

Welcome to the future of arthroplasty.

02 AUG
2026

Grand Hyatt
Kochi Bolgatty

FORTE 2026

Forum for
Orthopaedic
Research,
Technology
& Education

Wherever you stand on robotic surgery — this conversation is for you.

Perhaps you've been doing excellent knee replacements for years without a robot and you're unconvinced the technology adds anything you don't already have. Perhaps you're curious, but the cost, the learning curve, and the marketing noise have left you with more questions than answers. Perhaps you're already on a platform and ready to go deeper. Wherever you are, the questions are the same —and they deserve honest answers.

Does the robot actually change outcomes? What does it demand of the surgeon? And is the investment — in money, in time, in retraining — genuinely worth it?

FORTE 2026 doesn't assume you're a convert. It assumes you're a thinking surgeon. The central truth this forum is built on is simple: the robot is only as good as the surgeon behind it. Just as you once learned the language of instruments, bone, and soft tissue in conventional arthroplasty, robotic surgery asks you to learn a new one — kinematics, real-time data, tension mapping, workflow. That learning is not automatic, and it is not trivial. FORTE exists to make it rigorous, honest, and worth your time.

Time Slot	Title	Speaker
SESSION 1: Fundamentals & Pre-operative Planning. Chair: Dr. Appu Benny Thomas		
08:15 AM – 08:25 AM	Patient Selection & Optimisation — Who? When? How?	Dr. Ajith Kumar
08:25 AM – 08:35 AM	Modern Implant Designs: What's New? What's Next?	Dr. Manan Shah
08:35 AM – 08:45 AM	The Medial Pivot Knee	Dr. Sameer Ali
08:45 AM – 08:55 AM	Implant Surfaces & Materials Update	Dr. Srinivas Thati
08:55 AM – 09:05 AM	Isolated Medial compartment OA	Dr. Mukesh Laddha
09:05 AM – 09:15 AM	Panel Q&A — Session 1	
SESSION 2: Anaesthesia & Pain Management. Chair: Dr. Ebin Rahman		
9:15 AM – 9:25 AM	Don't do a Bilateral TKA. Unless...	Dr. Vaibhav Bagaria (Pre-recorded)
9:25 AM – 9:35 AM	Best Practices from an Anaesthetist	Dr. Renny Chacko
9:35 AM – 9:45 AM	Periarticular Cocktails and Managing post operative pain	Dr. Manan Shah
9:45 AM – 10:00 AM	Inauguration	
10:00 AM-10:45 AM TEA BREAK + INDUSTRY EXHIBITION (45 minutes) Exhibit halls open · Industry partners · Hands-on product displays · Network with faculty		
SESSION 3: Alignment Philosophy & Definitions. Chair: Dr. Vinay Jaison Chacko		
10:50 AM – 11:00 AM	Definitions & Principles of Alignment	Dr. Thadi Mohan
11:00 AM – 11:10 AM	CPAK in the Indian Population	Dr. Jai Thilak
11:10 AM – 11:20 AM	Mechanical Alignment — Rationale & Evidence	Dr. John T John

Time Slot	Title	Speaker
11:20 AM – 11:30 AM	Kinematic Alignment — Rationale & Evidence	Dr. Payam Tarassoli
11:30 AM – 11:40 AM	Balancing the KA knee real time	Dr. Brett Fritsch
11:40 AM – 11:50 AM	Combined Panel Session 2 & 3	
11:50 AM –12:05 PM KEYNOTE ADDRESS (15 minutes) — Why Robotics? The Case for Technology in Arthroplasty: Brett Fritsch		
12:15 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch (45 minutes) Faculty lunch room, Delegate lunch area open		
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Robotic Platform Workshop (60 minutes)		
SESSION 4: Technology & The Robot. Chair: Dr. George Jacob		
2:00 PM – 2:10 PM	Robotic TKA — Platforms & Workflow Overview	Dr. Murukan Babu
2:10 PM – 2:20 PM	The Evidence & Registry: What Does the Data Really Show for Robotics?	Dr. Payam Tarassoli
2:20 PM – 2:30 PM	The Learning Curve — Steps Before the Leap	Dr. George Jacob
2:30 PM – 2:40 PM	Using Technology to Achieve a Better Balanced TKR	Dr. Brett Fritsch
2:40 PM – 2:50 PM	The Patella and Technology	Dr. Mukesh Laddha
2:50 PM – 3:00 PM	Sagittal Plane Considerations & Errors	Dr. George Jacob
3:00 PM – 3:10 PM	ROI on the Robot	Dr. Adarsh Annapareddy
3:10 PM – 3:20 PM	Technology & the Unicompartmental Knee Replacement	Dr. Sameer Ali
3:20 PM – 3:30 PM	Complex Primary & Revision Arthroplasty with Robotics	Dr. Ashok K
3:30 PM – 3:40 PM	AI & Arthroplasty, the Coming Wave	Dr. Payam Tarassoli
3:40 PM – 3:55 PM	Panel Q&A — Session 4	

