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**PRESS RELEASE**

**ROBOTIC SURGERY IN TELEMEDICINE**  
**HYGEIA S.A.: The first total hysterectomy in Greece**  
**with the da Vinci ® S Robotic System**

**The first total hysterectomy in Greece** was successfully carried out with the latest-generation **Da Vinci ® S** Robotic Surgery System at the Diagnostic and Therapeutic Center of Athens - **HYGEIA**.

The operation was performed by the **1st Gynaecology Clinic** of **HYGEIA** under gynaecologist Mr. Emmanuel Kapetanakis in cooperation with a new partner of **HYGEIA**, the surgeon gynaecologist, Mr. Vassilis Kapetanakis, and the scientific workforce of **Mayo Clinic Arizona-USA**; the operation was **broadcasted in real time** during the daily conference held at the Hospital on Tuesday, July 1st 2008, titled "**Robotic Surgery in Gynaecology**".

In particular, a 52-year-old patient underwent a minimally invasive hysterectomy and ovary removal, without any direct contact of human hands or complications. The patient was able to discharge from the Hospital on the very same day of operation!

After the operation, Mr. E. Kapetanakis stated that "Expanding its scope to Gynaecology, Robotic Surgery opens new horizons and multiplies the significant advantages of laparoscopic surgery. Robotic surgery ensures precision within tenths of a millimetre and eliminates the probability of human error. Blood loss is minimal, hospitalization and rehabilitation time is significantly shorter, while the patient can return to normal life just a few hours after the operation."

**Mr. Javier F. Magrina, the Director of Mayo Clinic**, also referred to the application of robotic surgery to telemedicine, which enables surgeons to carry out operations remotely without the need of their physical appearance in the operating theatre. Although this method is still new, he added, it allows us to carry out operations in remote regions, such as islands, regions of natural disaster, etc.

Today, 867 Da Vinci robotic systems are installed worldwide, 150 of which operate in Europe and 3 operate in Greece, while more and more such operations are successfully carried out, thus making robotic surgery the "**Surgery of the future**".

**DIAGNOSTIC & THERAPEUTIC CENTER OF ATHENS HYGEIA S.A.**

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