

Dr Ashwin K R

Professional Experience

Head of Department and Senior Consultant, Surgical Oncology Aster Whitefield Hospital, Bengaluru Aster International Institute of Oncology	Sep 2022–Present
- Leads the surgical oncology service across robotic, gastrointestinal, colorectal, peritoneal surface, breast, and gynecologic oncology. - Helped establish the IOERT program and expand departmental surgical activity to approximately 80–100 procedures per month by 2025–2026. - Directs multidisciplinary care, protocol development, clinical research, and resident/fellow teaching.	
Consultant, Surgical Oncology Manipal Hospitals, Bengaluru	Jul 2017–Aug 2022
Associate Consultant, Surgical Oncology Manipal Hospital, Bengaluru	Jul 2014–Jun 2017
Senior Registrar, Surgical Oncology Bangalore Institute of Oncology and Sri Shankara Cancer Centre, Bengaluru	Jun 2009–Dec 2011
Registrar, Plastic Surgery St Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru	May 2005–Feb 2006

Education and Board Certification

2014	European Board of Surgery Qualification in Surgical Oncology (EBSQ), Brussels, Belgium
2011–2014	DNB, Surgical Oncology (Oncosurgery), Manipal Hospital, Bengaluru
2006–2009	DNB, General Surgery, St Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru
1999–2004	MBBS, Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences, Bengaluru

International Fellowships and Advanced Training

- Pancreatic cancer surgery** — Heidelberg University Medical Center, Germany
- IOERT certification and training** — Clínica Universidad de Navarra, Madrid, Spain
- Robotic upper gastrointestinal surgery** — Severance Hospital, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, Republic of Korea | 2023
- PIPAC certification** — Singapore | Nov 2019
- da Vinci robotic surgery certification** — Oct 2017
- Advanced hepatobiliary surgery** — Hôpital Paul-Brousse, Paris, France | Nov 2016
- Oncoplastic and breast reconstructive surgery** — Hull University Teaching Hospitals and University Hospitals of North Midlands, United Kingdom | Oct 2016
- Advanced cytoreductive surgery and HIPEC** — Hospices Civils de Lyon, France | 2015
- Gynecologic oncology** — Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA | 2012
- Breast-conserving surgery and sentinel lymph-node biopsy** — UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA | 2012

Leadership and Program Development

- Departmental leadership for high-volume surgical oncology, multidisciplinary case review, quality improvement, and clinical governance.
- Program development in robotic oncology, CRS-HIPEC, PIPAC, and IOERT, with integration of perioperative pathways and specialist team training.
- Faculty teaching and mentorship for residents, fellows, surgeons, and multidisciplinary oncology teams.

Current Research Portfolio

- Total neoadjuvant therapy strategies in rectal cancer.
- BRCA-directed analysis in triple-negative breast cancer.

- Neoadjuvant PIPAC with systemic therapy in advanced epithelial ovarian cancer.
- PIPAC strategies in recurrent epithelial ovarian cancer.
- KELIM as a response and prognostic marker in ovarian cancer.
- Enhanced recovery pathways for CRS-HIPEC and complex cytoreductive surgery.

Honours and Awards

- Citation and Best Paper Award, Indian Association of Gastrointestinal Endo-Surgeons / Journal of Minimal Access Surgery, 2022.
- ESMO International Travelling Fellowship, ESMO Breast Congress, Berlin, 2019.
- ESMO International Travelling Fellowship, ESMO GI Congress, Barcelona, 2019.
- Asia Pacific Cancer Congress International Travelling Fellowship, Seoul, 2017.
- Detroit International Fellowship, Indian Association of Surgical Oncology, 2016.
- Indo-UK Travelling Fellowship, Association of Breast Surgeons of India-BASO, 2016.
- Best Video Presentation, Asian Clinical Oncology Society, New Delhi, 2016.
- UICC ICRETT Fellowship, Geneva, 2015.
- European Society of Surgical Oncology International Travelling Fellowship, Amsterdam, 2013.

