



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

April 17, 2012

Via E-mail

Marshall Mohr  
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
Intuitive Surgical Inc.  
1266 Kifer Rd.  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

**Re: Intuitive Surgical Inc.  
Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011  
Filed February 6, 2012  
File No. 000-30713**

Dear Mr. Mohr:

We have completed our review of your filings. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filings and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings to be certain that the filings include the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/Jeffrey Jaramillo

Jeffrey Jaramillo  
Accounting Branch Chief