

NEWS

# Grandad from Macclesfield among first to have robotic prostate surgery

Barry Kenyon, 73, underwent the pioneering keyhole treatment during two-day hospital stay

By **Stefan Jajecznyk**

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**Barry Kenyon with surgical assistant Julie Ann Pilkington, consultant Vincent Tang and the robot.**

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A grandad was one of the first patients to undergo a new, pioneering robotic surgery to treat a prostate condition.

Retired design engineer Barry Kenyon, 73, was the first to receive the robotic keyhole treatment during an operation last month.



This is the first time the new technique has been used to treat a patient with an enlarged prostate in the north west and one of only few in the UK.

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Barry - who lives with wife Iris in Macclesfield and has two children and three grandchildren - was diagnosed with Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), which is a common condition in men over 50.

The condition - which involves the prostate being enlarged, leading to bladder stones - can be painful and affect the ability to urinate.

Traditionally, the very large prostate was operated on using invasive open surgery but the new procedure allows surgeons to use a robot to perform the operation - allowing for a quicker recovery.

Barry was diagnosed earlier in the year and, after the operation - which was performed at Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport - said: "I was very pleased to be the first to have this new operation.

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"I was prepared to feel unwell for about six weeks, but with this it was more like six days.

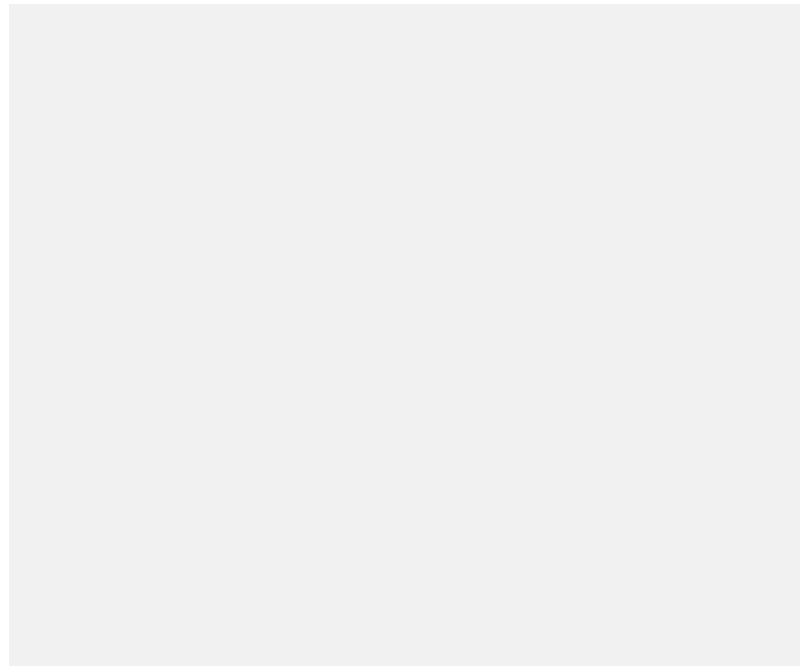
“They’ve done a great job – full marks to the team!”

The new procedure is quicker, simpler, safer, less bloody and results in a quicker recovery time.

Using the old procedure the patients would normally spend around a week in hospital, but with the operation done robotically this is now reduced to around 48 hours. The recovery time at home is swifter too.

Vincent Tang, the Consultant Urological surgeon who was trained in robotic surgery in the UK and Australia – who carried out Barry’s surgery – said: “The procedure is new to the north west.

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“I regularly perform robotic radical prostate surgery for prostate cancer, but this is the first time we’ve been able to offer robotic surgery on a patient with very large BPH and bladder stones.

“Thanks to the fantastic theatre team the operation was a success, I am glad to see Barry recovered quickly.

“Certainly this has added more options for our patients with a similar condition and we hope to see other patients benefit from it soon.”

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