Surgery in space: the future of robotic telesurgery (Haidegger T, Szandor J, Benyo Z. Surg Endosc 2011; 25(3):681–690)

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To the Editor

I read with interest the article published by Haidegger et al. [1] in the March issue of *Surgical Endoscopy*. They, however, wrongly state that the very first human trials with the Mona robot prototype involved “vascular and gynecologic procedures.” In fact, on 3 March 1997, I successfully performed the first two telesurgical laparoscopic cholecystectomies as well as a lysis of adhesions in the Saint-Blasius General Hospital at Dendermonde, Belgium [2]. A vascular anastomosis (an arteriovenous fistula for dialysis) was performed by Dr Marc Bosiers on the same occasion. No gynecologic procedures were performed at

that time. The next telesurgical procedures were performed by Dr Guy-Bernard Cadière in Paris 1 year later in May 1998.

References

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