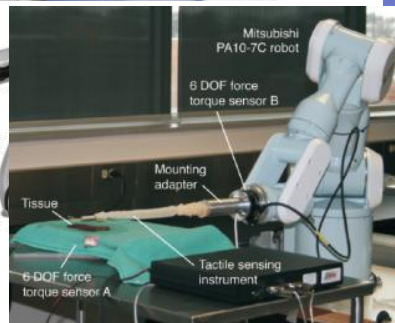
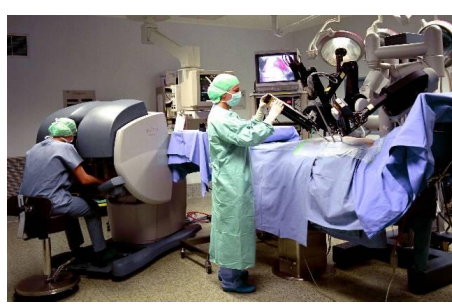
- Motivations and strategy
- A novel platform for Scarless Robotic Surgery: ARAKNES Project
 - Objectives
 - Key results
 - Progress status
- ARAKNES first prototype
- ARAKNES exploitation



Outline

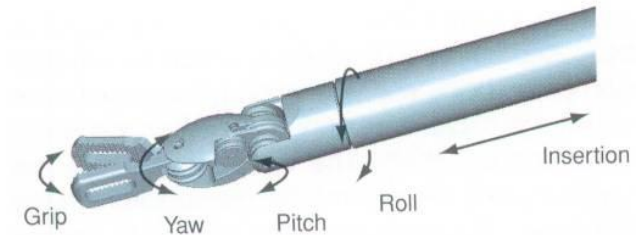
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Medical Robotics: an increasingly successful clinical and industrial field





A success story in surgical robotics: the "Da Vinci" system



The main reasons for success:

- **VERY HIGH SURGICAL PRECISION**
- **Minimal invasiveness**
- **Intuitive control**



A success story in surgical robotics: the "Da Vinci" system



HOWEVER

- **System console is too much immersive**
- **4 12-mm diameter accesses + 1 additional 5-mm service access**
- **Very expensive (1.5+M€ system, plus disposables and servicing)**

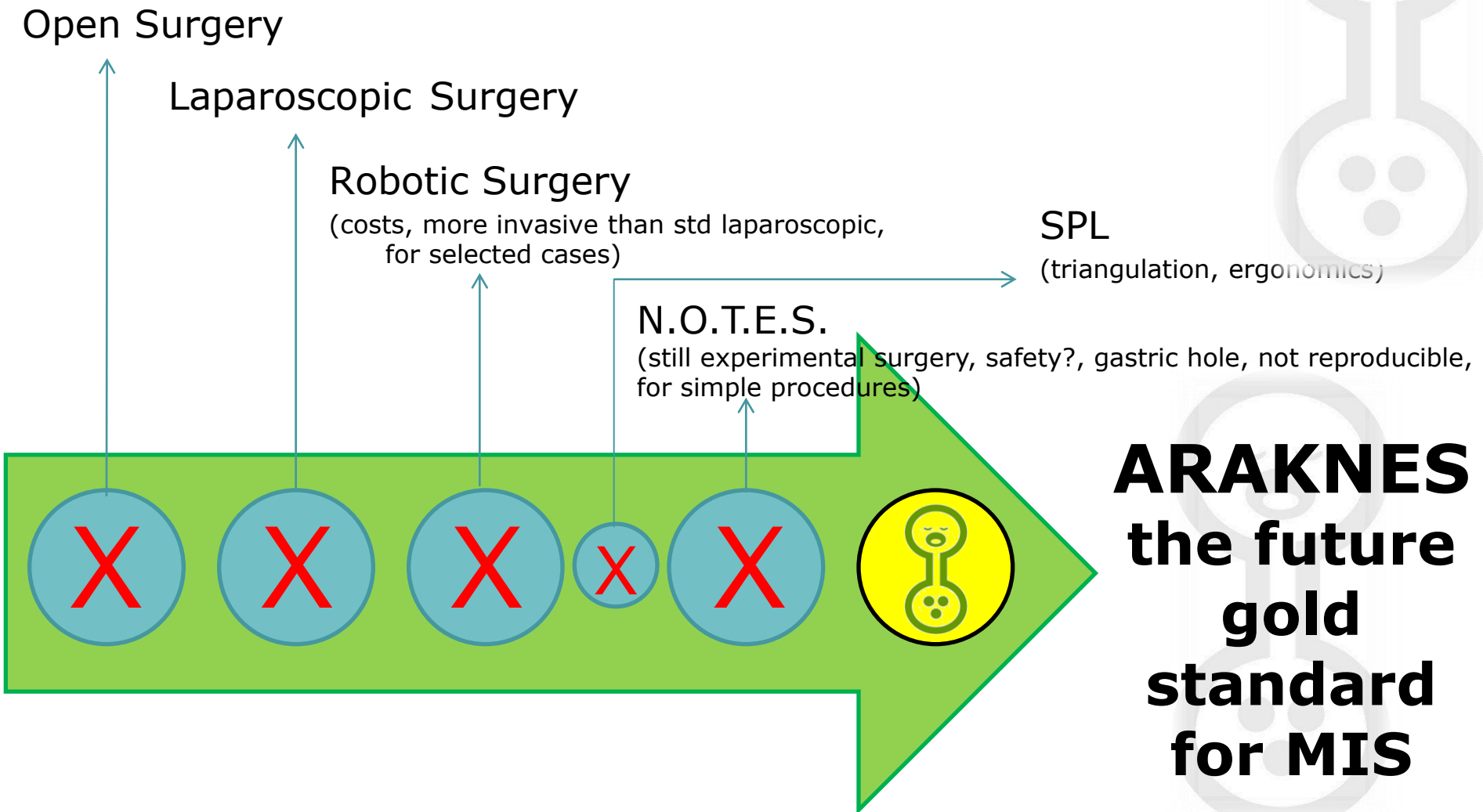
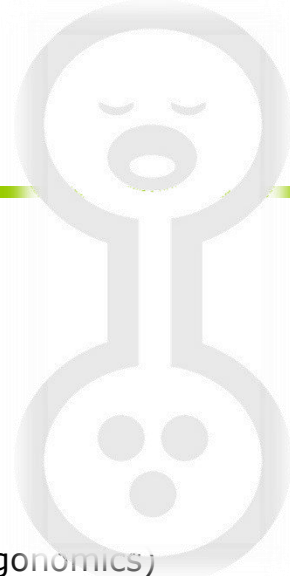


Robotics Surgery: Lessons Learned

- Problems to be solved for full acceptance of robots in surgery:
- Real application domains and procedures that benefit
 - Cost/benefit clearly proved
 - Time of intervention
 - Time and complexity for set up



ARAKNES Project





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ARAKNES
Array of Robots Augmenting the KiNematics
of Endoluminal Surgery

ARAKNES Integrating Project

- **Grant Agreement number:** 224565
- **Project acronym:** ARAKNES
- **Project title:** Array of Robots Augmenting the KiNematics of Endoluminal Surgery
- **Funding scheme:** Large-scale integrating project (IP), FP7-ICT-Challenge 3: Components, systems and engineering/Micro/nano systems

- **Project website address:** www.araknes.org
- **Start date of project:** 01/05/2008
- **Duration:** 48 Months + 6 Extension months
- **Total budget:** € 11.100.000,00
- **EU contribution:** € 8.100.000,00

Consortium



Coordinator
Scuola Superiore
Sant'Anna (SSSA),
ITALY



MicroTech S.r.l.
(MT), ITALY



University of
Barcelona (UB),
SPAIN



Imperial College
London (ICL),
UNITED KINGDOM



KARL STORZ GmbH
& Co. KG (KST),
GERMANY



Laboratory of
Computer Sciences,
Robotics and
Microelectronics
(CNRS), FRANCE



Università di Pisa
(UNIPi), ITALY



ST Microelectronics
(STM), ITALY



Ecole Polytechnique
Fédérale de Lausanne
(EPFL), SWITZERLAND



University of St.
Andrews
(USTAN), UNITED
KINGDOM



novineon
Healthcare
Technology
Partners GmbH
(NVN), GERMANY



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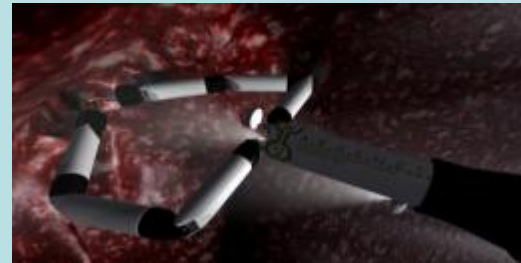
The ARAKNES team





ARAKNES Project: objectives

To integrate the advantages of traditional open surgery, laparoscopic surgery (MIS), and robotics surgery into a deeply innovative system for bi-manual, tethered, scarless surgery based on microrobotic instrumentation



Main intended interventions: *Gastric and abdominal surgery*

- **Single-port access/transluminal bariatric surgery** (both with restrictive procedures and malabsorptive procedures)
- **Cholecystectomy** (a *de facto* benchmark for surgical devices)



