ESC Congress 2026

Scientific Programme as of 26 March 2026

New ESC Guidelines	**Friday, 28 August 2026**	**08:15 - 09:45**	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

2026 ESC Guidelines and Document overview

Session Number: 1000

Chairpersons:

08:15 **2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Heart Failure**

08:37 **2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Cardiovascular Disease and Chronic Kidney Disease**

09:00 **5th Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (with ACC, AHA, and WHF)**

09:22 **2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Cardiac Rehabilitation**

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Rome - ICM

Artificial intelligence in atrial fibrillation care: smarter detection, safer treatment, better outcomes?

Session Number: 184

Chairpersons:

08:15 **Predicting and quantifying atrial fibrillation: what artificial intelligence adds to clinical care**
E Svennberg (Stockholm, SE, F)

08:33 **Beyond CHA_2DS_2-VA score: how artificial intelligence redefines stroke risk**
D Duncker (Hannover, DE, M)

08:51 **Optimising atrial fibrillation ablation with artificial intelligence: real-time insights for identifying novel targets**

09:09 **Real-world application of artificial intelligence-supported treatment decision-making**
JK Han (Los Angeles, US, F)

09:27 **Artificial intelligence in atrial fibrillation care: smarter detection, safer treatment, better outcomes? - discussion**
S Narayan (Stanford, US, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand how artificial intelligence enhances prediction, detection and monitoring of atrial fibrillation;
To evaluate artificial intelligence-based strategies for personalised stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation;
To recognise emerging artificial intelligence-guided approaches for improving atrial fibrillation ablation outcomes; and
To integrate real-world, responsible, and safe use of artificial intelligence into atrial fibrillation treatment decisions.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Athens - ICM

What's new in dyslipidaemia management?

Session Number: 144

Chairpersons: L Tokgozoglu (Ankara, TR) (F) - D Gaita (Timisoara, RO) (M)

08:15 **2025 updates of the 2019 ESC/EAS Guidelines for the Management of Dyslipidaemias**
F Mach (Geneva, CH, M)

08:30 **Practical approach to statin intolerance**
J Roeters Van Lennep (Rotterdam, NL, F)

08:45 **New ways to lower low-density lipoprotein cholesterol**
KK Ray (London, GB, M)

09:00 **How to treat the patient with high triglycerides**
K Parhofer (Munich, DE, M)

09:15 **Lipid-lowering in women: what is different?**
K Holven (Oslo, NO, F)

09:30 **What's new in dyslipidaemia management? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To learn what's new in the 2025 Focused Update of the 2019 ESC/EAS Guidelines for the Management of Dyslipidaemias;
To recognise how to manage and treat patients with statin intolerance and patients with hypertriglyceridemia;
To be updated on new ways to lower low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, and
To understand how management of dyslipidaemia in women differs from management in men.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Bratislava - ICM

From risk factors to overt atrial fibrillation and stroke: the risk continuum

Session Number: 269

Chairpersons: W Doehner (Berlin, DE) (M)

08:15 **The global healthcare burden of stroke in atrial fibrillation**
T Chao (Taipei, TW, M)

08:33 **Cardio-kidney-metabolic syndrome: pathophysiology and clinical links to atrial fibrillation and stroke**
B Corica (Modena, IT, F)

08:51 **Sex differences in the risk continuum of atrial fibrillation and stroke**
GYH Lip (Liverpool, GB, M)

09:09 **The need for holistic or integrated care management following the mAFA, MIRACLE and AFFIRMO trials**
Y Guo (Beijing, CN, F)

09:27 **From risk factors to overt atrial fibrillation and stroke: the risk continuum - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand the global epidemiology of hypertension, stroke and atrial fibrillation;
To analyse the risk continuum linking hypertension (‘pre-atrial fibrillation’), atrial fibrillation and stroke, also in the context of cardio-kidney-metabolic disease, applying novel methods of risk stratification, diagnosis and decision-making; and
To consider sex differences in the continuum of risk.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Lisbon - ICM

Tricuspid regurgitation: medical treatment, intervention, or surgery?