Selected Scientific Presentations

- Robotic ultra-low anterior resection — Best Video Presentation, Asian Clinical Oncology Society, New Delhi, 2016.
- iBreast screening: triple-blinded prospective study for screening in developing countries — International ABSICON-BASO, Bengaluru, 2016.
- Intraperitoneal chemotherapy for epithelial ovarian cancer: Indian experience — ESSO34-BASO, Liverpool, 2014.
- Predictors of sentinel lymph-node metastases in women with early breast cancer in India — ESSO34-BASO, Liverpool, 2014.
- Robotic-assisted surgery versus laparotomy for rectal cancer in India — European Cancer Congress, Amsterdam, 2013.
- Dose-dense versus conventional three-weekly adjuvant chemotherapy in triple-negative early breast cancer — European Cancer Congress, Amsterdam, 2013.
- Robotic-assisted surgery versus laparotomy for rectal cancer — Millennium Gold Award, Bengaluru Medical College, 2013.

Professional Memberships

European Society of Surgical Oncology	European Society for Medical Oncology
Society of Surgical Oncology	Indian Association of Surgical Oncology
Association of Breast Surgeons of India	Association of Gynecologic Oncologists of India
Clinical Robotic Surgery Association	

Publications and Scholarly Records

60 distinct records | Reverse chronological by publication year | Updated September 2026

1. **Comparative Evaluation of 68Ga-FAPI-04 PET/CT Versus 18F-FDG PET/CT in Staging Gastrointestinal Tumours.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-026-02654-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-026-02654-z).
2. **Triple-tracer PET Maps Inter- and Intralesional Heterogeneity in Metastatic High-grade Neuroendocrine Neoplasms.** Scientific Reports. 2026;16:21559. DOI: [10.1038/s41598-026-51131-8](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-026-51131-8).
3. **Comparative Evaluation of 68Ga-Ga-FAPI-04 PET Versus Conventional Imaging for Detecting Peritoneal Carcinomatosis in Ovarian Carcinoma.** Journal of Nuclear Medicine. 2026. DOI: [10.2967/jnumed.125.271126](https://doi.org/10.2967/jnumed.125.271126).
4. **IOERT as a Tumour-bed Boost in Early Breast Cancer Patients Undergoing Breast-conserving Surgery: Feasibility and Surgical Aspects.** European Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026;52(Suppl 2).
5. **PIPAC Versus Intravenous Chemotherapy in Unresectable Peritoneal Metastases Secondary to Platinum-resistant Ovarian Cancer: Interim Analysis of a Randomized Controlled Trial.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026;17:928-937. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-026-02600-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-026-02600-z).
6. **Neoadjuvant Bidirectional Chemotherapy with PIPAC and Systemic Chemotherapy in Advanced Epithelial Ovarian Cancer: An Emerging Conversion Strategy.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026;17:866-874. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-026-02589-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-026-02589-5).
7. **Experience-based Procedure Guide for Robotic Bilateral Axillo-breast Approach Thyroidectomy Using the SSI Mantra Robotic System.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026;17:770-777. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-026-02563-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-026-02563-1).
8. **The First North-to-South India Tele-robotic Cancer Surgery Across 2,100 km Using the SSI Mantra Robotic System: A Prospective Case Series.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-026-02556-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-026-02556-0).

