



Dr. Daniel W. Birch

ADVANCED MINIMALLY INVASIVE GASTROINTESTINAL SURGERY

Dr. Daniel W. Birch is the Medical Director of the Centre for the Advancement of Minimally Invasive Surgery (CAMIS), based at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. He is an Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta. He practices as a minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgeon at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta.

Background

- Completed his surgical residency at McMaster University in Hamilton in 1998 and Fellowship training in minimally invasive surgery at the Minimal Access Training Unit in Guildford, Surrey (UK) and at The University of Kentucky in Lexington, Kentucky
- Appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery, McMaster University and Associate Director for the Center for Minimal Access Surgery, St Joseph's Hospital in 1999
- Recruited to Alberta Health Services (Capital Health) in July 2004 as an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery, University of Alberta, to lead the development of a centre of excellence in minimally invasive surgery
- Past Chair of the Canadian Association of General Surgeons (CAGS) Committee on Laparoscopy and Endoscopy
- Secretary and founding member of the Canadian Association of Bariatric Physicians & Surgeons (CABPS)

Clinical Expertise

He completes advanced minimally invasive procedures for a wide variety of gastrointestinal diseases, including:

- GERD
- Paraesophageal hernia
- Achalasia
- Gastric tumours
- Colorectal cancer and inflammatory bowel disease
- Abdominal wall hernia
- Surgery for morbid obesity (gastric bypass and adjustable gastric band)

Education and Research

Teaches at the University of Alberta in anatomy and minimally invasive surgery (MIS) for medical students, surgery residents and MIS fellows

Implementing a program for MIS Mentorship for Surgeons in practice that includes training for the entire surgical team, skills instruction and procedural training in advanced MIS procedures, on-site mentoring and telementoring

Research presented at the Canadian Surgery Forum; SAGES annual meeting; North Pacific Surgical Association annual meeting; American Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery