

Thanks to the tireless explorations of our pioneers and the advances in medical theories and techniques, the past decades have witnessed an unprecedented development in thoracic surgical skills. The innovation and improvement in technology has also brought thoracic surgery forward by leaps and bounds. Meanwhile, technical innovations have also contributed to the leapfrog developments in thoracic surgery. The da Vinci Surgical System is an attempt at introducing scientific and technological advances into the field of surgery.

It was introduced in China in 2006, and since then, it has been widely used in many major hospitals, especially in general surgery and thoracic surgery. It has a high-definition 3D stereoscopic imaging system with an overall magnification of 10 and is equipped with a 720-degree rotating Endo Wrist[®] simulated wrist. Therefore, it can perform basic surgical operations such as tissue cutting, hemostasis, and suturing and can complete a surgery within a limited space. The da Vinci Surgical System helps to reduce intraoperative trauma, relieves postoperative pain, and accelerates postoperative recovery.

The Department of Thoracic Surgery of Ruijin Hospital Affiliated to Shanghai Jiaotong University School of Medicine is one of the centers in China that have performed a large number of surgeries with the da Vinci Surgical System and has accumulated rich experience. Based on the anatomy of the lungs, esophagus, and mediastinum, this practical and explanatory book focuses on the key points and skills of the application of the da Vinci Surgical System in thoracic surgery. As an illustrated education material, this book uses a large number of pictures to introduce and display the anatomical points and explains the steps and difficulties of each surgical procedure. The texts are simple and concise, so that readers can understand them quickly and easily. This book can help the reader to speed up the learning curve and hence grasp the operating techniques of the system at a faster pace.

Thus, I would like to recommend this book *Robotic Thoracic Surgery: Ruijin Hospital Experience*, edited by Prof. Hecheng Li and his colleagues from Ruijin Hospital Affiliated to Shanghai Jiaotong University School of Medicine, to all thoracic surgeons around the world. I truly believe that all readers will benefit from this informative and useful book.

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