

J&J buys medical robotics company for \$3.4 bn

February 13 2019



Johnson & Johnson announced a \$3.4 billion acquisition of robotics company Auris Health.

US healthcare and consumer products giant Johnson & Johnson announced Wednesday it will acquire medical robotics company Auris

Health for \$3.4 billion, arguing the technology will become more central to surgery.

Privately-held Auris has the opportunity to earn up to \$2.35 billion in additional payments if it meets "predetermined milestones," J&J said in a press release.

"In this new era of health care, we're aiming to simplify surgery, drive efficiency, reduce complications and improve outcomes for patients, ultimately making surgery safer," said J&J Executive Vice President Ashley McEvoy said in a statement.

Combining robotics into healthcare "will make a meaningful difference in patient outcomes."

Auris' founder, Frederic Moll, has been known as a long-time leader in [medical robotics](#), which is seen as offering potential to improve [medical procedures](#) because of the ability to execute tremor-free movements and handle small tools.

Auris initially was focused on lung cancer. J&J said the company's machinery would be integrated with its other digital assets to improve patient treatment for the [deadly disease](#) from detection through intervention.

Shares of J&J rose 0.5 percent to \$134.78 in morning trading.

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Citation: J&J buys medical robotics company for \$3.4 bn (2019, February 13) retrieved 19 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-02-jj-medical-robotics-company-bn.html>

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