PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

5th ANNUAL MEETING

ECS CLUB
ENDOSCOPIC
CARDIAC SURGEONS

NOVEMBER 12th–14th 2026

MILAN - ITALY

IRCCS Galeazzi
Sant'Ambrogio Hospital

I.R.C.C.S. Ospedale Galeazzi - Sant'Ambrogio
Gruppo San Donato



WWW.ECSCLUB.ORG

ECSC STEERING COMMITTEE

Husam Balkhy - Chicago, USA
Mario Castillo-Sang - Edgewood, USA
Mattia Glauber - Milan, Italy
Joerg Kempfert - Berlin, Germany
Patrick Perier - Bad Neustadt, Germany
Antonios Pitsis - Thessaloniki, Greece
Marco Solinas - Massa, Italy
Piotr Suwalski - Warsaw, Poland
Joseph Zacharias - Blackpool, UK

A special thank you for hosting the meeting to

I.R.C.C.S. Ospedale Galeazzi - Sant'Ambrogio
Gruppo San Donato

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

ECS CLUB ENDOSCOPIC CARDIAC SURGEONS

DAY 1 | Thursday 12th November 2026

AFTERNOON

13:00-13:25
WELCOME AND OPENING
P. Perier, R. Poffo, H. Vanermen, M. Glauber

13:25-13:30
GSD WELCOME
R. Crugnola

13:30-13:50
LECTURE
Is there a role for surgery in Functional MR?
M. Sarano

13:50-14:10
LECTURE
MAD: The missing link between prolapse and sudden cardiac death
C. Fiore

14:10-14.30
LECTURE
What I learned about valve repair over the past 3 decades
A. Berrebi

14:30-14.45
LECTURE
The role of exercise echo in moderate DMR
T. Viva

14:45-17:00
Moderator: *M. Glauber / C. Fiore* (Echo)
Case 1 Analyst: *D. Ramzy*
Case 2 Analyst: *N. Bonaros*
Discussants: *D. Bouchard, T. Hinna Danesi, E. Lehr / T. Viva* (Echo)

((LIVE CASE)) FROM BERLIN
ROBOTIC MITRAL VALVE REPAIR-REPLACEMENT | *H. Balkhy*

((LIVE CASE)) FROM MILAN
ENDOSCOPIC MITRAL VALVE REPAIR | *M. Solinas*
Case Presentation: *A. De Felice*
Assistants: *R. Margaryan. A. Bisogno*

DURING LIVE CASES:

14:45-16:00
RAPID FIRE TALKS

- **Imaging: CT Planning**
  J. Kaemmel
- **Echocardiography: What should we ask for a safe repair?**
  A. Berrebi
- **Cannulation: Cut down vs. Percutaneous?**
  G. Bianchi
- **Why I use pre-formed loops**
  J. Zacharias
- **Chordal repair innovative devices: the US experience**
  S. Putnik
- **An innovative APP to predict outcomes**
  M. Silaschi

16:00-16:15
LIVE-IN-A-BOX
MV Replacement
M. Castillo-Sang

17:00-18:00
VIDEO COMPETITION SESSION
M. Castillo-Sang, S. Cerny, A. Keltchev, A. Liebold, A. Panos, C. Savini

18:00-18:30
ECS UPDATE FROM AROUND THE WORLD – SESSION 1
U. Aluthman, S. Ertugay, L. Jaworski, M. Matkovic

18:30-19:30
Welcome Cocktail

DAY 2 | **Friday 13th November 2026**

MORNING

08:00-08:15
SURGICAL CASES WRAP-UP

08:15-08:30
LECTURE
The future of robotic cardiac surgery
J. Wong

08:30-11:00
Moderators: *P. Suwalski / T. Viva* (Echo)
Case 1 Analyst: *J. Bonatti*
Case 2 Analyst: *R.M. Siddhan*
Discussants: *T. Hinna Danesi, R. Ribeiro de Souza, S. Sardar, J.S. Yoo | C. Fiore* (Echo)

((LIVE CASE)) FROM BERLIN
ROBOTIC TECAB
J. Kempfert

((LIVE CASE)) FROM MILAN
ENDOSCOPIC AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT
A. Pitsis
Case Presentation: *A. De Felice*
Assistants: *E. Petrovic, A. Miceli, G. Guida*

DURING LIVE CASES:

08:30-10:45
RAPID FIRE TALKS

- **CT sizing for sutureless valves**
  M. Solinas
- **Endoscopic Aortic Sizers**
  E. Petrovic
- **Myocardial protection: Del Nido, HTK solution, Beating Heart**
  A. Miceli
- **Dealing with port-site bleeding**
  H. Balkhy

10:45-11:05
LIVE-IN-A-BOX

- **Endoscopic TECAB**
  S. Sardar
- **Single port robotic ASD closure**
  S. Durdu

11:05-11:30
Coffee & visit to the industry exhibition

11:30-12:30
Moderator: *P. Suwalski*
Case 3 Analyst: *U. Benedetto*

((LIVE TELESURGERY)) FROM WARSAW
ROBOTIC LIMA HARVESTING + MIDCAB
P. Suwalski

12:30-13:00
ROUND TABLE & DISCUSSION ON GUIDELINES
Discussants: *J. Dreyfus, M. Rinaldi, M. Sarano*

- **Interpreting the 2025 ESC/EACTS guidelines on aortic stenosis**
  P. Centofanti
- **EACTS/ECSC Partnership**
  G. Färber

13:00-14:00
LUNCH SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM
"30 years experience in Endoclamping"
Moderators: M. Bentala, J. Zacharias
Speakers: H. Balkhy, A. Liebold, W. Peters, H. Vanermen

14:00-14:10
Coffee & visit to the industry exhibition

AFTERNOON

14:10-14:30
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
The journey is the reward
P. Perier introduced by H. Vanermen

14:30-16:00
Moderator: *J. Zacharias / C. Fiore* (Echo)
Case 1 Analyst: *A. Liebold*
Case 2 Analyst: *A. Keltchev*
Discussants: *G. Dahle, J. Dreyfus, F. Lakew / T. Viva* (Echo)

((LIVE CASE)) FROM BERLIN
TRICUSPID VALVE REPAIR
T. Holubec

((LIVE CASE)) FROM MILAN
ENDOSCOPIC SUTURELESS AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT WITH ROOT ENLARGEMENT OF A SMALL ANNULUS
M. Glauber
Case Presentation: *A. De Felice*
Assistants: *D. Bruno, F. Epifani*

DURING LIVE CASES:

14:30-16:00
RAPID FIRE TALKS

- **Lifetime management - The role of advanced 3D echo**
  T. Viva
- **Endoscopic Surgery for Redo Aortic Valve Replacement**
  A. Pitsis
- **Endoscopic Surgery for Congenital defects**
  H.C. Nguyen
- **ECS Club Aortic Valve Database**
  G. Guida

16:00-16:30
Coffee & visit to the industry exhibition

16:30-16:50
INVITED LECTURE
When and how to intervene in tricuspid regurgitation
J. Dreyfus

17:00-18:00
VIDEO COMPETITION SESSION
M. Castillo-Sang, F. Chiaramonti, S. Kazakov, E. Lopes, J. Penaranda, D. Ricci

18:00-18:30
ECS UPDATE FROM AROUND THE WORLD – SESSION 2
P. Jetwanna, S.H. Lee, H.C. Nguyen, R.M. Siddhan

DAY 3 | **Saturday 14th November 2026**

MORNING

Moderator: *J. Kempfert / X. Wang*
Case 1 Analyst: *A. Pitsis*
Case 2 Analyst: *J.S. Yoo*
Discussants: *N. Bonaros, F. Lakew, M. Santoro*

08:30-09:00
((LIVE CASE)) FROM CHINA
BEATING-HEART TRANSAPICAL SEPTAL MYECTOMY
X. Wei

09:00-10:15
((LIVE CASE)) FROM CHINA
ENDOSCOPIC HOCM
H. Guo

DURING LIVE CASES:

08:30-10:15
RAPID FIRE TALKS

- **Pushing the boundaries of Endoscopic Surgery**
  Speaker TBD
- **Endoscopic LA Appendage Occlusion**
  P. Suwalski
- **Endoscopic AF Ablation**
  M. Castella
- **New members announcement**
  ECSC

10:15-10:30
LECTURE
Medical vs Surgical Treatment in HOCM
D. Andreini

10:30-11:00
Coffee & visit to the industry exhibition

11:00-13:00
Moderator: *J. Kempfert / T. Viva* (Echo)
Case 1 Analyst: *A. Pitsis*
Case 2 Analyst: *M. Glauber*
Discussants: *V.D. Bruno, P. Lancellotti, C.. Muneretto, M. Santoro / C. Fiore* (Echo)