Time Slot	Title	Speaker
SESSION 5: Controversies & Current Evidence. Chair: Dr. Vinay Jaison Chacko		
4:00 PM– 4:10 PM	Cement-less TKA? Again?	Dr. Adarsh Annapareddy
4:10 PM – 4:20 PM	The Hypoplastic LFC Doesn't Exist — Data Over Dogma	Dr. Brett Fritsch
4:20 PM – 4:30 PM	Subvastus vs Medial Parapatellar Approach	Dr. Manan Shah
SESSION 6: Post-operative Care & The Future. Chair: Dr. George Jacob		
4:30 PM – 4:40 PM	TKA & Infection Prevention — What Does the Evidence Say?	Dr. Srinivas Thati
4:40 PM – 4:50 PM	Fast-Track Protocols: Same-Day Discharge — Are We Ready?	Dr. Vikram Mhaskar
4:50 PM – 5:00 PM	Common Early Complications & the Dissatisfied TKA	Dr. Vikram Mhaskar
5:00 PM – 5:10 PM	Modern TKA Rehab, Trackers & New Horizons	Dr. Raviteja Rudraraju (Pre-recorded)
5:10 PM–5:30 PM EXPERT PANEL, CLOSING REMARKS & VOTE OF THANKS Where are we headed? What did we learn today?		

Smith+Nephew

CORI Surgical System

Handheld robotic platform. Image-free or image-based — surgeon's choice.

CORI is a handheld robotic system for total and partial knee arthroplasty. It operates without a fixed robotic arm, using real-time bone tracking to guide resection. Uniquely, it can be used with or without a pre-operative scan, making it adaptable across different clinical settings.

ZIMMER BIOMET

ROSA Knee System

Full robotic arm platform with surgeon-personalised alignment planning. The Saw stays in the Surgeons Hands.

ROSA uses optical tracking and intraoperative registration to guide bone resection and implant positioning. The Optimize software allows surgeons to build individual planning profiles, generating consistent surgical plans aligned to their preferred alignment philosophy. It is paired with the Persona Knee System.

stryker®

Mako SmartRobotics

CT-based robotic arm system. The most widely implanted platform globally.

Mako uses a pre-operative CT scan to create a patient-specific 3D model, from which the surgical plan is built before entering theatre. Intraoperatively, AccuStop haptic technology physically constrains the robotic arm to the planned resection boundaries. Real-time soft tissue tension data is available throughout the procedure. It is compatible with total knee, partial knee, and total hip arthroplasty.

DePuy Synthes

VELYS Robotic-Assisted Solution

Imageless table-mounted system.

VELYS – a table-mounted robotic platform that works entirely from intraoperative registration — no CT scan, no pre-operative imaging workflow. It provides real-time gap balancing data and guided resection, paired exclusively with the ATTUNE Knee System. Cleared for both total and unicompartmental knee arthroplasty across 20 markets.

The VPS Lakeshore Orthopaedic Fellowship Programme

The VPS Lakeshore Orthopaedic Fellowship Programme offers an exceptional opportunity for qualified orthopaedic surgeons to train at one of India's foremost centres for joint replacement and arthroscopic surgery. Designed for surgeons who are committed to subspecialty excellence and academic growth, the programme provides immersive, hands-on training within a high-volume, research-active department led by internationally fellowship-trained consultants. Built on the founding vision of Dr. Jacob Varughese — who established one of India's first structured arthroplasty fellowships — the programme has a proven track record of producing surgeons who go on to lead in their respective subspecialties.

Our focus:

- Advanced joint replacement techniques including robotic-assisted arthroplasty.
- Arthroscopic sports medicine and cartilage restoration.
- Evidence-based clinical decision-making.
- Peer-reviewed research and academic dissemination.
- Fellowship training and knowledge exchange with international institutions.



LEARN MORE:

<https://vpslakeshoreforte.com/fellowship-programme/>

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