9. **Real-world Performance of the SSI Mantra Robotic System: A Multicentric Multispecialty Study Evaluating Its Safety and Surgical Applications.** Journal of Robotic Surgery. 2026;20(1):136. DOI: [10.1007/s11701-025-03118-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11701-025-03118-2).
10. **Experience-based Procedure Card for Robotic McKeown's Esophagectomy Using the SSI Mantra Indian Robotic System.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026;17(7):1632-1639. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-025-02444-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-025-02444-z).
11. **Prospective Analysis of Autonomic Nerve-preserving Robotic Rectal Cancer Surgery Using the SSI Mantra Robot.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026;17:1263-1271. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-025-02426-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-025-02426-1).
12. **Perioperative Safety and Tolerability of PIPAC with Concurrent Systemic Therapy During the Same Admission as Bidirectional Chemotherapy.** European Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2026;52(4):111490. DOI: [10.1016/j.ejso.2026.111490](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejso.2026.111490).
13. **Safety Profile of PIPAC in Patients Receiving Uninterrupted Bevacizumab-based Systemic Chemotherapy: A Retrospective Analysis from a High-volume Tertiary Centre.** Surgical Oncology Insight. 2026;3.
14. **The INDEPSO-ISPSM Consensus on Peritoneal Malignancies: Diagnosis and Management of Peritoneal Mesothelioma.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2025. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-025-02272-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-025-02272-1).
15. **Fluorescence-guided Total Robotic Parietal Peritonectomy, Cytoreductive Surgery and Closed HIPEC.** Urology Video Journal. 2025;25:100326. DOI: [10.1016/j.urolvj.2025.100326](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.urolvj.2025.100326).
16. **Prospective Analysis of 246 Fires of the da Vinci SureForm SmartFire Stapler in Colorectal Cancer: First Indian Study.** Journal of Minimal Access Surgery. 2025. DOI: [10.4103/jmas.jmas_151_24](https://doi.org/10.4103/jmas.jmas_151_24).
17. **Evaluating Dose Intensification of PIPAC in Recurrent Platinum-resistant Ovarian Cancer with Peritoneal Involvement: A Single-centre Randomised Controlled Trial.** International Journal of Gynecological Cancer. 2025;35(2):101184.
18. **Impact of Surgical Complexity on Clinical Outcomes in Secondary Cytoreductive Surgery for Recurrent Ovarian Cancer: A Tertiary-centre Study.** International Journal of Gynecological Cancer. 2025;35(2):101122. DOI: [10.1016/j.ijgc.2024.101122](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijgc.2024.101122).
19. **Indocyanine Green for Assessing Bowel Perfusion During Cytoreductive Surgery with HIPEC.** International Journal of Gynecological Cancer. 2025;35(2):100956.
20. **Bidirectional Chemotherapy with PIPAC and Intravenous Chemotherapy in Advanced Primary Epithelial Ovarian Cancer: A New Way to Travel the Old Roads.** International Journal of Gynecological Cancer. 2025;35(2):100354.
21. **INDEPSO-ISPSM Consensus on Peritoneal Malignancies: ERAS in Cytoreductive Surgery with or Without HIPEC.** Gynecologic Oncology Reports. 2025;57:101662. DOI: [10.1016/j.gore.2024.101662](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gore.2024.101662).
22. **Optimizing Patient Recovery: Compliance and Clinical Outcomes of ERAS Protocols Following Ovarian Cytoreductive Surgery with HIPEC.** Pleura and Peritoneum. 2025;10(2):89-98. DOI: [10.1515/pp-2024-0017](https://doi.org/10.1515/pp-2024-0017).
23. **CRS-HIPEC Following Neoadjuvant PIPAC with Systemic Chemotherapy in Primarily Advanced Inoperable Epithelial Ovarian Cancer: An ISPSM Collaborative Study.** Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2024;42:e17504. DOI: [10.1200/JCO.2024.42.16_suppl.e17504](https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2024.42.16_suppl.e17504).
24. **ICG Instillation in the Inguinal Node Versus Foot Web Space for Identification of the Thoracic Duct During Robotic-assisted Transthoracic Oesophagectomy.** Journal of Minimal Access Surgery. 2024;20(3):271-277. DOI: [10.4103/jmas.jmas_2_23](https://doi.org/10.4103/jmas.jmas_2_23).
25. **Enhanced Recovery After Surgery in Cytoreductive Surgery and HIPEC: National Survey of Perioperative Practice by ISPSM.** Pleura and Peritoneum. 2023;8(2):91-99. DOI: [10.1515/pp-2022-0198](https://doi.org/10.1515/pp-2022-0198).
26. **Cytoreductive Surgery with HIPEC as Primary Treatment for Advanced Epithelial Ovarian Carcinoma: Upfront or Interval - ISPSM Collaborative Study.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2023;14(Suppl 1):226-232. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-023-01747-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-023-01747-3).
27. **Experience-based Procedure Card for Robotic-assisted Low Anterior Resection Using the Indian SSI Mantra Robot.** International Journal of Advanced Robotic & Innovative Surgery. 2023;1(2):70-74. DOI: [10.4103/JRIS.JRIS_3_24](https://doi.org/10.4103/JRIS.JRIS_3_24).
28. **Experience-based Procedure Card for Robotic Type I Radical Hysterectomy with ICG Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Using the SSI Mantra Robotic System.** International Journal of Advanced Robotic & Innovative Surgery. 2023;1(2):65-69. DOI: [10.4103/JRIS.JRIS_5_24](https://doi.org/10.4103/JRIS.JRIS_5_24).
29. **Identification of Sentinel Lymph Nodes at Atypical Locations in Early-stage Endometrial Carcinoma Using Robotic Surgery and ICG Fluorescence.** International Journal of Advanced Robotic & Innovative Surgery. 2023;1(2):53-57. DOI: [10.4103/JRIS.JRIS_11_23](https://doi.org/10.4103/JRIS.JRIS_11_23).
30. **Prospective Analysis of Autonomic Nerve-preserving Robotic Surgery for Carcinoma Rectum: A Single-institute Study.** International Journal of Advanced Robotic & Innovative Surgery. 2023;1(2):47-52. DOI: [10.4103/JRIS.JRIS_9_23](https://doi.org/10.4103/JRIS.JRIS_9_23).
31. **Psychological Analysis of Breast Cancer Patients Undergoing Modified Radical Mastectomy and Breast Conservation Surgery and Its Impact on Objectified Body Consciousness.** Clinical Breast Cancer. 2023;23(7):e394-e400. DOI: [10.1016/j.clbc.2023.05.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clbc.2023.05.017).
32. **Safety and Feasibility of Implementing ERAS in CRS and HIPEC: Enhancing Recovery or Complications.** Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2023;41:e18745. DOI: [10.1200/JCO.2023.41.16_suppl.e18745](https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2023.41.16_suppl.e18745).
33. **First Clinical Study Reporting Safety and Outcomes of High-dose Oxaliplatin in PIPAC for Colorectal Peritoneal Carcinomatosis.** Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2023;41:e15606. DOI: [10.1200/JCO.2023.41.16_suppl.e15606](https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2023.41.16_suppl.e15606).
34. **Impact of the Learning Curve in Robotic-assisted Rectal Surgery in a High-volume Indian Tertiary Care Centre.** Journal of Minimal Access Surgery. 2023;19(4):466-472. DOI: [10.4103/jmas.jmas_114_22](https://doi.org/10.4103/jmas.jmas_114_22).

