



THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS SYMPOSIUM
CRITICAL ISSUES
IN AORTIC ENDOGRAFTING

MARCH 19 & 20 2026

NUREMBERG, GERMANY
GERMANISCHES NATIONAL MUSEUM

COURSE LOCAL ORGANIZERS

Eric Verhoeven, Athanasios Katsargyris,
Pablo Marques, Bernd Moehner

STEERING COMMITTEE

Nuno Dias, Stephan Haulon, Athanasios Katsargyris,
Timothy Resch, Eric Verhoeven

WWW.CRITICAL-ISSUES-CONGRESS.COM

EDITO

WELCOME TO NUREMBERG!

Critical Issues in Aortic Endografting has, for more than 25 years, delivered an annual benchmark of the latest technology and controversies for aortic interventionalists around the world. This year's programme is no different. At a time of unprecedented change and global uncertainty, Critical Issues will bring together the experts in the field to debate, discuss and display the latest and greatest trends.

In keeping with the tradition, the meeting has moved again and we are again proud to see it showcased in Nuremberg, Germany. The atmosphere will as always be open and friendly and we look forward to intense discussions and debates.

We welcome you all and look forward to your discussions and challenging questions so we can push the field forward, together!

You will find all the information on the congress website:

www.critical-issues-congress.com

You can register at the following link:

www.critical-issues-congress.com/registration/

 Critical Issues in Aortic Endografting



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Critical issues is accredited by the European Board for Accreditation in Cardiology for 13 CME credits.





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Alex **ZIMMERMANN** | Zurich, Switzerland

SYNOPTIC

	THURSDAY		FRIDAY
08:00	Welcome address	08:30	ACUTE AORTIC DISSECTION
08:15	WARMING UP	09:30	CHRONIC DISSECTION
09:15	IMAGING AND AI	10:30	Coffee break
10:15	Coffee break	11:00	ENDOLEAKS AND REINTERVENTIONS
10:45	THE TECHNICAL SESSION	12:00	Lunch
11:45	KEY-NOTE LECTURE	13:00	ASCENDING AND HEMI-ARCH REPAIR
12:00	Lunch	14:00	TOTAL ARCH REPAIR
13:00	PARARENAL AAA: THE SKY IS THE LIMIT...	15:00	CLOSURE
14:00	ALL ABOUT BRIDGING STENTGRAFTS	15:20	EBAC EVALUATION
15:00	Coffee break	15:30	VISIT SIEMENS FACTORY <i>Limited seats, upon registration</i>
15:30	TOP-GUN SESSION ON TAAA		
16:30	FENESTRATIONS, BRANCHES, AND FRIENDS...		
17:30	Closing remarks		
19:00	Official dinner		

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

08:00 **Welcome address**

08:15 **SESSION 1: WARMING UP**

Moderators: [Fiona Rohlfss](#), [Eric Verhoeven](#)

- 08:15 Current overview of changing epidemiology of aneurysmal disease. [Ian Loftus](#)
08:21 Early sac regression as a predictor of long-term outcomes. [Joost Van Herwaarden](#)
08:27 Centralization of aortic surgery in Europe: are we all following the ESVES guidelines?
[Markus Steinbauer](#)
08:33 Do we need to measure indifference and resistance to anticoagulation medication?
[Petroula Nana](#)
08:39 Spinal cord protection in TAAA: what does really work? [Daniela Branzan](#)
08:45 A review of the major centers' protocols for spinal protection in branched EVAR.
[Martin Funovics](#)
08:51 Discussion

09:15 **SESSION 2: IMAGING AND AI**

Moderators: [Nuno Dias](#), [Carla Van Rijswijk](#)

- 09:15 Top ten tips in radiation protection. [Bijan Modarai](#)
09:21 Minimizing radiation in F/BEVAR without adjuncts: how low can we go? [Nathan Liang](#)
09:27 Advancing personalized endovascular repair with AI-supported planning.
[Vladimir Makaloski](#)
09:33 Does a combination of modern C-arm and IVUS reduce radiation? [Maani Hakimi](#)
09:39 New features of a modern dedicated C-arm in a Hybrid room. [Stephan Haulon](#)
09:45 The role of CBCT with CO₂ in (c)-EVAR: can we replace post-op angio-CT? [Michele Antonello](#)
09:51 Discussion

10:15 **Coffee break in the exhibition hall**

10:45 **SESSION 3: THE TECHNICAL SESSION**

Moderators: [Natasha Hasemaki](#), [Tim Resch](#)