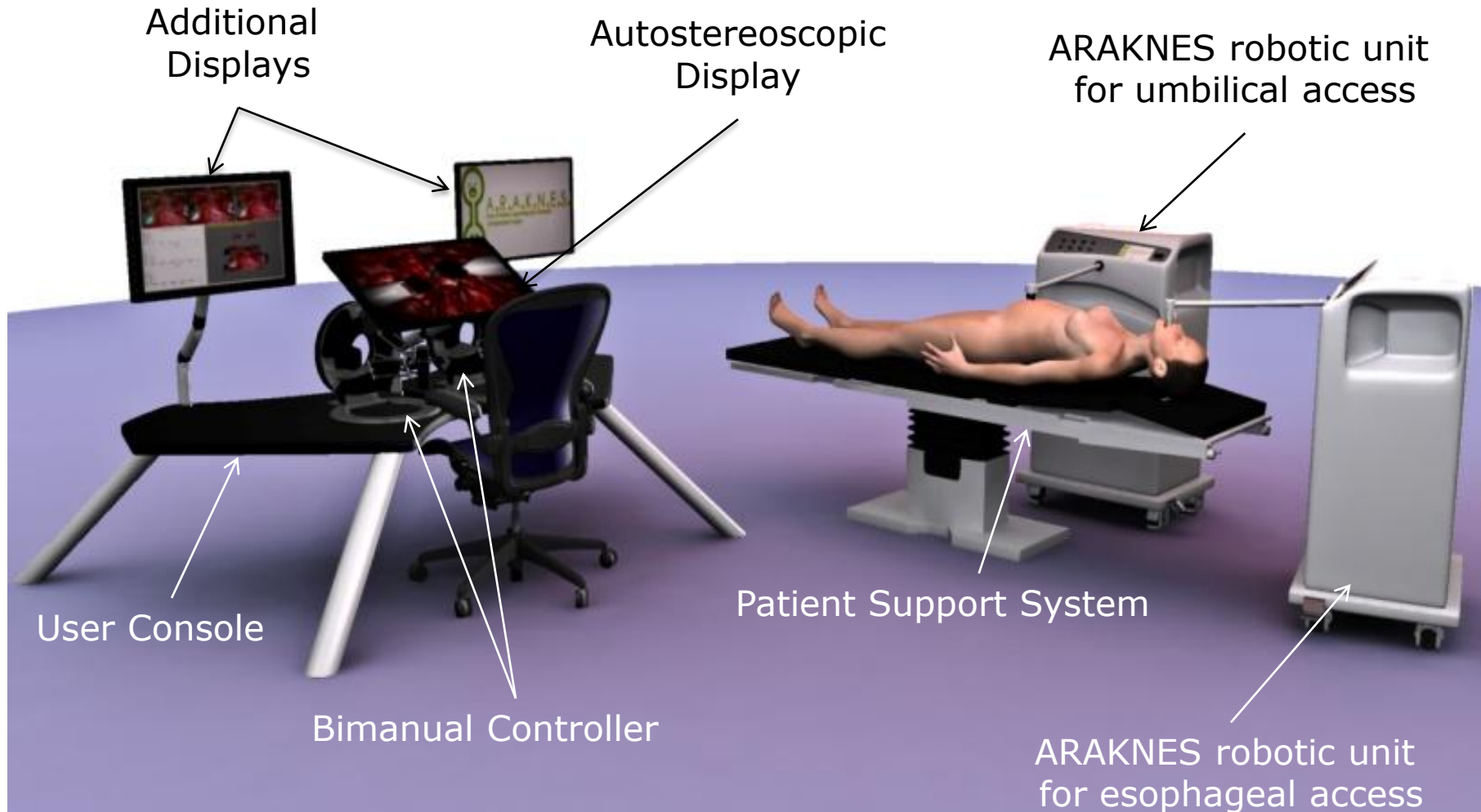
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Surgical scenario and System Architecture



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The ARAKNES platform includes:

- A flexible oro-pharyngo-oesophageal access port and an umbilical access port;
- A set of assistive and operative miniaturized robots allowing a bi-manual operation inside the abdomen or the stomach;
- An imaging system consisting of
 - ✓ endoscopic stereo-cameras at the distal end of the robotic platform, to restore depth perception, combined with panoramic cameras embedded in the access ports;
 - ✓ additional vision modules for increasing points of view and surgical operations safety and flexibility;
- Photonic-based and chemical-based devices;
- The operating console, haptic interfaces and augmented reality solutions.





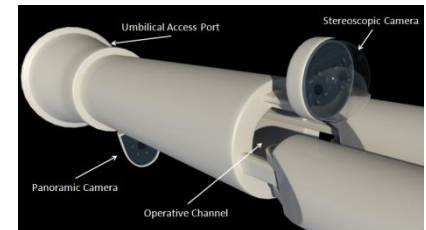
ARAKNES access port: Prototypes

Picture		Vision System	Features
	2nd prototype	Vision system Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible multilumen tube (oval section) • Closing Handle (Stability for the vision system) • Insulation: O-ring • Insufflation throughout a dedicated lumen • Balloon fixing mechanism
	2nd prototype	No Vision and Illumination System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intra-gastric and Trans-gastric approaches • Components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multilumen tube has been realized by extrusion of a silicone medical grade PE600 • Handle(3D printed) contains the connection to the supply tube (vision, air, water) • Balloon fixing mechanism
	Integration of the 2nd Prototype	HD panoramic Camera and Illumination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 mm OD and 14 mm ID • Length 90 cm • Inserted in the oesophagus trough a guiding endoscope



ARAKNES Optical System

Image acquisition systems



Vision system for access ports

Vision system for robotic modules

Flexible Oesophageal access port (MT)

Rigid Umbilical access port (SSSA)

Fixed panoramic vision system (KST)



- Fully integrated in tube wall (MT)
- HD-resolution
- 2D
- LED illumination

Swing-out panoramic vision system (KST)



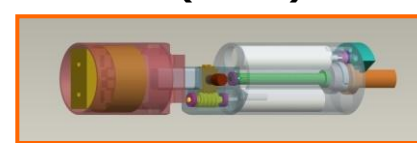
- Fully insertable in the umbilical access port (MT)
- No hindrance for other instruments
- HD-resolution
- 2D
- LED illumination

Fixed stereo vision system (KST)



- Fully insertable in the SPRINT-introducer (SSSA)
- No hindrance for other instruments
- HD-resolution
- 3D
- LEDs + Light-fibres

Steerable stereo vision system (SSSA)



- Fully insertable in the access port
- No hindrance for other instruments
- Pan and Tilt DOFs
- HD resolution
- 3D
- LED illumination

Steerable stereo vision system (SSSA)



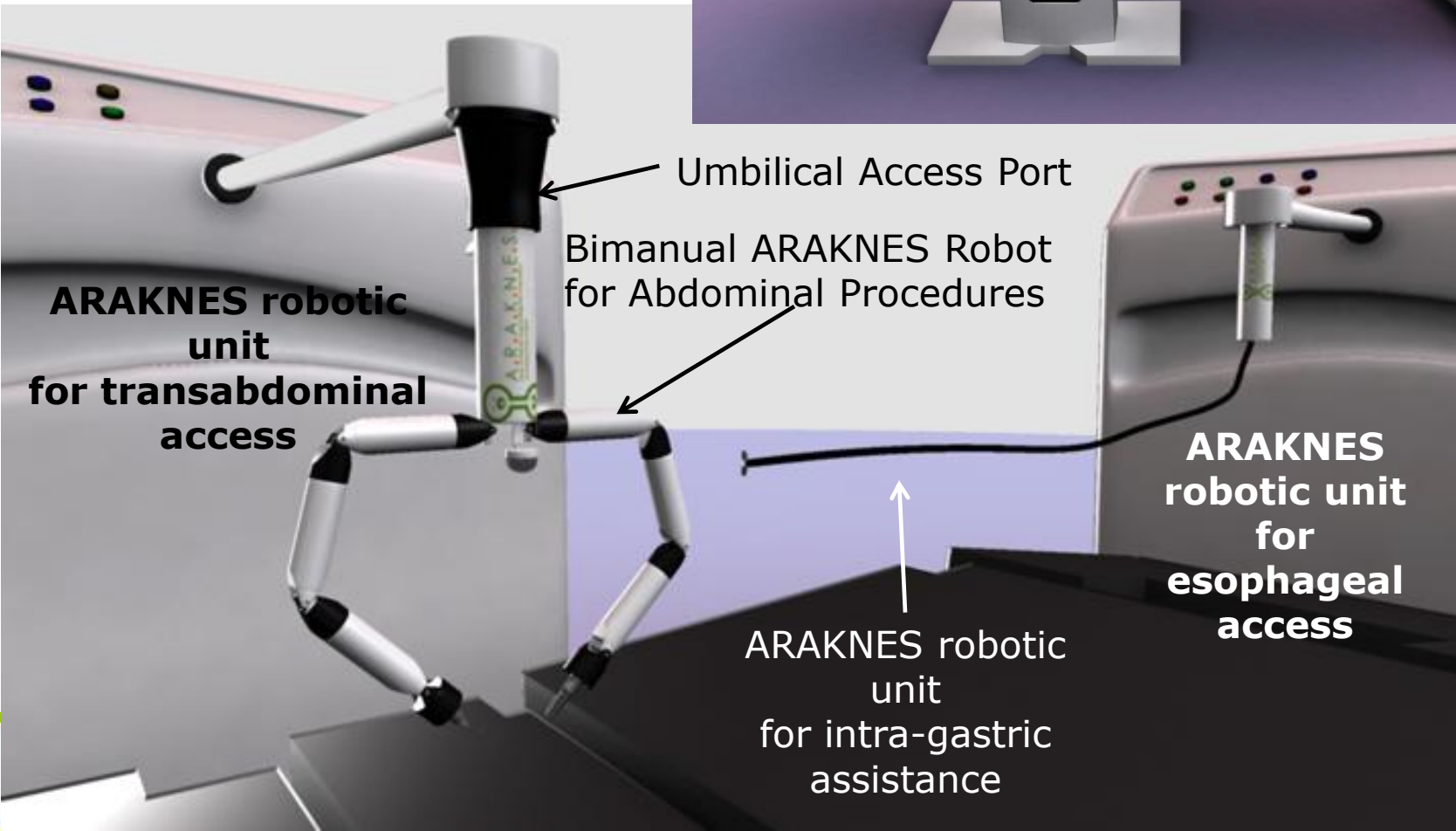
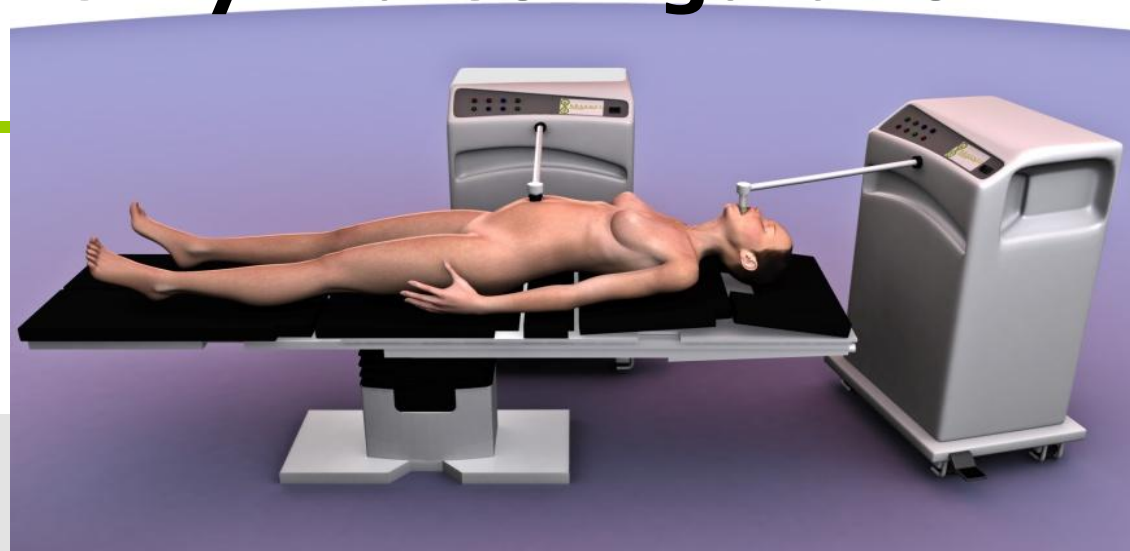
- Fully insertable
- Magnetic internal mechanism (MIM)
- Up to 5 DOFs (external and internal actuation)
- HD resolution
- 3D
- LED illumination