((LIVE CASE)) FROM BONN
ENDOSCOPIC AORTIC ROOT REPLACEMENT
F. Bakhtiary

((LIVE CASE)) FROM MILAN
ENDOSCOPIC AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT + MITRAL VALVE REPLACEMENT
T. Hinna Danesi
Case Presentation: *A. De Felice*
Assistants: *F. Epifani, A. Miceli*

13:00-14:00
Lunch & visit to the industry exhibition

AFTERNOON

14:00-14:30
KEYNOTE LECTURE
The treatment of recurrent MR after TEER (transcatheter edge-to-edge repair)
P. Lancellotti

14:30-15:00
ECS UPDATE FROM AROUND THE WORLD - SESSION 3
H. Jeanmart, M. Santoro, R. Voeller

15:00-16:00
FOOD FOR THOUGHTS...

- **ECS live course presentation**
  M. Castillo-Sang
- **Teaching surgeons using Endoscopic Simulators**
  P. Sardari Nia
- **From Anatomy to Avatar: Digital Twins of the Surgical Pathology for Tomorrow's Surgeon**
  O. Dzemali
- **AHA/ECSC Accreditation for Endoscopic Surgery**
  D.P. Suresh, M. Bolles

16:00-17:30
VIDEO COMPETITION SESSION AND AWARD CEREMONY
M. Castillo-Sang, P. Akhyari, R. Poffo, R.M. Siddhan, W. Wisser, R. Ribeiro De Souza

17:30-17:45
A. YILMAZ INNOVATION AWARD WRAP-UP AND CLOSURE
M. Glauber, P. Perier

20:00
Conference Dinner
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LEONARDO DA VINCI

FACULTY*

Payam Akhyari
Essen, Germany

Uthman Aluthman
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Daniele Andreini
Milan, Italy

