

Cardiac surgery to turn minimally invasive

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The future of cardiac surgery will be minimally invasive, noted experts at the two-day live surgical workshop on 'Minimally invasive mitral valve surgery' (MIVS) held here on Friday. Rheumatic valvular heart disease was common in young patients in India and MIVS for them enabled quick recovery, they said.

Organised by MIOT International, renowned surgeon Prof. Nicholas Doll from Stuttgart, Germany said that the new technique, though hard to learn, was becoming popular. MIOT, which has performed over 50 minimally invasive cardiac surgeries, coined the term, 'key-hole surgery' and patented it some 10 years ago, said managing director of MIOT Prof. Dr P.V.A. Mohandas. It involved fewer incisions, less blood loss and saved soft tissues from being destroyed.

"Surgeries can be performed between ribs without cutting the bone. In the traditional method, hospital stay lasts for eight to 10 days, whereas in this technique the stay is less than six days and the patient can go back to work in three or four weeks," said Dr. Vijit K. Cherian, consultant-cardio thoracic surgeon.

However, MIVS can't be performed on patients who have other organ dysfunctions and those who have already undergone heart surgery. The cost is nearly Rs. 75,000 more than that of conventional surgery.

Dr V.V. Bashi, chairman, Centre for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Care, stressed on innovation and the need for developing the skill to perform MIVS. Latest technologies, including 3D, were discussed at the workshop.

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