A.R.A.K.N.E.S.
Army of Robots Augmenting the Kinematics
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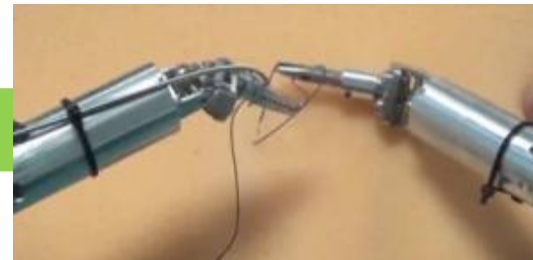
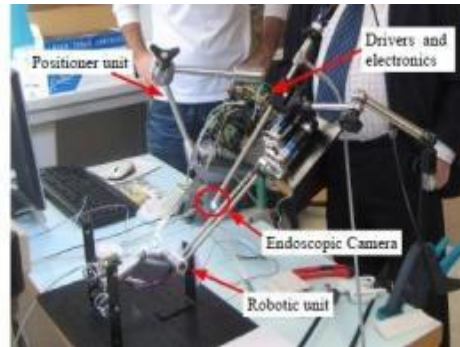
ARAKNES Hybrid Configuration

Double access approach (the **"HYBRID" APPROACH**),
from the oesophagus **and**
through the abdomen

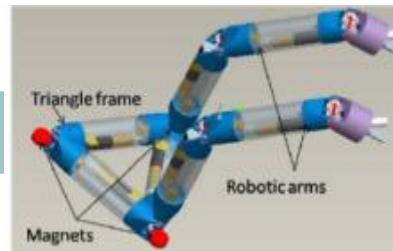
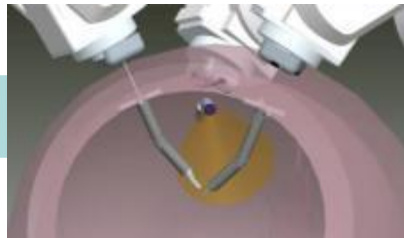


ARAKNES robot - Short term and long term approaches

Clinical Platform (Single Port umbilical access)



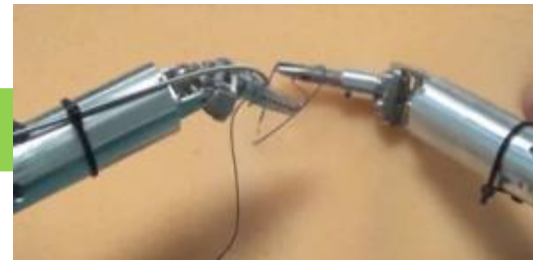
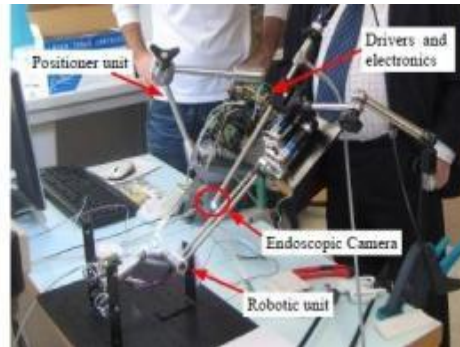
Research Platform (trocar/NOTES access)





Short term and long term approaches

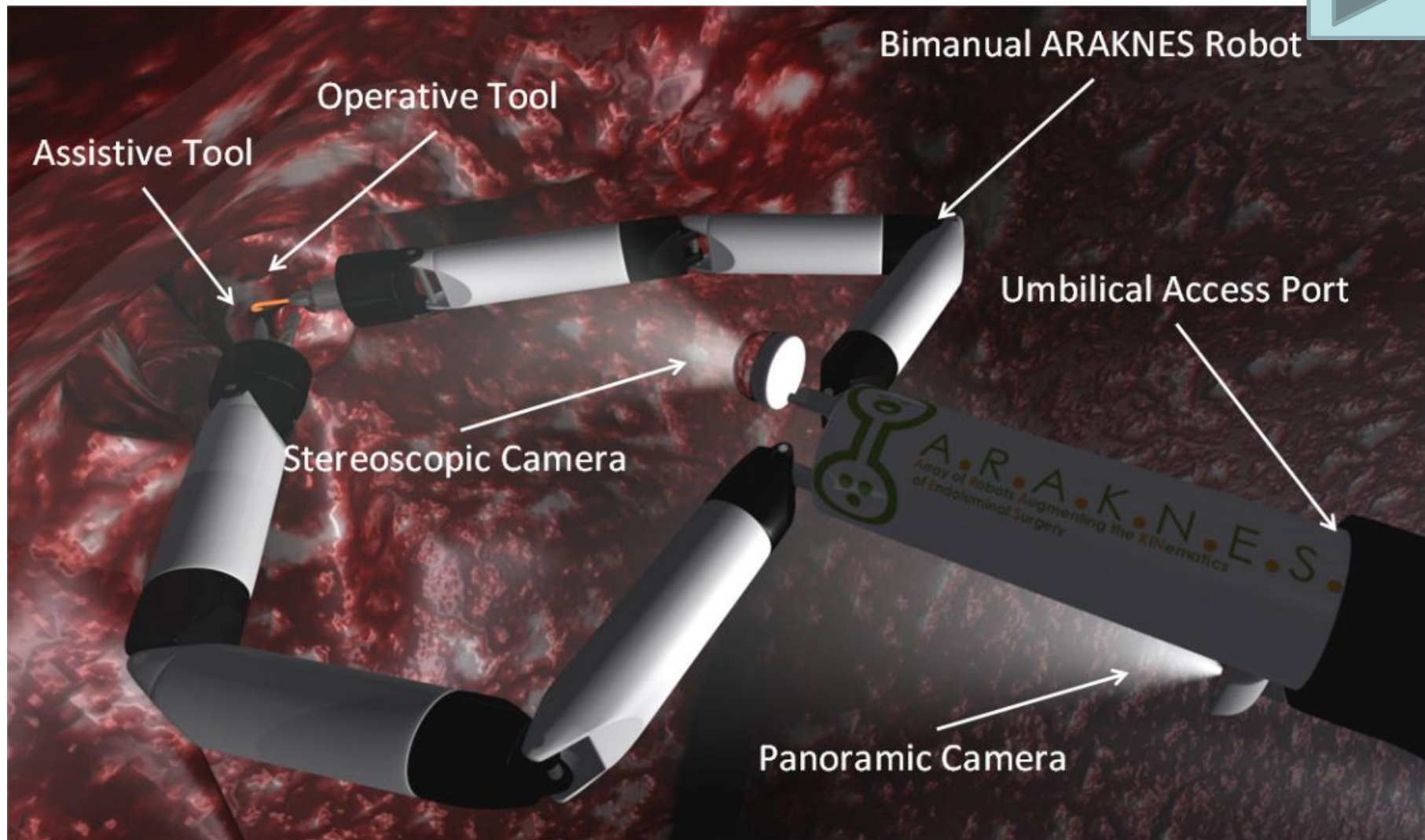
Clinical Platform (Single Port umbilical access)





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SPRINT: Single-Port lapaRoscopy bImaNual robot