Farhad Bakhtiary
Bonn, Germany

Husam Balkhy
Chicago, USA

Umberto Benedetto
Chieti, Italy

Mohamed Bentala
Breda, Netherlands

Alain Berrebi
Paris, France

Giacomo Bianchi
Massa, Italy

Michele Bolles
Philadelphia, USA

Nikolaos Bonaros
Innsbruck, Austria

Johannes Bonatti
Pittsburgh, USA

Denis Bouchard
Montreal, Canada

Vito Domenico Bruno
Milan, Italy

Manuel Castella
Barcelona, Spain

Mario Castillo-Sang
Edgewood, USA

Paolo Centofanti
Turin, Italy

Stepan Cerny
Prague, Czech Republic

Francesca Chiaramonti
Massa, Italy

Gry Dahle
Oslo, Norway

Julien Dreyfus
Paris, France

Omer Dzemali
Zurich, Switzerland

Serkan Ertugay
Bornova, Turkey

Gloria Färber
Jena, Germany

Corrado Fiore
Lecce, Italy

Mattia Glauber
Milan, Italy

Nikolaos Bonaros
Innsbruck, Austria

Gustavo Guida
Milan, Italy

Tommaso Hinna Danesi
Boston, USA

Tomas Holubec
Nuremberg, Germany

Hugues Jeanmart
Montreal, Canada

Paradorn Jetwanna
Mueang Surat Thani, Thailand

Julius Kaemmel
Berlin, Germany

Samuil Kazakov
Sofia, Bulgaria

Assen Keltchev
Sofia, Bulgaria

Joerg Kempfert
Berlin, Germany

Fitsum Lakew
Bad Neustad, Germany

Patrizio Lancellotti
Liège, Belgium

Seung H. Lee
Seoul, South Korea

Eric Lehr
Seattle, USA

ECS CLUB
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CARDIAC SURGEONS

Andreas Liebold
Ulm, Germany

Evandro C.R. Lopes
Campo Grande, Brazil

Rafik Margaryan
Massa, Italy

Milos Matkovic
Belgrade, Serbia

Antonio Miceli
Milan, Italy

Claudio Muneretto
Rome, Italy

Huu Cong Nguyen
HaNoi, Vietnam

Aristotelis Panos
Geneva, Switzerland

Juan Penaranda
Edgewood, USA

Patrick Perier
Bad Neustadt, Germany

William Peters
Auckland, New Zealand

Emilija Petrović
Thessaloniki, Greece

Antonios Pitsis
Thessaloniki, Greece

Robinson Poffo
São Paulo, Brazil

Svetozar Putnik
Belgrade, Serbia

Danny Ramzy
Houston, USA

Rodrigo Ribeiro de Souza
Campina Grande do Sul, Brazil

Davide Ricci
Turin, Italy

Mauro Rinaldi
Turin, Italy

Milton Santoro
Curitiba, Brazil

Maurice Sarano
Minneapolis, USA

Sandip Sardar
Kolkata, India

Peyman Sardari Nia
Maastricht, Netherlands

Carlo Savini
Bologna, Italy

Ramprassath Muthampatti Siddhan
Coimbatorei, India

Miriam Silaschi
Bonn, Germany

Marco Solinas
Massa, Italy

Damodhar P. Suresh
Cincinnati, USA

Piotr Suwalski
Warsaw, Poland

Hugo Vanermen
Brussels, Belgium

Tommaso Viva
Milano, Italy

Rochus Voeller
Minneapolis, USA

Xin Wang
Beijing, China

Xiang Wei
Wuhan, China

Wilfried Wisser
Vienna, Austria

Jaime Wong
San Francisco, USA

Jae Suk Yoo
Seoul, South Korea

Joseph Zacharias
Blackpool, UK

** Faculty to be confirmed*

GENERAL INFORMATION

CONFERENCE WEBSITE AND REGISTRATION
www.ecsclub.org

REGISTRATION FEES*

PHYSICIANS
- **Standard (after September 10):** € 350
- **On-site:** € 450

RESIDENTS/FELLOWS/REGISTRARS, PERFUSIONISTS, NURSES/ALLIED HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS
- **Online pre-registration:** € 150
- **On-site:** € 200

**22% VAT included*

- **ECSC active members**: free registration
- **ECSC associate members:** discount of € 150 on the registration fee (category Physician)
- **50% registration fee discount for the first 10 EACTS members.**

REGISTRATION FEES INCLUDE:
- admittance to all Scientific Sessions
- access to the Exhibition Area
- congress kit
- catering services at IRCCS Galeazzi-Sant'Ambrogio Hospital

CANCELLATION POLICY
Cancellation of the registration and/or the conference dinner has to be compulsorily notified in writing, by email, to the Organizing Secretariat.
The 70% of the amount paid will be refunded if cancellation is made **no later than October 10th, 2026**. After that date no refund is possible. All refunds will be processed after the event.

ETHICAL MEDTECH
The Event has been determined as compliant with MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice and EFPIA Code of Practice.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS
In compliance with the regulations and ethical codes of their associations (MedTech Europe, Confindustria Dispositivi Medici and Farmindustria), companies may support the continuing professional development of healthcare professionals through the provision of Educational Grants.
Companies may contact Giulia Aiello g.aiello@noemacongressi.it for information and quotations.
The deadline for activating Educational Grants is September 10, 2026.

VISA REQUEST
The Organizing Secretariat will be pleased to provide letters of invitation upon request, for participants who need them to apply for a VISA.
Please contact info@noemacongressi.it

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
The official language of the conference is English.

ECS CLUB ENDOSCOPIC CARDIAC SURGEONS

CONFERENCE VENUE
IRCCS GALEAZZI SANT'AMBROGIO HOSPITAL
Auditorium - 1st floor
Via Cristina Belgioioso, 173
20157 Milan (Italy)

HOW TO REACH IRCCS GALEAZZI SANT'AMBROGIO HOSPITAL

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT
Take **Metro Line M1 (Red Line)** and get off at **Rho Fiera Milano station**.
From the M1 ticket gates:
- Turn right and follow the signs to the Railway Station
- Continue following the signs for "**Exit - Via Risorgimento**"
- After passing Platform 6, keep to the right
- Exit via West Triulza (Ovest Triulza)

BY CAR
In the hospital area
- More than 300 toll parking spaces (P1 and P2 parking facilities).

In Rho
- Multi-level free parking lot with 900 spaces
  Via Risorgimento, 44 - 20017 Rho (MI)
  A free shuttle service is available from 6:00 to 22:00 on weekdays and from 6:00 to 16:00 on Saturdays.

EXHIBITION AREA
A technical exhibiton will take place throughout the conference.

CONFERENCE DINNER
Saturday, November 14th | h 20:00
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LEONARDO DA VINCI
Via San Vittore, 21
20123 Milan (Italy)
Dinner fee: € 100,00 + 22% VAT
The dinner is reserved for a limited number of people.

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ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

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