- 10:45 Anatomic feasibility of a standard custom design to serve as an OTS for urgent complex
AAA. [Michele Piazza](#)
10:51 Modified snare ride technique. [Mark Farber](#)
10:57 How to deal with highly calcified iliac access: advantages and limitations of IVL.
[Maria Antonella Ruffino](#)
11:03 Total transfemoral access versus upper extremity access in F/BEVAR: impact on outcomes.
[Grace Mulatti](#)
11:09 Value of off-the-shelf branched graft in elective and urgent complex Aneurysms.
[Mauro Gargiulo](#)
11:15 Defining the optimal clinical and anatomical scenarios for EndoAnchors. [Piotr Kasprzak](#)
11:21 Discussion

11:45 **KEY-NOTE LECTURE**

- 11:45 FEVAR after EVAR works well but long-term results are somewhat disappointing. Why this
may be and technical tips to achieve success. [Marc Schermerhorn](#)

12:00 **Lunch break in the exhibition hall**

13:00 **SESSION 4: PARARENAL AAA: THE SKY IS THE LIMIT...**

Moderators: [Stephan Haulon](#), [Grace Mulatti](#)

13:00 AI assisted standardized approach for 4-fen PMEG. [Michele Piazza](#)

13:06 Long-term results with second generation fenestrated graft. [Kakkhee Yeung](#)

13:12 Multicenter data using 4xFEVAR without stenting of the celiac fenestration. [Pablo Marques](#)

13:18 GLOBALSTAR long-term results of FEVAR and lessons learned. [Ian Loftus](#)

13:24 In good anatomy 2-vessel FEVAR can be durable. [Barend Mees](#)

13:30 Towards on-label PMEG? [Vladimir Makaloski](#)

13:36 Discussion

14:00 **SESSION 5: ALL ABOUT BRIDGING STENTGRAFTS**

Moderators: [Athanasios Katsargyris](#), [Maria Antonella](#)

14:00 5-years follow-up on the EXPAND trial in TAAA and 3-years follow-up on EMBRACE trial.

[Martin Austermann](#), [Luca Bertoglio](#)

14:10 Geometrical comparison of a dedicated flaring bridging stent compared to an all-rounder product in FEVAR. [Natasha Hasemaki](#)

14:16 Multicenter study on a new dedicated bridging stentgraft. [Stephan Haulon](#)

14:22 Systematic review and meta-analysis on long-term results of a bridging stent in F/BEVAR and IBD. [Petroula Nana](#)

14:28 Use of self-expandable covered stents in BEVAR. [Tilo Kölbel](#)

14:34 Two-year data of the on-label multicentre bridging stentgraft study. [Pablo Marques](#)

14:40 Discussion

15:00 **Coffee break in the exhibition hall**

15:30 **SESSION 6: TOP-GUN SESSION ON TAAA**

Moderators: [Tilo Kölbel](#), [KakKhee Yeung](#)

15:30 Short case presentation: first European Experience with an off-the-shelf TAAAB graft.

15:36 Novel device for the treatment of TAAA. [Alex Zimmermann](#)

15:42 Two-year results of the Inbreed trial. [Michele Antonello](#)

15:48 Evolution of F/BEVAR outcomes over time. [Hence Verhagen](#)

15:54 The ORTIC concept (endo-skeleton + PTFE) for fast treatment of complex aortic aneurysms.

[Alvaro Razuk](#)

16:00 Update on the EADC Registry. [Eric Verhoeven](#)

16:06 Discussion

16:30 **SESSION 7: FENESTRATIONS, BRANCHES, AND FRIENDS...**

Moderators: [Mark Farber](#), [Blandine Maurel](#)

16:30 Custom made grafts: how to choose between inner branches and/or fenestrations?

[Said Abisi](#)

16:36 Long-term patency data on inner branches. Is graft configuration important?