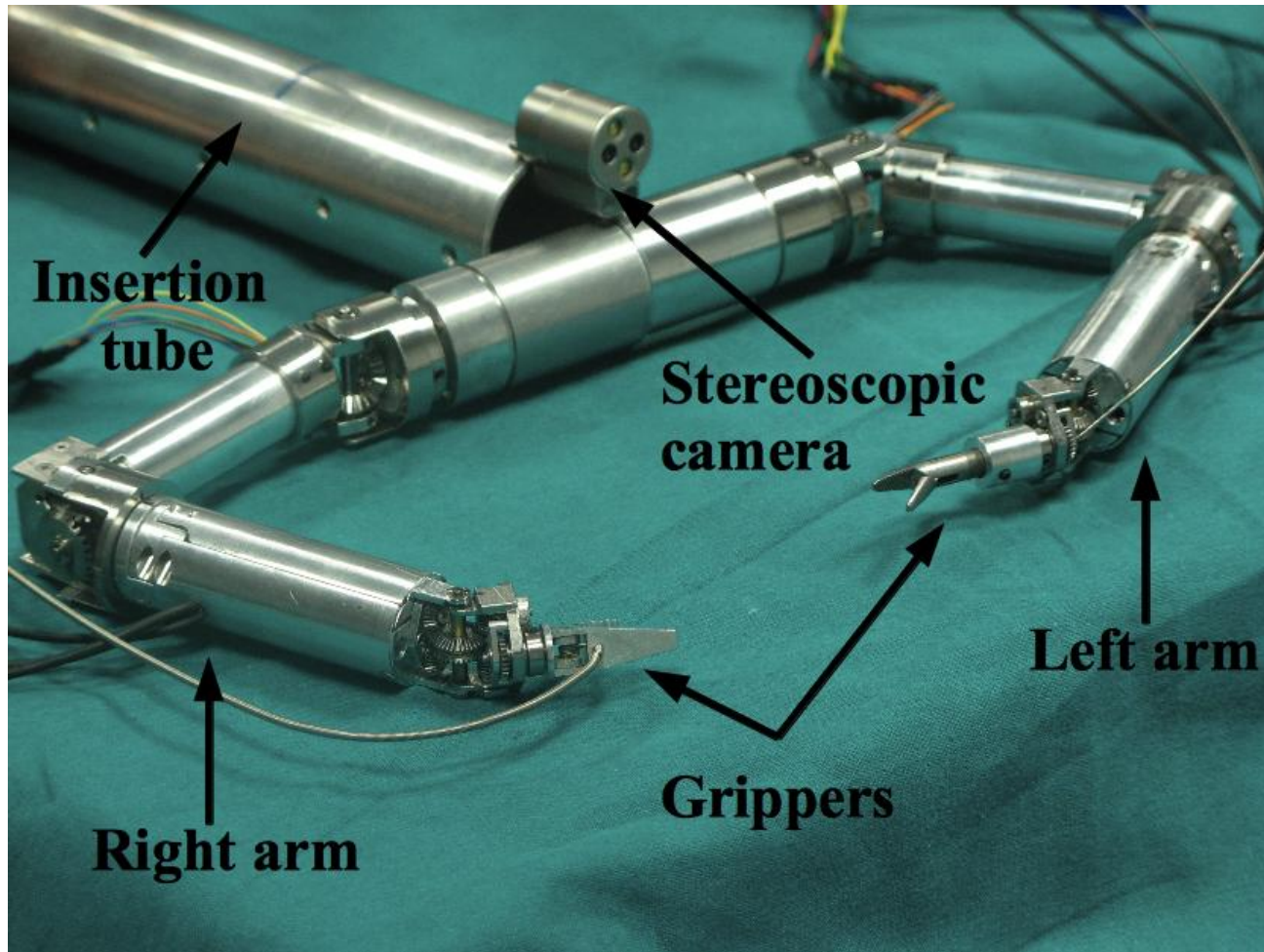
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The SPRINT robot



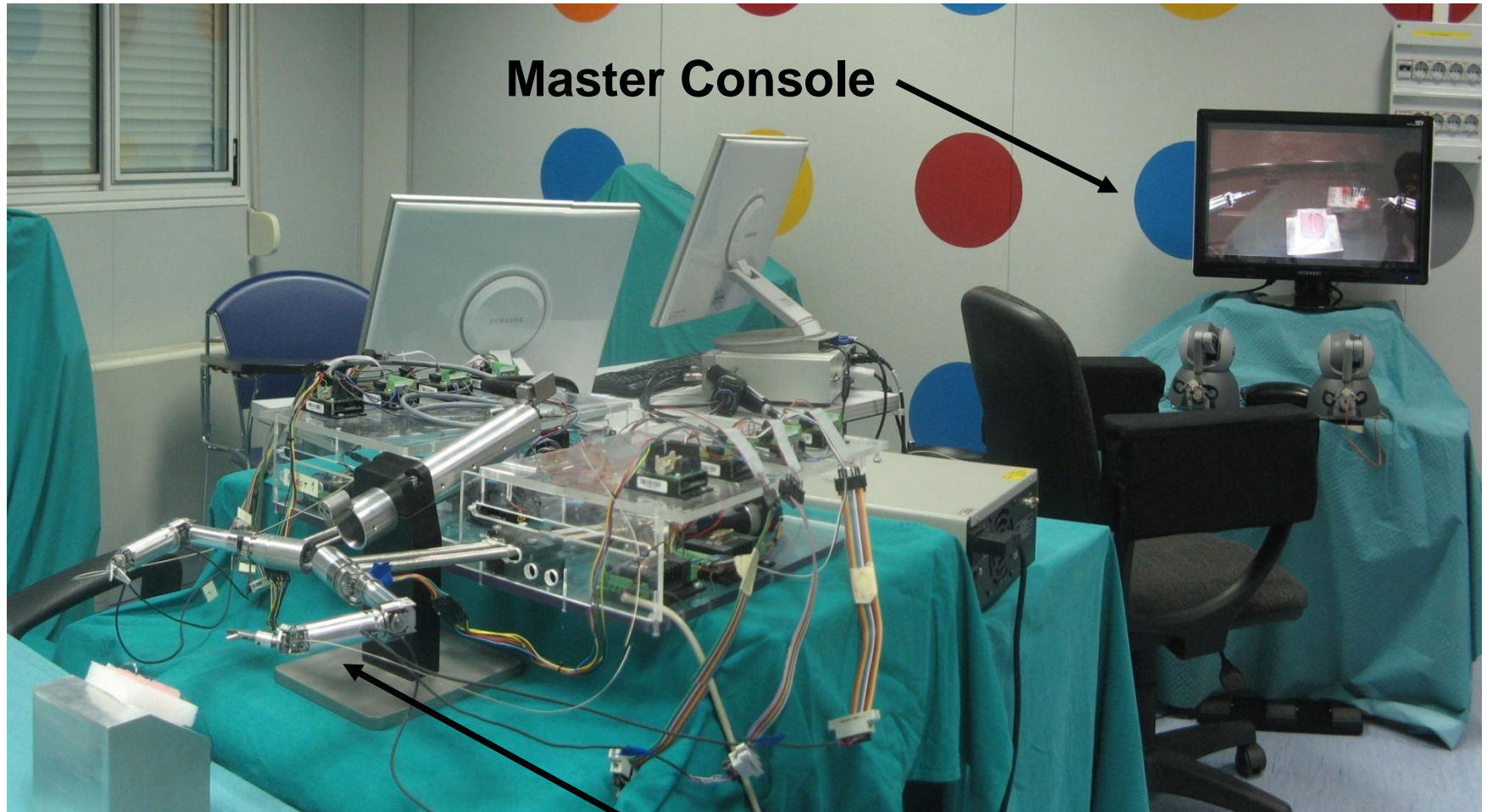
Single Port
External
Diameter: 30
mm

External
Diameter of the
robot arms:
less than 20
mm



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SPRINT ROBOTIC PLATFORM



Master Console

Slave Manipulator



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SPRINT System: simulated pick and place tasks



