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New MICS book introduces novel educational concept for cardiac surgery

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Aims to impart the latest knowhow and skills for practicing cardiologists, heart surgeons, perfusionists and nurses



A novel book concept and educational paradigm offered in the form of a practical guide in Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (MICS) was recently launched at an event held at the National University Heart Centre, Singapore (NUHCS).

The book, titled “Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery – A Practical Guide”, covers a myriad of complex surgery techniques and aims to impart the latest knowhow and skills for practicing cardiologists, heart surgeons, perfusionists and nurses. This is done via a totally novel educational platform that unfolds interactively, using QR codes, for the first time in printed surgical education.

The book features more than 100 QR codes within its pages. Readers can scan the QR code as they read each paragraph and they will be transferred to a collection of essential audio-visual material, which along with didactic texts focuses on the practical aspects of MICS where readers can access and see how heart surgery procedures are performed.

The chapters in the book are laid out in a way that the readers can refer to resources online on the types of instruments to use, footages of surgery, conference and events, and alternative techniques to learn.

Globally, there continues to be a growing demand for less invasive surgical techniques to treat patients. However, less invasive techniques are often complex and require special skills and knowhows.

Beyond providing detailed surgical approaches, A Practical Guide includes a chapter with a step-by-step guide on establishing a minimally invasive cardiac programme. This is especially important for practitioners in developing countries, where there is less expertise and experience in offering such a programme.

The main author and editor of the book, Associate Professor Theo Kofidis, Head and Senior Consultant, Department of Cardiac, Thoracic and Vascular Surgery, NUHCS and Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore said: “As a teaching resource, reference book and manual written by surgeons who both operate and teach the procedures described within, this book is a culmination, and indeed the crown jewel, of many

years of dedication to minimally invasive heart procedures. Minimally invasive cardiac surgery is an integral component of every future cardiac surgeon’s training, and we hope that the book will be an invaluable guide as it covers the latest research, trends and innovations in the field.”

Photo credit: National University Heart Centre, Singapore (NUHCS)