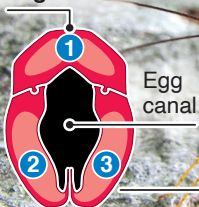


New surgical tool inspired by wasps

Scientists in the Netherlands have developed a prototype surgical tool for keyhole surgery, based on egg-laying methods of *parasitic wasps*

Parasitic wasp inserts eggs into unsuspecting host insect dwelling within tree

Segments



Ovipositor:

Eggs propelled down hollow tube by friction created from movement of three sliding segments

PROTOTYPE INSTRUMENT

Similar to ovipositor, **six blades** slide independently of each other, creating friction which transports tissue along tool

Brass outer tube

Blades

Cancerous tissue could be removed from previously inoperable areas

CURRENT INSTRUMENTS

Minimal Invasive Surgery

devices use suction to remove tissue, but narrow pipes can become clogged

Device could also be used for **internal radiotherapy**, with small amount of radioactive material inserted into specific area for targeted treatment of cancer

As **one blade** moves forward, remaining **five** move backward for maximum friction