SPRINT System: simulated suturing tasks





SPRINT robot In-Vivo Tests



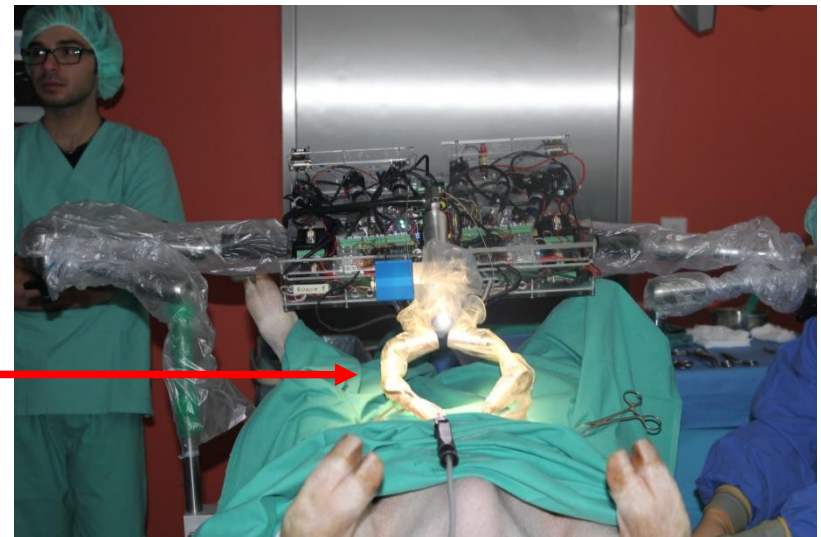
Master Console

← 3D Monitor

← Haptic Interfaces

Slave Manipulator

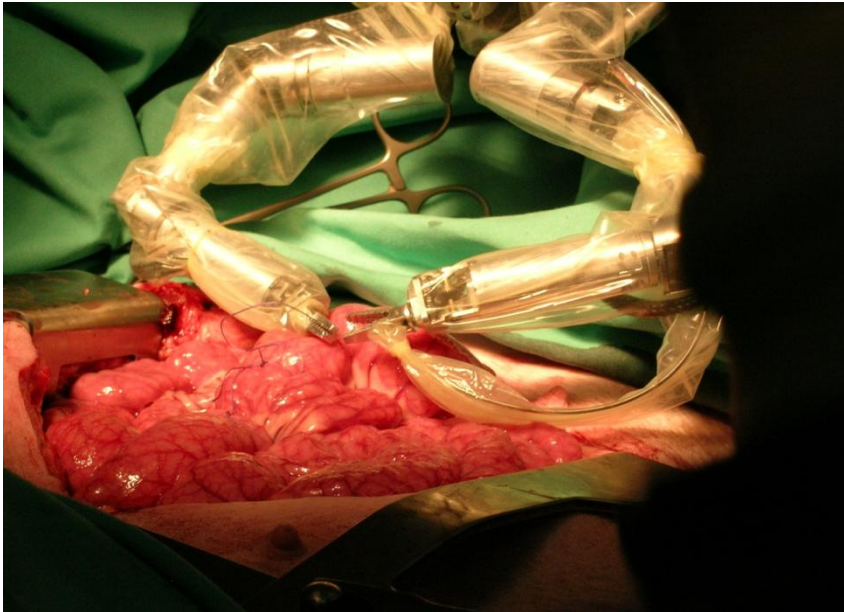
SPRINT robot



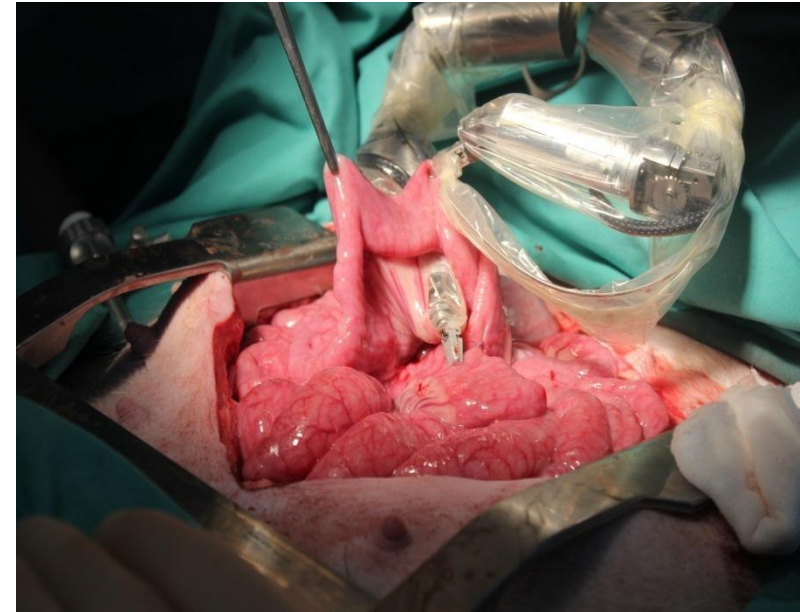


In-Vivo Tests: Results

Small bowel entero-enterostomy



Ligation of a mesenteric vessel bundle

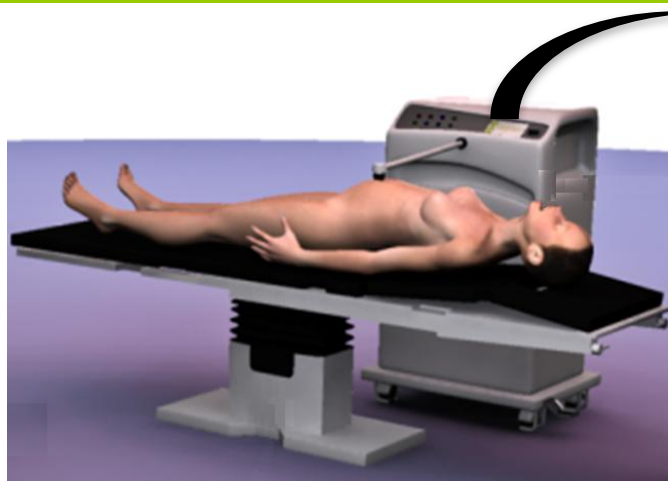


Results of In-Vivo Tests presented at **SAGES 2012** Annual Meeting:
***A New Robotic System for Single-Incision Laparoscopic Surgery:
Preliminary Experience.***

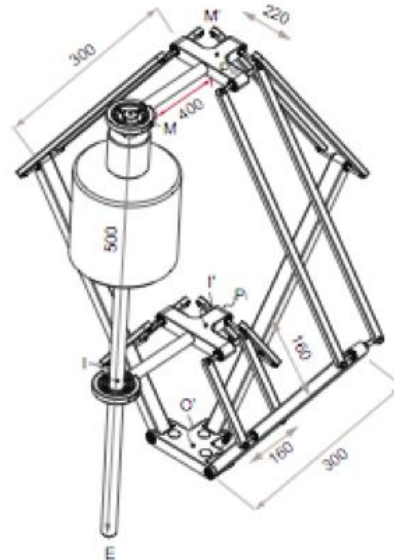
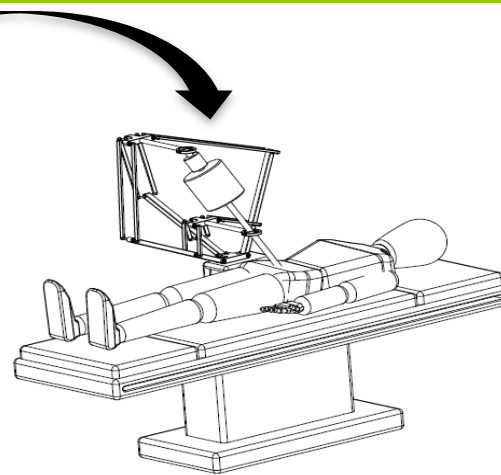
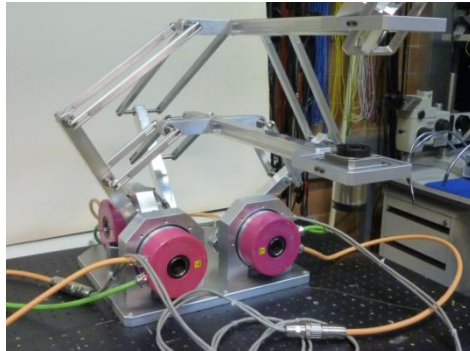
G. Basili, G. Pietroni, A. Menciassi, D. Pietrasanta, M. Niccolini, O. Goletti



ARAKNES External manipulator: DIONIS system



DIONIS manipulator

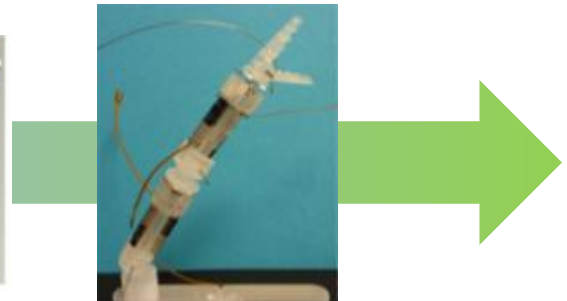
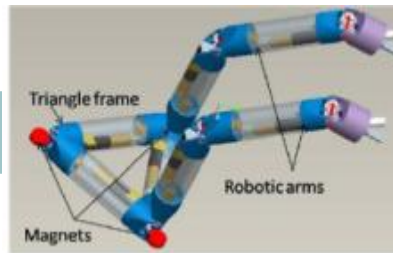
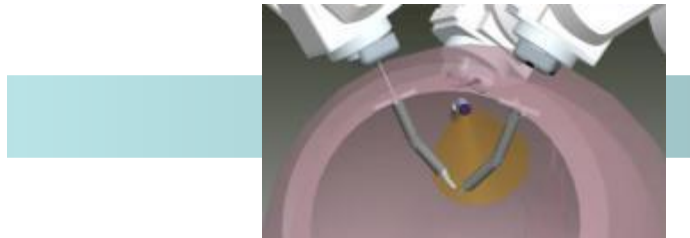


- External DOF to position the micro-arms in the abdominal cavity
- Novel parallel kinematics, able to provide 3 rotations and 1 translation
- Axes intersect at a remote centre of rotation in the MIS entry port

Approach preserving the oesophageal access

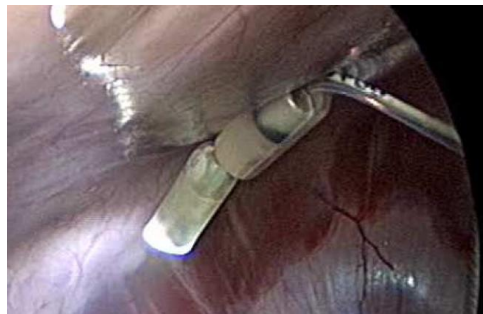
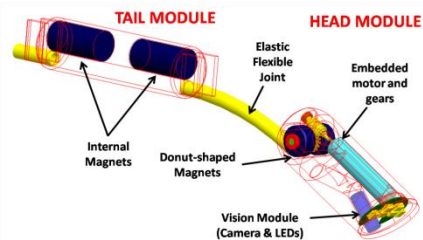
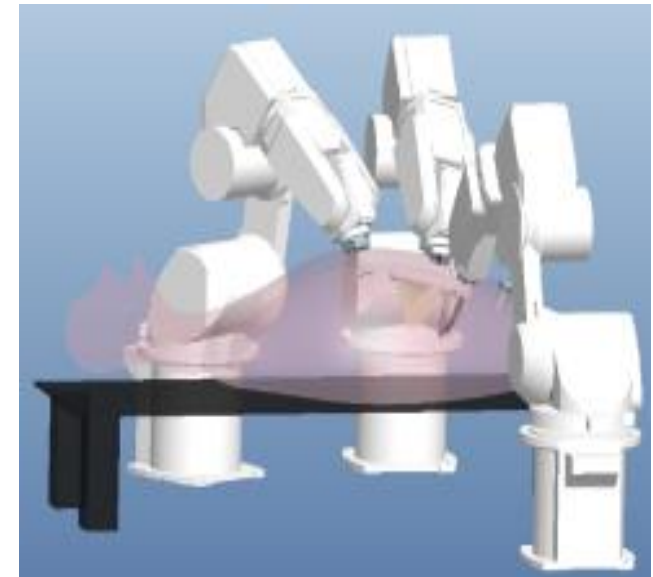
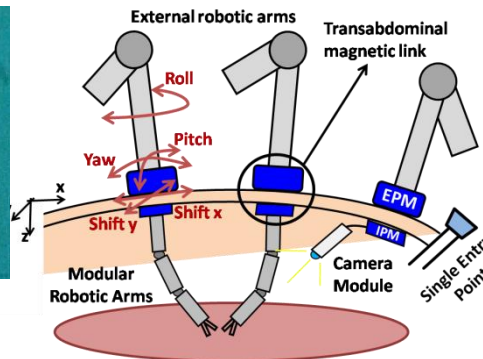
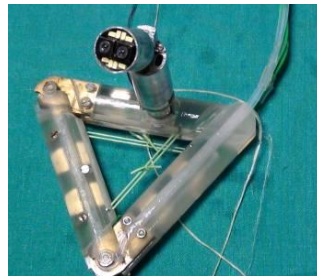


Research Platform (trocar/NOTES access)



ARAKNES Research platform

- **Magnetic frame** for robot positioning or for auxiliary device supporting
- **Robotic miniature manipulators** for dedicated tasks in MIS surgery
- **Magnetic levitation camera**