[Athanasios Katsargyris](#)

16:42 Differences in local hemodynamic forces between inner branched-enside and outer branched T-Branch. [William Yoon](#)

16:48 Role of semi-branches. [Alexander Oberhuber](#)

16:54 When to use bi-directional or twin branches in BEVAR? [Phillip Geisbüsch](#)

17:00 Target Vessel patency after endovascular repair of TAAA. [Sukgu Han](#)

17:06 Discussion

17:30 **Closing remarks**

19:30 **Official dinner** (Shuttle buses available. More information on page 11)

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

08:30 SESSION 8: ACUTE AORTIC DISSECTION

Moderators: Daniela Branzan, Bijan Modarai

- 08:30 Evolution of PETTICOAT/Stabilise technique with a novel device. [Ian Loftus](#)
- 08:36 Update on the sunday and other trials on u-TBD. [Jakob Budtz-Lilly](#)
- 08:42 STABILISE update. [Germano Melissano](#)
- 08:48 Fate of distal aorta after type A dissection. [Luis Mendes Pedro](#)
- 08:54 Reinterventions and remodelling after type A dissection treated with FET. [Blandine Maurel](#)
- 09:00 High-risk features to treat ATBD: how strong is the evidence. [Hence Verhagen](#)
- 09:06 Discussion

09:30 SESSION 9: CHRONIC DISSECTION

Moderators: Germano Melissano, Petroula Nana

- 09:30 Target vessel outcomes in dissections: impact of vessel lumen origin. [Mark Farber](#)
- 09:36 Update on indications and limitations of false lumen occlude device technique. [Fiona Rohlffs](#)
- 09:42 Electrosurgical septotomy to facilitate BEVAR for post-dissection thoraco-abdominal aortic aneurysms. [Giovanni Pratesi](#)
- 09:48 False lumen management in PDTAAA. [Mauro Gargiulo](#)
- 09:54 MISACE for cTBD: effected in reducing SCI, EL II and sac growth. [Luca Bertoglio](#)
- 10:00 Brazilian Experience with CMD and off-the-shelf grafts. [Marcus Cury](#)
- 10:06 Discussion

10:30 Coffee break in the exhibition hall

11:00 SESSION 10: ENDOLEAKS AND REINTERVENTIONS

Moderators: Sugku Han, Antonella Ruffino

- 11:00 Evidence and value of pre-emptive coil embolisation before EVAR. [Dittmar Böckler](#)
- 11:06 Sac embolization with plugs: which is the correct indication? [Marc Schermerhorn](#)
- 11:12 Strategies for treatment of EVAR limb occlusion. [Giovanni Pratesi](#)
- 11:18 AAA rupture after EVAR: tips to perform endo and open reinterventions. [Piotr Szopinski](#)
- 11:24 Endovascular rescue of type 1A endoleak after zone 2 repair. [George Pontikis](#)
- 11:30 (Semi)-conversion in FEVAR after EVAR: what was the final diagnosis? [Athanasios Katsargyris](#)
- 11:36 Discussion

12:00 Lunch on the exhibition hall

13:00 SESSION 11: ASCENDING AND HEMI-ARCH REPAIR

Moderators: Pablo Marques, Fiona Rohlffs

- 13:00 Experience with a thoracic single side branch device. [Alexander Oberhuber](#)
- 13:06 Fenestrated arch grafts: relevance in a branched environment. [Carla Van Rijswijk](#)
- 13:12 Second-generation single arch branched device: almost off-the-shelf? [Gioele Simonte](#)
- 13:18 Off-the-shelf FEVAR for acute type-A dissection. [Stephan Haulon](#)
- 13:24 ESVES consensus in ascending TEVAR. [Santi Trimarchi](#)
- 13:30 Long-term patency of supra-aortic vessels after arch branched repair. [Tilo Kölbel](#)
- 13:36 Concave graft for zone 0. [Martin Austermann](#)
- 13:42 Discussion

14:00 **SESSION 12: TOTAL ARCH REPAIR**

Moderators: Marc Schermerhorn, Carla Van Rijswijk

14:00 From single branch to triple branch arch repair. [Tim Resch](#)

14:06 Quadruple Inner Branch grafts for special anatomies. [Tomasz Jakimovicz](#)

14:12 The Japanese aortic arch graft way: follow-up experience with potential advantages.
[Fabio Verzini](#)

14:18 Pros and cons with retrograde arch branched end-grafts. [Nuno Dias](#)

14:24 New graft design for an arch repair with only 02 diamonds for 03 branches.
[Marcelo Ferreira](#)

14:30 Double home-made fenestrated total arch repair: pros and cons in the light of currently available options. [Thomas Gandet](#)

14:36 Arch repairs are not harmless: how to avoid complications. [Nikos Tsilimparis](#)

