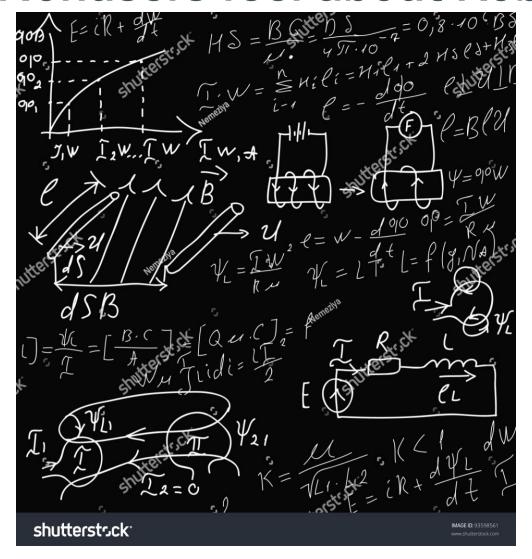
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Tips, Tricks, and Pitfalls of Robotic Usage

UCSF/HOI Meeting Michael Hunter MD Huntington Beach, CA Sept, 2025

How Nonusers feel about Robotics



Robotic/Navigation Usage in TKA

- Expected to be 70% of TKAs in the US by 2030 (Khan et. al.)
- Many Different platforms all with advantages and disadvantages (image based vs. imageless, Saws/Burrs/ Balancing devices etc)



Start by Determining your goals

- Efficiency
- Preoperative planning
- Balancing Devices
- Implant Manufacturer
- Footprint
- Versatility



The Lineup













- Proper pin placement (revision cases can be different)
- Suboptimal position can make the case more challenging/frustrating
- Metaphyseal pins with lower fracture risk

BAD BONE= BAD IDEA FOR ROBOTICS



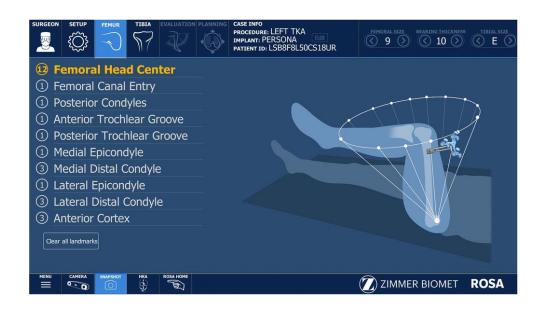
Robots are NOT PERFECT!

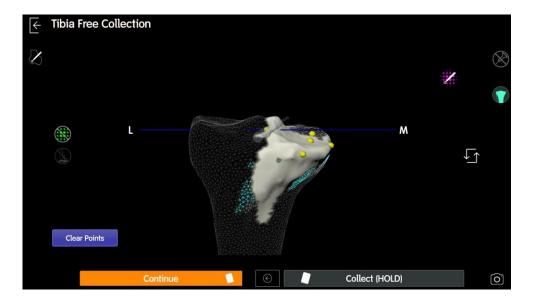
Double check critical steps
Throughout case
(femoral rotation/tib resection, etc)

- Trouble arises when the process becomes passive
- Have a backup plan, maintain Manual knee proficiency



- Registration points are essential (SLOW DOWN)
- Garbage in = garbage out





- Relies on frequent estimation (don't be afraid to adjust your work flow)
- Start with easy cases that require less guesstimation







- Releases don't equal failure!
- They will still be required in restricted implant position parameters







- Give yourself ample time for the first several cases
- Efficiency comes with practice
- Shadow a fellow surgeon who is proficient in that system





Robotic Usage for THA

- Becoming more and more popular
- Showing increased accuracy amongst posterior surgeons and developing revision technology









Tips for THA Usage

- Don't drape yourself out for iliac pin placement

- May need to have contralateral ASIS palpable

- Start with thin, easy anatomic patients







Tips for THA Usage

- Choose your system based off individual needs



Recap

- Robots are real and here to stay
- You still need to think and be a surgeon
- They aren't perfect
- Choose the system that works best for your individual goals
- Never be afraid to shadow, scrub, or ask questions from high volume users

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