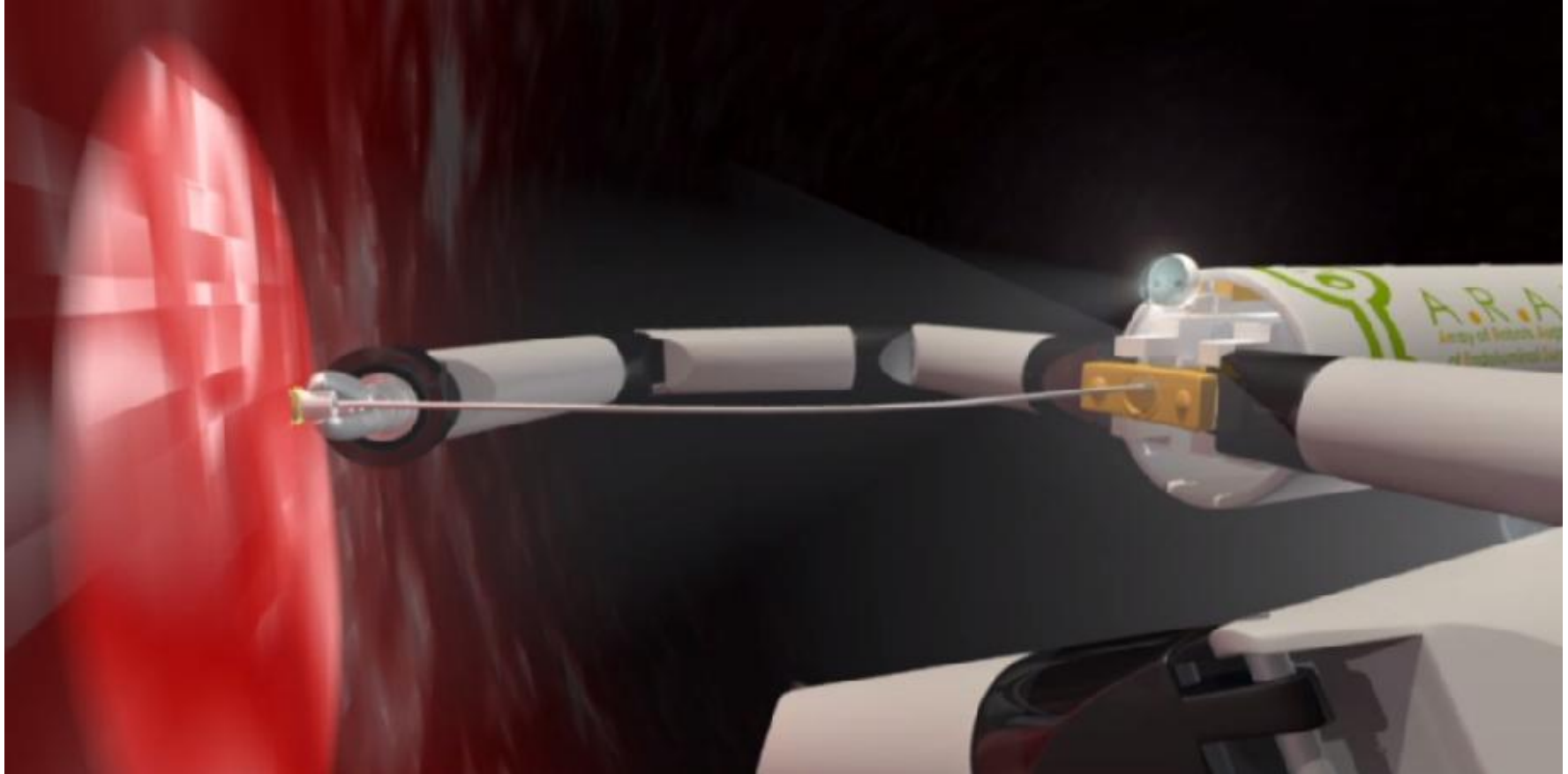
➤ Trans-abdominal magnetic link

- Passive link
- Active magnet rotation
- Active magnet translation



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ARAKNES Photonic-based and chemical-based devices



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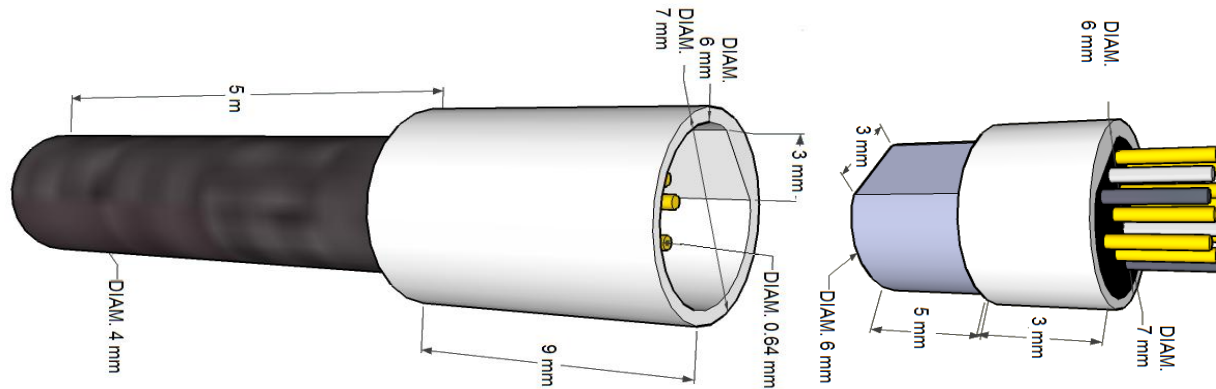


ARAKNES Micro and nano-systems for endoluminal monitoring & therapy

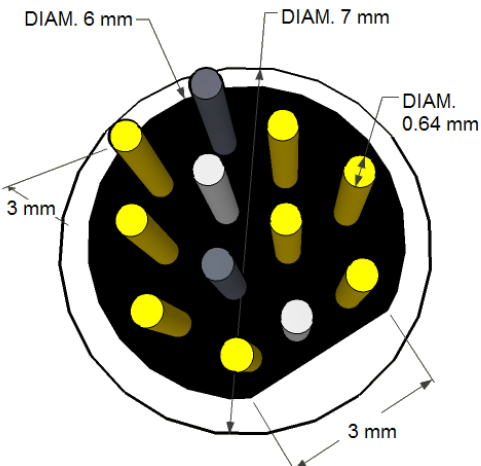
Electrochemical Multi-sensor array for ischemia monitoring in tissue.

Array Design:

Needle array for the electrochemical detection of pH, K^+ , pO_2 and pCO_2 in tissue has been developed by UB



Designed to be reusable, and with appropriate size for the endoscope and robot manipulation





ARAKNES Optics & Photonics technologies

Optics & photonics for monitoring, diagnostics and therapy

- ✓ **Raman spectroscopy**
- ✓ **OCT system – optical coherence tomography**
- ✓ **NIRS laparoscopy**

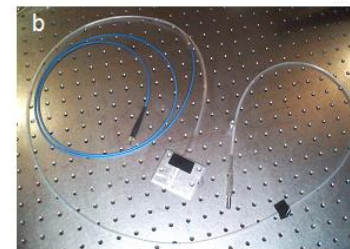
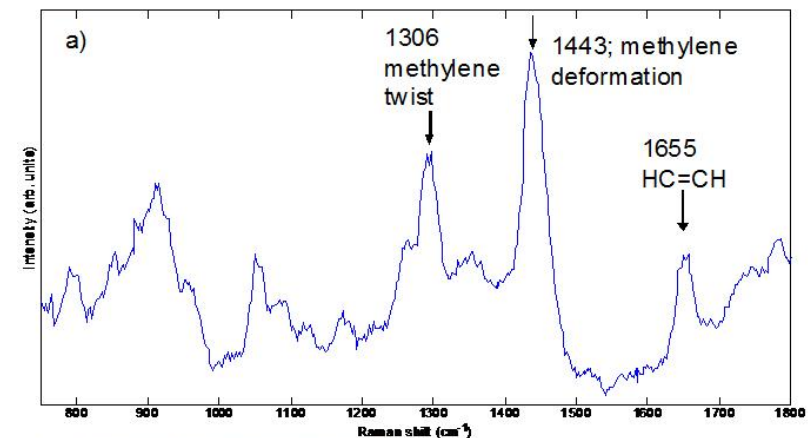
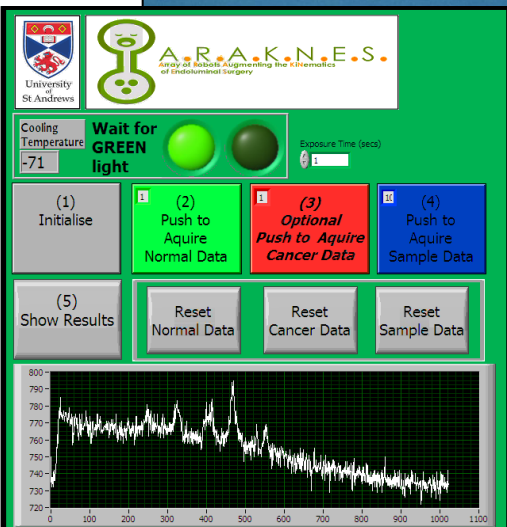
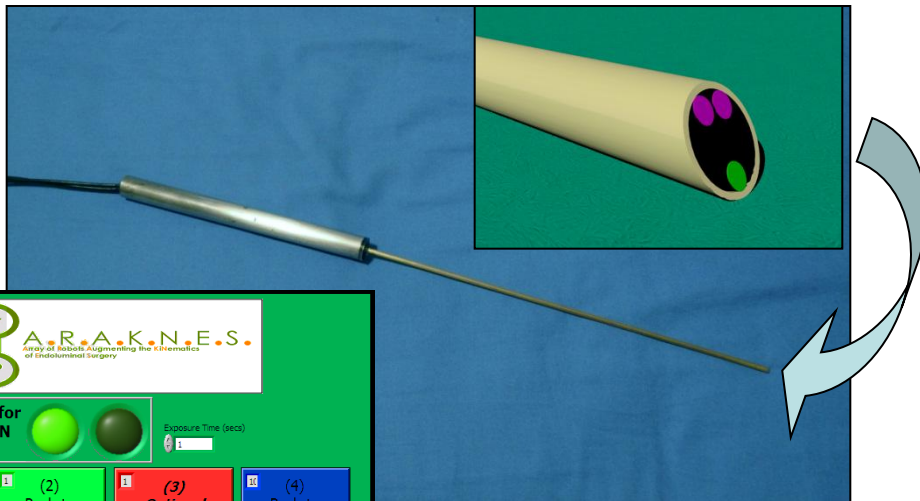
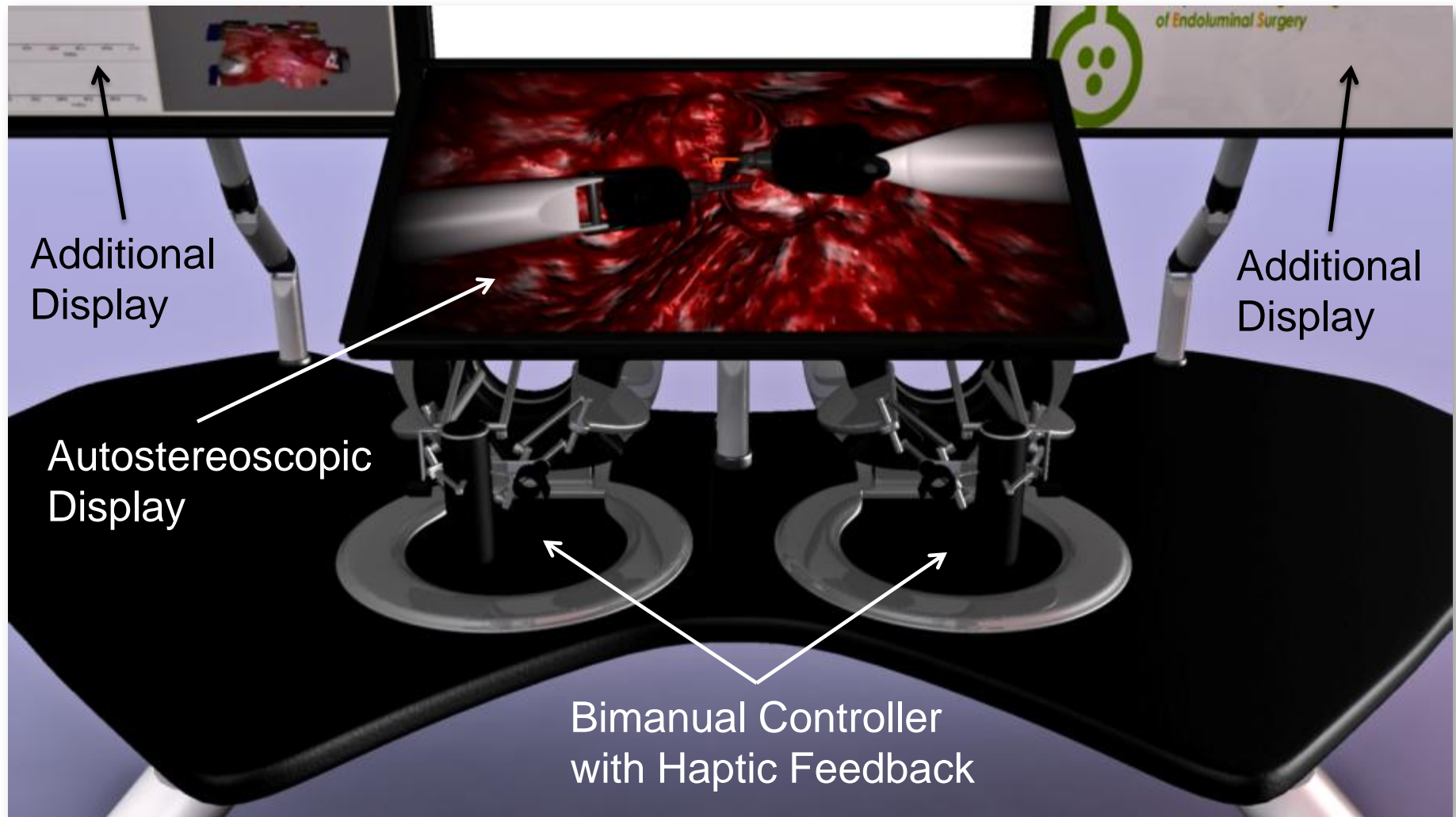


