



drishti

Telerobotic Coronary Surgery in Gujarat

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India became the **first country** to perform a telerobotic coronary surgery on human.

- The telerobotic coronary intervention was **performed in Gujarat** by Padma Shree and noted cardiologist Dr Tejas Patel on a middle-aged woman who had volunteered for the first experimental coronary stenting.
- Tele-robotic surgery is performed at a distance from the patient from a remote location using robotically controlled instruments. It is enabled by computer technology and advanced robotics.
- The coronary intervention operation is also popularly known as **stent placing in the arteries**.
- The robotic surgery is common in many countries but so far nowhere it had been performed through telerobots away from the operation theatre.

Significance

- This process will bring about revolution in the medical history as it will enable the cardiologists to **perform surgery on the needy patients on emergency basis** even from a distance.
- The success of the project has the potential to dramatically **improve the access of doctors to patients with heart and stroke ailments**, especially in rural and under-served areas.
- In case of any exigency or failure of the internet connections, the surgeons present at the spot could take over manually within 30 seconds.

TeleMedicine

- Telemedicine is an upcoming field in health science arising out of the effective **fusion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) with Medical Science**.
- The main objective of telemedicine is to **cross the geographical barriers** and **provide healthcare facilities to rural and remote areas (health for all)** so it is beneficial for the population living in isolated communities.

Advantages of TeleMedicine

- Eliminate distance barriers and improve access to quality health services.
- In emergency and critical care situations where moving a patient may be undesirable and/or not feasible.
- Facilitate patients and rural practitioners' access to specialist health services and support.
- Lessen the inconvenience and/or cost of patient transfers.
- Reduce isolation of rural practice by upgrading their knowledge through tele-education.