35. **Analysis of Ipsilateral Breast Tumour Recurrence After Breast-conserving Surgery in a Tertiary Referral Cancer Centre.** Indian Journal of Surgery. 2022;84(3). DOI: [10.1007/s12262-021-03141-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12262-021-03141-1).
36. **Axillary Recurrence in Sentinel Lymph Node-negative Breast Cancer Patients in a Tertiary Referral Cancer Centre.** Indian Journal of Surgery. 2022;84(Suppl 3):677-681. DOI: [10.1007/s12262-021-03096-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12262-021-03096-3).
37. **Impact of Body Mass Index on Pathological Complete Response Following Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy in Operable Breast Cancer.** European Journal of Breast Health. 2022;18(3):271-278. DOI: [10.4274/ejbh.galenos.2022.2022-2-5](https://doi.org/10.4274/ejbh.galenos.2022.2022-2-5).
38. **Mucormycosis of the Breast in a Patient with Breast Carcinoma After COVID-19 Pneumonia.** European Journal of Breast Health. 2022;18(3):289-291. DOI: [10.4274/ejbh.galenos.2022.2022-2-4](https://doi.org/10.4274/ejbh.galenos.2022.2022-2-4).
39. **Real-time Identification of the Line of Transection in Robotic Colorectal Cancer Surgery Using ICG.** Journal of Robotic Surgery. 2021;15:369-374. DOI: [10.1007/s11701-020-01095-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11701-020-01095-2).
40. **Current Opinion on Peritoneal Carcinomatosis Treatment: A Survey of the Indian Society of Peritoneal Surface Malignancies.** Journal of Gastrointestinal Cancer. 2021;52:1061-1066. DOI: [10.1007/s12029-020-00538-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12029-020-00538-1).
41. **Current Practice and Perceptions of Safety Protocols for Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy in the Operating Room: Results of the IP-OR International Survey.** Pleura and Peritoneum. 2021;6(1):39-45. DOI: [10.1515/pp-2020-0148](https://doi.org/10.1515/pp-2020-0148).
42. **Can Low-cost Indocyanine Green Fluorescence for Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Replace the Dual-dye Technique in Early Breast Cancer?** Clinical Breast Cancer. 2020;20(5):e576-e583. DOI: [10.1016/j.clbc.2020.03.013](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clbc.2020.03.013).
43. **Total Versus Involved-field Parietal Peritonectomy During CRS-HIPEC for Colorectal Peritoneal Surface Malignancies.** Indian Journal of Surgery. 2020;82:566-572. DOI: [10.1007/s12262-019-02017-9](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12262-019-02017-9).
44. **Comparative Evaluation of Short-term Outcomes of Open, Laparoscopic and Robotic-assisted Surgery for Rectal Cancer.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2020;11(4):649-652. DOI: [10.1007/s13193-020-01137-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13193-020-01137-z).
45. **Randomized Controlled Trial Comparing Quality of Life in End-stage Peritoneal Metastasis Treated with PIPAC Versus Intravenous Chemotherapy.** Pleura and Peritoneum. 2019;4(1):20180111. DOI: [10.1515/pp-2018-0111](https://doi.org/10.1515/pp-2018-0111).
46. **Pressurized Intraperitoneal Aerosol Chemotherapy for Non-resectable Peritoneal Carcinomatosis: First Indian Study.** South Asian Journal of Cancer. 2019;8(1):27-30. DOI: [10.4103/sajc.sajc_92_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/sajc.sajc_92_18).
47. **Impact of the Extent of Parietal Peritonectomy on Oncological Outcomes After Cytoreductive Surgery and HIPEC.** Pleura and Peritoneum. 2019. DOI: [10.1515/pp-2019-0015](https://doi.org/10.1515/pp-2019-0015).
48. **Toxicity Profile of Chemotherapy Agents Used in Cytoreductive Surgery and HIPEC for Peritoneal Surface Malignancies.** European Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2019. DOI: [10.1016/j.ejso.2019.10.032](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejso.2019.10.032).
49. **Indocyanine Green Fluorescence Imaging in Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy for Early Breast Cancer: First Indian Experience.** Indian Journal of Gynecologic Oncology. 2019;17:31. DOI: [10.1007/s40944-019-0275-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40944-019-0275-4).
50. **Delay in Time to Adjuvant Chemotherapy and Its Impact on Outcomes in Completely Resected Advanced Ovarian Malignancies Treated with CRS, CRS-IP and CRS-HIPEC.** Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2019;37(15 Suppl):e17051. DOI: [10.1200/JCO.2019.37.15_suppl.e17051](https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2019.37.15_suppl.e17051).
51. **Early Tumour Shrinkage and Depth of Response as Predictors of Favourable Outcomes in Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Treated with FOLFOX/FOLFIRI Plus Cetuximab.** Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2019;37(4 Suppl):631. DOI: [10.1200/JCO.2019.37.4_suppl.631](https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2019.37.4_suppl.631).
52. **Comparison of Outcomes Following Complete and Selective Parietal Peritonectomy During CRS-HIPEC for Advanced Epithelial Ovarian Cancer: An ISPSM Study.** Indian Journal of Gynecologic Oncology. 2018.
53. **First Indian Study on PIPAC for Advanced Peritoneal Carcinomatosis Secondary to Epithelial Ovarian Cancer.** Indian Journal of Gynecologic Oncology. 2018;16:25. DOI: [10.1007/s40944-018-0193-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40944-018-0193-x).
54. **Standardization of Patient Selection and HIPEC Protocol for Peritoneal Surface Malignancy in Indian Patients.** Indian Journal of Gynecologic Oncology. 2017.
55. **Robot-assisted Thyroidectomy Using a Gasless Transaxillary Approach for the Management of Thyroid Lesions: Indian Experience.** Journal of Minimal Access Surgery. 2017;13(4):280-285. DOI: [10.4103/jmas.JMAS_42_16](https://doi.org/10.4103/jmas.JMAS_42_16).
56. **Robotic-Assisted Pelvic and High Para-aortic Lymphadenectomy for Endometrial Cancer and the Learning Curve.** Indian Journal of Gynecologic Oncology. 2016.
57. **Early Cervical Cancer Management.** Reviews on Recent Clinical Trials. 2015;10(4):302-308.
58. **Assessment of Tumour Response and Resection Rates in Unresectable Colorectal Liver Metastases Following Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy with Cetuximab.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2014.
59. **Prospective Randomized Study Comparing Robotic-Assisted Surgery with Traditional Laparotomy for Rectal Cancer: An Indian Study.** Indian Journal of Surgery. 2013.
60. **Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy for Epithelial Ovarian Cancer: Single-Centre Experience.** Indian Journal of Surgical Oncology. 2012.

Bibliographic scope: peer-reviewed articles, consensus statements, procedural/video publications, and indexed conference-supplement abstracts supplied for this CV.