14:42 Discussion

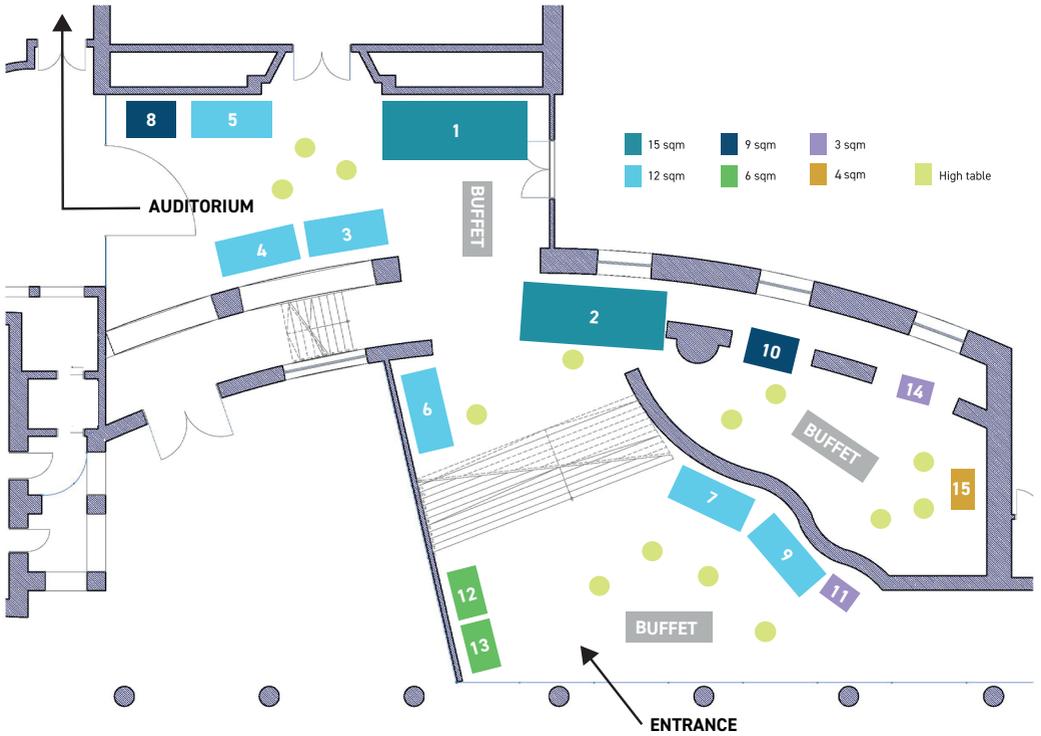
15:00 **CLOSURE.** [Nuno Dias](#), [Stephan Haulon](#), [Athanasios Katsargyris](#), [Tim Resch](#), [Eric Verhoeven](#)

15:20 **EBAC evaluation** (more information on page 11)

15:30 **Visit Siemens Factory** (no fee but limited to 65 persons, reservation needed)

To book your seat, [click here](#). Registration for the Siemens Healthineers Experience Center visit.

EXHIBITION HALL



1	Cook Medical
2	Terumo Aortic
3	Gore
4	Bentley
5	Artivion
6	Getinge

7	Siemens Healthineers
8	Medtronic
9	Lombard Medical
10	Shape Memory Medical
11	Predisurge

12	Inside Medical
13	Penumbra Europe
14	GE Healthcare
15	Shockwave

INFORMATION



CONGRESS VENUE

Germanisches National Museum,
Kartäusergasse 1, 90402 Nuremberg
Germany

EXHIBITION HOURS

Thursday March 19: 08:00-18:00
Friday March 20: 08:00-15:00

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION DESK

Thursday March 19: 08:00-18:00
Friday March 20: 08:00-15:00

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the congress is English.



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OFFICIAL DINNER

Seated dinner
Date: Thursday March 19 at 07:30pm
Place: Grüner Baum
Address: Gasthof Blödel Venatoriusstraße
790455 Nuremberg – Kornburg
Participation fee: 65 €

SHUTTLE BUSES FOR THE OFFICIAL DINNER

Shuttle buses will be available to transfer participants to and from the congress dinner venue.

SHUTTLE SERVICE:

Outbound transfer

• Departure point: Germanisches National Museum, Nuremberg
Arrival: Grüner Baum – Gasthof Blödel, Venatoriusstraße 79, 90455 Nürnberg-Kornburg
4 buses departing at 7:00 PM

• Return transfer (end of the evening)
Departure point: Grüner Baum – Gasthof Blödel
Drop-off: Near Park Plaza Nuremberg & Scandic Nürnberg Central

4 departures at 8:00 PM, 11:30 PM, 12:00 AM and 12:30 AM

IMPORTANT



Please don't forget to fill in this form if you want your **EBAC certificate** for the accreditation.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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