

Media backgrounder

CMR Surgical (“CMR Surgical” or “CMR”)

Background

CMR Surgical is a British company developing the next-generation surgical robot, Versius®. Versius has been created and built by the CMR Surgical team in Cambridge, United Kingdom.

The company's aim is to make minimal access surgery available to all. Versius has been designed to fit seamlessly into today's operating rooms, work in harmony with the surgeon to improve patient outcomes and deliver value for healthcare providers.

About Versius

Versius is designed to meet the complex requirements of laparoscopic surgery and is intended to be used across a range of surgical specialities. Versatile and highly capable, its small, modular form factor and individually cart-mounted arms allow it to be moved effortlessly around the operating room, between operating suites and even hospitals. This combination of adaptability and portability allows hospital administrators to drive up utilisation of their robotics programme; improving hospital efficiency and clinical outcomes.

Versius mimics the dexterity and range of movement in the surgeon's own hand and wrist, and is designed to be flexible enough to handle the majority of laparoscopic procedures. With 3D HD vision, easy-to-adopt instrument control and a choice of ergonomic working positions, the open surgeon console has been designed to reduce stress and fatigue; offering the potential to prolong a surgeon's career. In addition, the versatility of the system and compelling commercial model allows healthcare providers to offer the benefits of robotic-assisted procedures in a cost-effective way.

Success to date

CMR Surgical has already filed more than 300 patents and announced a record-breaking financing round in June 2018, which raised \$100m in total; Europe's largest private Series B medical device funding raise.

The company has experienced significant growth since incorporation in 2014. CMR Surgical has more than doubled in size in twelve months. Today, the team creating Versius consists of over 220 highly-skilled people based out of the company's headquarters in Cambridge, UK. To accommodate this significant growth, CMR is due to move into its new 50,000 sq. ft global headquarters on the outskirts of the city, which will become the company's new HQ by the end of the year.

The company is currently undergoing validation studies for regulatory approval processes in Europe. CMR Surgical expects to submit for CE mark and be in hospitals in the next six months. The robotic system will first be used in hospitals in the UK and continental Europe, with wider international expansion shortly afterwards.

The founders

CMR Surgical's leadership team is made up of experienced commercial acumen and technical expertise, hiring the best business, engineering and clinical expertise.

- **Martin Frost is Chief Executive Officer.** An experienced commercial leader, Martin is formerly Group CEO and CFO of Sagentia and is experienced in founding, growing and scaling disruptive technology businesses in Cambridge. Martin is driven in his ambition and determination to make CMR Surgical a disruptive force in the medical devices sector and to bring about a revolution in surgery.
- **Luke Hares is Technology Director.** Having previously developed medical products, surgical robots and medical implants, Luke is the visionary behind the company's breakthrough solution for minimal access surgery.
- **Keith Marshall is Engineering Director.** With over 20 years' experience in product development, Keith leads the engineering and manufacturing team at CMR.
- **Paul Roberts is Operations Director.** Paul has more than 10 years' product and system development experience. He is an expert in control system design, electronics and software development. As Operations Director, Paul leads customer support, professional education and scale-up activities at CMR.
- **Mark Slack is Medical Director.** Formerly Head of Gynaecology at Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge, Mark has joined CMR in a full-time capacity to head up clinical operations and provide clinical insight on the design and delivery of Versius to the surgical community.

What is Minimal Access Surgery?

Minimal access surgery (sometimes known as keyhole or minimally invasive surgery) is an alternative to open surgery that was pioneered around 40 years ago. For patients and healthcare providers alike, the benefits of minimal access surgery are as numerous as they are compelling. The promise of reduced trauma, faster recovery and improved clinical outcomes has been the driving force behind the development of surgical robotics for decades. For example, the risk of infection from a robotically assisted hysterectomy is reduced by almost a factor of three compared with open surgery (from 6.5 per cent to 2.2 per cent).

There are an estimated six million open surgery procedures each year that could be performed using minimal access surgery, hereby minimising any drawbacks that result. CMR Surgical believes that robotics opens up the potential for millions more people to benefit from laparoscopic surgery.

Media enquires

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