[NECA Round Table Conference for social consensus]
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Record Status
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Citation

Authors' objectives
This research aims to highlight the four themes of the Round Table Conference (RTC); effectiveness and safety of robot surgery for a patient with gastric cancer or prostate cancer; clinical usefulness of imaging diagnosis for early Alzheimer’s dementia; patient handbook on stem cell therapy by applying 1) improved administrative process, 2) the transparent process for topics selection, 3) comprehensive participation from various sectors and comprehensive discussion, 4) ensuring publicity for the results report, and 5) sufficient deliberative processes.

Authors' conclusions
○ Research result on the roundtable conference on robot surgery for the patient with stomach cancer Comparisons of robot-assisted gastric cancer surgery and laparoscopic surgery did not show any statistical differences in safety or effectiveness same as the other research results from the U.S. in mortality, complications, or the length of hospital stay. In terms of price, however, the robot surgery cost significantly more. ○ Research results on the roundtable conference on prostate cancer robotic surgery Robot-assisted surgery was first used in urology and has been most commonly implemented. Compared to laparotomy or laparoscopic surgery, robot-assisted surgery shows less complication such as urinary incontinence, a decline in sexual functions, and bleeding during surgery. There is also an advantage in that doctors who perform robot-assisted surgery feel less tired. Furthermore, robot-assisted surgery causes less damage to peripheral organs, reduces hospital stays, and is relatively less painful since it enhances the visual field into three dimensions during surgery. ○ Research results on the roundtable conference on dementia diagnosis In summary, this roundtable conference was thought to be instrumental in forming the shared perspectives among clinical experts and policy makers on the possibility and effectiveness of the imaging diagnostic test including FDG-PET for Alzheimer’s early diagnosis, its insurance coverage, etc. Moreover, though there are no grounds valid enough to draw the conclusion that all Alzheimer’s patients should be entitled to certain image examinations or insurance benefits, a positive review deems it necessary to explore cases having therapeutic importance in order to develop new treatment. ○ Research results on stem cells therapy The panel expressed concerns about the patients were confused about stem cell therapy with unauthorized therapies and exposed to the treatment in the clinical trial stage. Therefore, the participated panels emphasized that patient handbook have to contain the evidence-based information to ensure the safety of the general public, as well as the patients. As a result of this round table conference, patient handbook which was confirmed the contents by the participated panel was published.

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