Fig1. a) Raman spectrum of porcine tissue taken with b) disposable Raman probe designed and constructed at USTAN. Acquisition time was 5s and power 30 mW at sample. Distinctive Raman peaks obtained match with literature¹



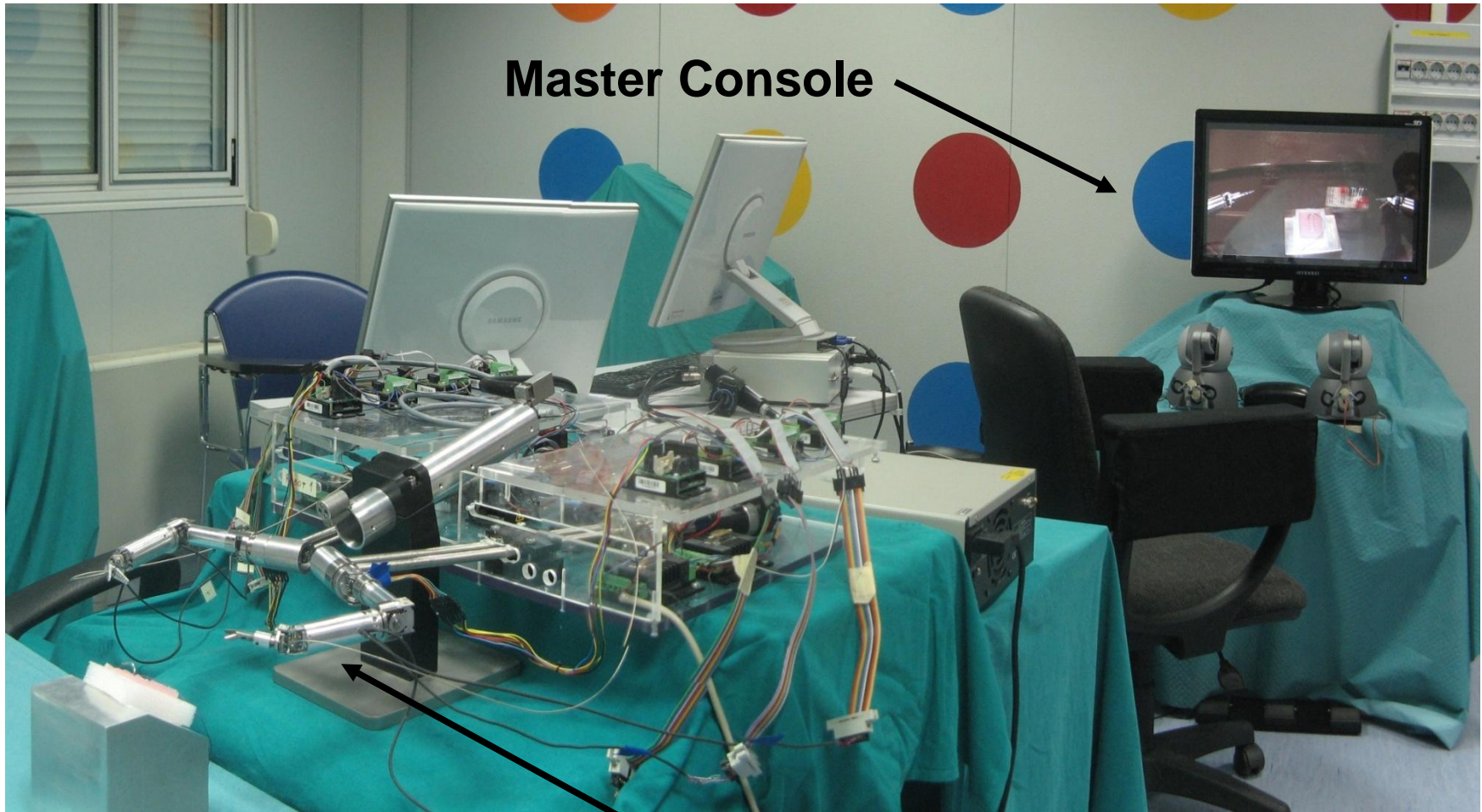
ARAKNES Console





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SPRINT ROBOTIC PLATFORM



Master Console

Slave Manipulator
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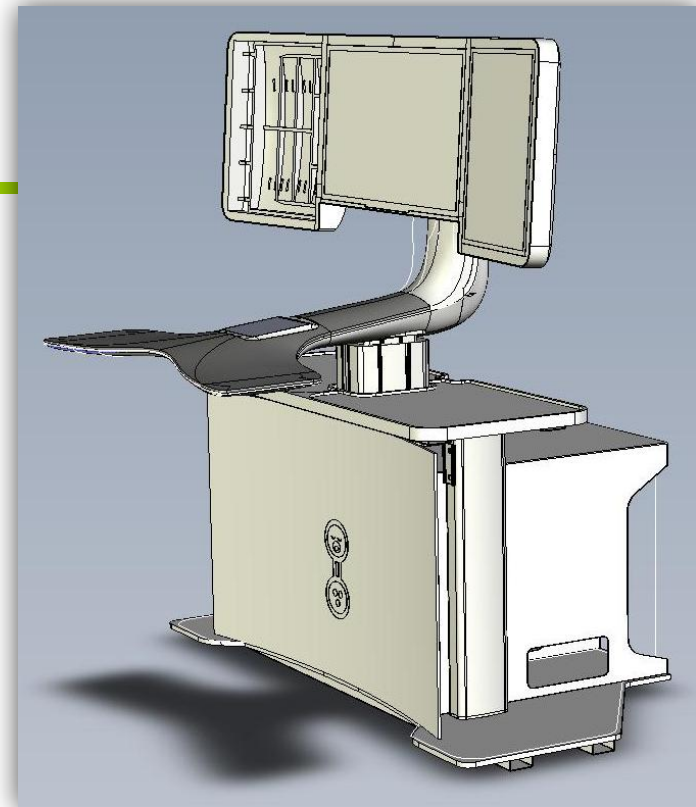


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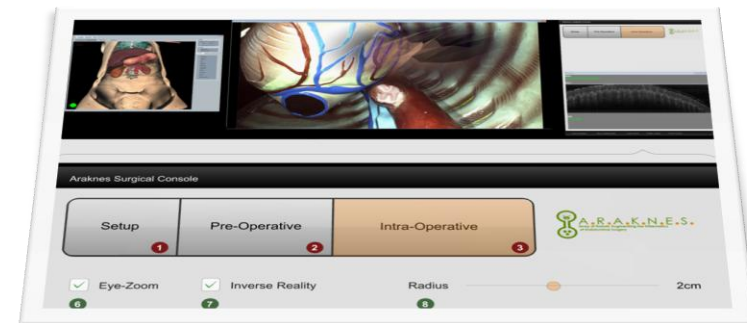




ARAKNES console



- ✓ Ergonomic design
- ✓ Fully user adjustable (height, screen tilting)
- ✓ 3D visualisation
- ✓ Eye-tracking enabled
- ✓ Generic haptic manipulators can be accommodated
- ✓ Ergonomic display of all data involved
- ✓ Setup, pre-op, intra-op phases





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- ARAKNES platform
- **ARAKNES exploitation**



We know our COMPETITORS ...

