

US and Cuban surgeons share Robotic and Laparoscopy Workshop

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US and Cuban surgeons will share state-of-the-art techniques on laparoscopy and robotic. The workshop —which kicks off today in Havana— will focus on the three main specialties of minimum access surgeries in Cuba.

The workshop *Update of Robotic and Laparoscopy surgery*, sponsored by the National Center of Minimum Access Surgery, will delve into the development of Cuba in the fields of urology, gynecology, and general surgery.

There are in Cuba around 120 centers of this kind. Tania Gonzalez, chairwoman of the organizing committee and secretary of the Cuban society of Urology, pointed out that the institute heads the projects of introduction and generalization of laparoscopy techniques and other fields of the minimally invasive surgery.

Regarded as leader in the trainings of such practices in the country, the entity also offers counseling to physicians of the region. In fact, one of the goal of the tournament is to update us from such techniques and share with prestigious colleagues in the field.

One of the participants is American Vipul Patel, Medical Director of the Global Robotics Institute Celebration Health, who has gained additional experience

globally in the field of robotic surgery.

He will be accompanied by his fellow countryman Gaetano Cancio, well known in the transplant surgery in the US.

When referring to the usage of robotics, he noted that health authorities are looking for improvements in the technological field. He also added that this training is part of the methods to enhance Cuba's health care.

Cuba has not yet acquired this technology. But first steps are being made. Two general surgeons and one urologist are being trained abroad.

Sixty urologists, surgeons, and gynecologists dedicated to minimal access surgery are attending this event that will be held at the National Hotel of Cuba.

**Translated by Sergio A. Paneque Diaz / Cubasi Translation Staff**

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