



SWAMI RAMA HIMALAYAN UNIVERSITY

Himalayan Institute of Medical Sciences

Department of General Surgery

Report on AI in Surgical Training Workshop on 17th December 2025 organized by Department of General Surgery

Venue: B. C. Roy Auditorium, Swami Rama Himalayan University (SRHU)

Participants: 157 Faculties and Residents

Organising Committee

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Dr. Hemant Nautiyal

Professor and Head, Department of General Surgery

HIMS, SRHU

Organising Secretary

Dr. Divyanshu Ghildiyal

Assistant Professor, Department of General Surgery

HIMS, SRHU

About the Workshop

The **AI in Surgical Training Workshop** was organized by the Department of General Surgery, HIMS, SRHU, in collaboration with the **Vattikuti Foundation** and **Orsi Academy**, Belgium. The workshop aimed to introduce medical students, surgeons, nurses, and multidisciplinary faculty to the fundamentals, applications, and future potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in surgical education and practice.

The event brought together eminent international and national experts in surgical AI, robotic surgery, and medical education to provide both theoretical insights and practical demonstrations.

Distinguished Faculty

- Dr. Mahendra Bhandari, CEO, Vattikuti Foundation
 - Prof. Dr. Alex Mottrie, CEO, Orsi Academy, Ghent, Belgium
 - Dr. Niki Rashidian, Co-Director Education, Orsi Academy; HPB Surgeon, Ghent, Belgium
 - Dr. ir. Pieter De Backer, Surgical AI Lead, Orsi Innotech, Ghent, Belgium
 - Marco Mezzina, Computer Vision Engineer, Orsi Innotech, Melle, Belgium
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Programme Highlights

Morning Session (SRHU Grand Rounds)

The workshop commenced with a **Welcome Address** by Dr. Hemant Nautiyal, followed by an introduction and context setting by Dr. Mahendra Bhandari and Prof. Dr. Alex Mottrie.

Session 1: *What is AI?*

Dr. Pieter De Backer provided a general introduction to AI, covering key concepts, terminology, and its relevance to healthcare.

Session 2: *AI in Surgery – Opportunities and Challenges*

Dr. Niki Rashidian discussed how AI is influencing modern surgical practice, highlighting clinical examples, ethical considerations, and current challenges.

Session 3: *Panel Discussion and Open Q&A*

An interactive discussion with all faculty members allowed participants to engage directly with experts on the role of AI in healthcare and surgery.

The morning session concluded with a **High Tea**.

Afternoon Session

The afternoon began with the **Inauguration and Felicitation of Faculty** by the Hon'ble President, Dr. Vijay Dhasmana.

Key Sessions Included:

- *Orsi Academy & Vattikuti Foundation Collaboration* – Dr. Mahendra Bhandari
- *AI Fundamentals for Surgeons* – Dr. Pieter De Backer
- *Applications of AI in Urology and Robotic Surgery* – Prof. Dr. Alex Mottrie
- *Building AI Models: From Lab to Operating Room* – Dr. Niki Rashidian

An **Interactive Demonstration and Video Case Session** showcased real-world AI tools in surgical practice, followed by active audience participation.

Special Sessions:

- *Pitfalls and Limitations of Surgical AI* – Marco Mezzina
- *AI in Healthcare: HIMS Experience* – Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Science & Technology

The day concluded with a **Panel Discussion on the Future of Surgical AI**, focusing on emerging trends and opportunities for young surgeons to engage in AI research.

Conclusion

The workshop successfully highlighted the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in surgical training and healthcare delivery. It provided valuable exposure to current innovations, practical challenges, and future directions of AI in surgery. The event reinforced SRHU's commitment to integrating technology, education, and clinical excellence.



Thanking you

Yours sincerely,


Dr. Hemant Nautiyal
Professor and Head, Department of General Surgery
HIMS, SRHU