



# Robotic surgery first

A MALVERN East surgeon has produced a groundbreaking first in surgery.

Catarina Ang became the first female surgeon in Australia to use robotic technology during two gynaecological procedures at Epworth Freemasons Hospital on March 31.

The robotic-assisted surgery enables surgeons to perform com-

plex operations through small incisions, which means less scarring, less blood loss, lower risk of infection and less post-operative pain for patients.

"The vision is amazing," Dr Ang said. "You see a lot better for fine reconstruction work.

"Usually when I do a long, complex case I'd find myself a bit fatigued but with the robotics

you're not using a lot of your arms and leg muscles so you do get a decreased physical load on your body."

Dr Ang is head of gynaecology unit 1 at the Royal Women's Hospital, where she performs advanced laparoscopic surgery.

She also consults at Epworth Freemasons in East Melbourne and at her Malvern East clinic.



Malvern East's Catarina Ang is amazed at the precision of robotic technology during surgery.

Picture: JANINE EASTGATE N41MP801