Other Relevant Competitors

- Olympus Surgical
- Fujinon
- Boston Scientific
- Ethicon Endo-Surgery
- Covidien



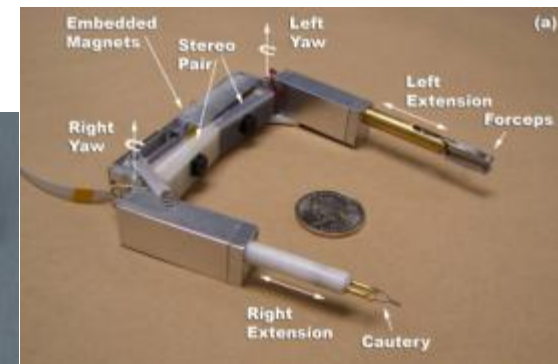
EndoWrist
Instruments
Intuitive Surgical, Inc.
USA



DaVinci Surgical System
Intuitive Surgical, Inc.
USA



Nebraska Surgical
Solutions, Inc., USA





We know our COMPETITORS ...



Sofie system from Eindhoven University of Technology



MiRO robot



I-SNAKE robot



Titan Medical's Amadeus Platform with KUKA Lightweight robot



Intuitive Surgical's robotic instrumentation for single-site surgery (VeSPA)

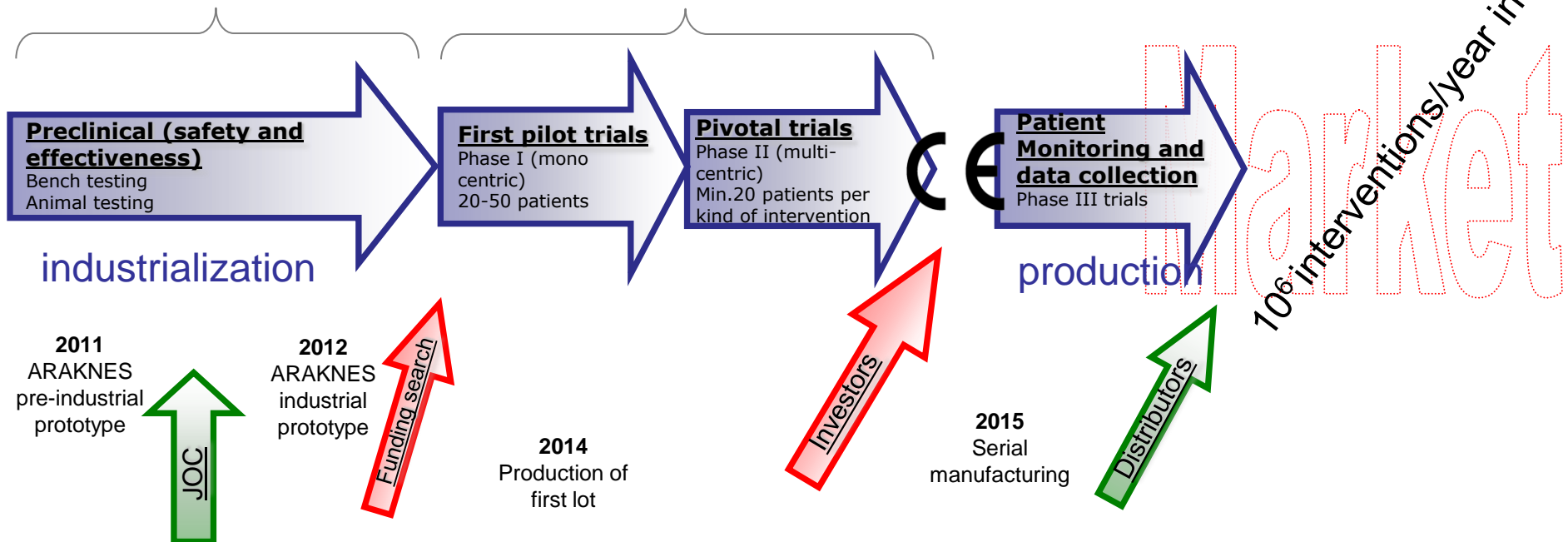


Intuitive Surgical prototype for single-hole surgery. (left) single robotic arm, (right) articulated end-effectors

Estimated overall cost: from 10 to 20 mil. €

Estimated trials cost:
from 200 to 500 k€

Estimated trials cost:
from 2 to 3 mil. €



Continuous Monitoring and updating of Business Plan



ARAKNES exploitation: problems

- In the medical field investments required (assets and machinery, electronic components and software, testing and trials) are large. A big problem is represented by **the lack of complementary resources**, especially for devices developed by academic institutes, such as investment capital, sales infrastructure and financial support.
- Established manufacturing firms are deterred by the high **technological and market uncertainties** associated with these opportunities. For disruptive technologies the volume, market share and growth rates of the prospective markets are still unknown, and the medical application is just emerging.

Eky Med





The aim of Exploitation

- To guide the transition from a result of research activities to the ultimate commercialization of innovations
- The aim is to attract investors and it could be done by:
 - Proving the market potential of the innovation (marketability)
 - to find resources needed to transform solutions into products
 - Developing prototypes (to demonstrate the technical feasibility)
 - to convince investors of the technological potential of the innovation





Research vs Industry

- **Regulation aspects:** marketing technological innovations in compliance with the high standards of the medical equipment industry requires high qualifications and competencies.
 - Regulations and standards
- **Market Potential:** to recognize the actual potential and impact of these innovations in the respective field of application and the market and to show and stress the degree of innovativeness of new product
 - Competitors analysis, Recent state-of-the-art reviews and market analysis
 - Definition Target application (Interview and questionnaire to surgeons)
 - Definition of market dimension (DRG analysis)
 - Business Plan (Costs, Swot analysis, Pricing strategy....)
- **Networking and promotion activities:** demonstration activities bring to a substantial reduction of the technological and market uncertainties associated with the new devices and helps to gain a sense of the emerging market for innovations.

Eky Med





Consortium activities

- PEC (Project Exploitation Committee) meetings focused on:
 - Identification of derivative devices
 - Development plans
 - IP activities
- Templates to partners:
 - Classification(2007/47 and 93/42/EEC)
 - Intended use
 - Risk analysis (ISO 14971)
- Consultants assistance
 - Business plan and SWOT analysis

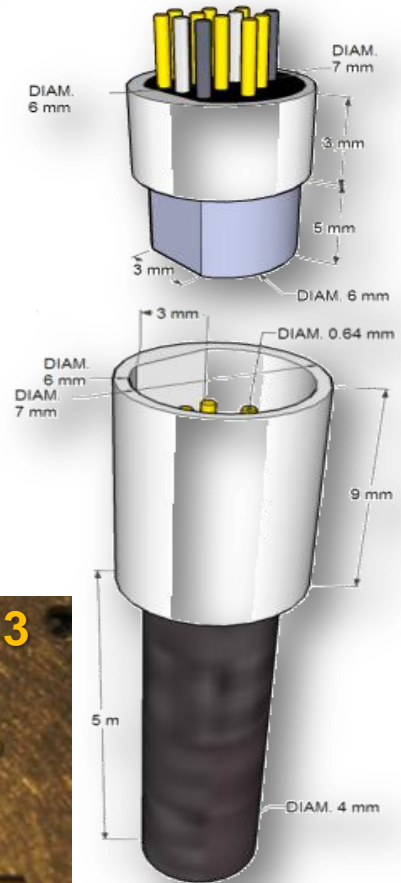




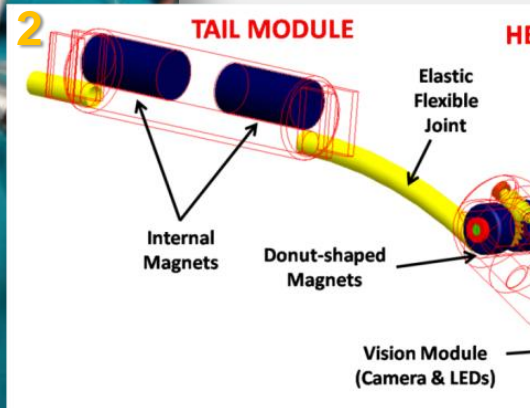
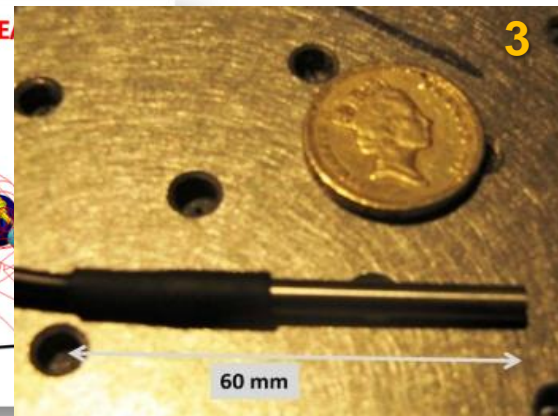
Most promising devices chosen for exploitation analysis

1. ARAKNES SPRINT (SSSUP, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna)
2. MIM camera (SSSUP)
3. Optical Sensors (USTAN, University of St. Andrews)
4. Electrochemical sensor (UB, University of Barcelona)

4



3



2



1



Conclusions

- A disruptive new technology being developed for scarless surgery
- Driven and oriented by surgical needs
- Exploring new engineering paradigms in miniaturization, reconfigurability, dexterity, intuitive control and operation, actuation, sensorization of surgical instruments
- A (potentially) high performance/low cost EU alternative to dominating US surgical products
- A platform for investigating and developing means for accurate, local, endoluminal diagnosis and therapy using microsystems technology

Thank you!



ARAKNES Project
MNBS 2012 – Athens – 3th May 2012



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