



Cambridge Society for the Application of Research

Churchill College
Storey's Way
Cambridge
CB3 0DS

www.csar.org.uk

Robotic Surgery (and the treatment of prostate cancer)

Professor David Neal

Professor of Surgical Oncology, University of Cambridge

7.30 p.m., Monday 30th November, 2009

The Wolfson Lecture Theatre, **Churchill College**, Storey's Way, Cambridge

Professor Neal will elucidate the underlying factors of prostate cancer, and the merits of screening. Prostate cancer is the most common solid tumour found in men and accounts for about 35,000 new cases each year in the UK. About 10,000 men die each year from it. The prostate gland is small, weighing around 20g, and its development is strongly driven by the male sex hormone testosterone and its receptor the androgen receptor.

Some recent clinical trials on screening will be reviewed and some recent data on genetic predisposition for the disease will be outlined. Professor Neal will describe some recent advances in our understanding of the molecular biology of the disease before finishing with a review of his experience in carrying out over 500 robotic prostatectomy operations.

About the speaker:

David E Neal FMedSci, FSB, FFPM, MS, FRCS

Professor Neal is Professor of Surgical Oncology at the University of Cambridge, a newly-created post. His focus is prostate cancer, especially the effect of androgen receptors on prostate cell growth. His main clinical work is treating men with prostate cancer. His team has developed the technique of robotic prostatectomy, and has carried out over 500 operations. An outstanding teacher, as well as a scientist and surgeon, many who have trained with Professor Neal have gone on to become professors!

The Organising Secretary adds....

Prostate cancer is almost as prevalent in men as breast cancer is in women – although until very recently it received much less attention. Procedures for its treatment are tricky, and range from classical surgery, through laparoscopy to the use of robots. Various radiation treatments also exist, including the implantation of highly radioactive 'seeds'. The latest treatments include focussed microwave, and cryotherapy using liquid nitrogen! Chemical treatments tend to be less useful, since it is a slow-growing (but potentially lethal) cancer.

Professor Neal has established Addenbrooke's as a centre of excellence for robotic surgery, based upon the da Vinci robot. Here, the surgeon manipulates the tools remotely, guided by a miniature stereo microscope inserted into the patient! The procedure is much less traumatic for the patient than conventional surgery, although many believe that conventional surgery – with the right surgeon – still has the edge.

Coffee will be available in the foyer outside the Wolfson Lecture Theatre from ~7.00 p.m.

Best Regards

Richard Freeman

Organising Secretary

Phone 01799 525 948 (home)

07787 511 006 (mobile)

01707 398 729 (work)

richard.freeman@ntlworld.com

richardf@exemplas.com

For those who would like to become **full members** of the CSAR, **Individual Membership** costs £25 for the academic year. **Family Membership** costs £35 and entitles the Member to bring a guest (including family) to any CSAR meeting. Members are also eligible to take part in our exclusive, members-only visits. These are often to places not open to the public.

Non-members may attend individual lectures upon payment of a fee of £3.00 each.

If you wish to join and enjoy the many benefits of membership, please complete the following, and return it with payment to a CSAR officer, or post it to Barry Thompson at the address below. Cheques payable to '**Cambridge Society for the Application of Research**' may be handed to one of our officers, or sent by post to: Barry Thompson, Cambridge Enterprise, University of Cambridge, 10 Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1QA

NAME

(and title, Prof, Mr, Ms, etc):

ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

PHONE:

Council

Prof Brian J Ford (President)
Dr Peter Forster (Vice President)
Dr Nigel Bennée (Membership Secretary)
Mr Robin Bligh (Honorary Treasurer)
Dr Richard Freeman (Organising Secretary)
Mrs Elizabeth Platts (Visits Organiser)

Sir Tom Blundell
Mr Jim Cleland
Sir Sam Edwards
Dr David Fyfe
Mrs S Gurney
Dr Richard Jennings
Dr Debbie Stokes