Session Number: 421

Chairpersons: J Dreyfus (Saint-Denis, FR) (M)

08:15 **Transcatheter options for treating tricuspid regurgitation**

08:33 **Surgical options for treating tricuspid regurgitation**
L Torracca (Rozzano, IT, F)

08:51 **Outcomes following transcatheter tricuspid valve intervention**
N Karam (Beirut, LB, F)

09:09 **Outcomes following surgical tricuspid valve intervention**

09:27 **Tricuspid regurgitation: medical treatment, intervention, or surgery? - discussion**
K Yeo (Singapore, SG, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the indications of tricuspid intervention; and
To define the outcomes after tricuspid intervention.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Late-Breaking Science	Friday, 28 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1030

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates: coronary computed tomography for cardiovascular disease prevention in the era of artificial intelligence

Session Number: 141

Chairpersons: B Terol (Madrid, ES) (F)

08:15 **Coronary computed tomography should be used to enhance cardiovascular disease prevention: pro**
C Antoniades (Oxford, GB, M)

08:30 **Coronary computed tomography should be used to enhance cardiovascular disease prevention: con**

08:45 **Coronary computed tomography should be used to enhance cardiovascular disease prevention - discussion**

09:00 **Coronary computed tomography should be used for screening veteran athletes: pro**

09:15 **Coronary computed tomography should be used for screening veteran athletes: con**

09:30 **Coronary computed tomography should be used for screening veteran athletes - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To evaluate the evidence base supporting coronary computed tomography (calcium scoring and computed tomography angiography) for refining cardiovascular risk stratification in primary prevention in the general population;
To critically appraise current evidence on the benefits, risks, and controversies surrounding the use of coronary computed tomography for screening asymptomatic, physically active older individuals;
To assess potential risks and limitations, including radiation exposure, incidental findings, cost-effectiveness, and downstream testing; and
To assess the emerging role of artificial intelligence in automated plaque quantification, risk prediction, and identification of high-risk plaque features on computed tomography coronary angiography.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Skopje - Hall A3

Advances and challenges in acute pulmonary embolism

Session Number: 230

Chairpersons: M Kurzyna (Otwock, PL) (M)

08:15 **Risk stratification in acute pulmonary embolism: a moving target?**
S Konstantinides (Mainz, DE, M)

08:33 **Will artificial intelligence substitute for the radiologist in diagnosing acute pulmonary embolism?**

08:51 **Pharmacological options for reperfusion in venous thromboembolism: a ghost from the past?**

09:09 **Percutaneous interventional therapy of acute pulmonary embolism now 24/7?**
I Ahrens (Cologne, DE, M)

09:27 **Advances and challenges in acute pulmonary embolism - discussion**
E Klok (Leiden, NL, M)

Learning Objectives: To learn how imaging, haemodynamics and biomarkers can be used to diagnose and risk-stratify acute pulmonary embolism;
To learn how artificial intelligence can be used in the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism;
To learn about novel pharmacological treatment options for venous thromboembolism/acute pulmonary embolism;
To learn about novel recent trials on interventional treatment of acute pulmonary embolism; and
To understand the evolving concept of haemodynamic assessment of patients with acute pulmonary embolism, deciding whether reperfusion therapy is appropriate.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Tashkent - Hall A3

Breaking down barriers: mechanisms determining vascular function and dysfunction

Session Number: 461

Chairpersons:

08:15 **Mechanical mechanisms of endothelial dysfunction**
PC Evans (Sheffield, GB, M)

08:33 **Endothelial plasticity**

08:51 **Neurovascular unit and the blood brain barrier**

09:09 **NO-thing new? novel actions of nitric oxide contributing to endothelial function**
I Fleming (Frankfurt Am Main, DE, F)

09:27 **Breaking down barriers: mechanisms determining vascular function and dysfunction - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To provide an overview of current concepts on the mechanisms maintaining endothelial cell plasticity and function as well as the pathways activated to induce dysfunction.

Categories:

Official Joint Session	Friday, 28 August 2026	08:15 - 09:15	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

The global impact of artificial intelligence and digital solutions in cardiovascular health

Session Number: 487 **Joint session with the Korean Society of Cardiology (KSC)**

Chairpersons: S Kang (Seoul, KR) (M)

08:15 **Artificial intelligence and echocardiography: an Asian perspective**

08:30 **Beyond chronological age: cross-ethnic validation of artificial intelligence-estimated biological heart age**
Y Baek (Seoul, KR, M)

08:45 **Using artificial intelligence for imaging interpretation: improving risk stratification across ethnic groups**
K Chan (Oxford, GB, M)

09:00 **Precision in diversity: navigating ethnic variability in risk prediction for better health**

Learning Objectives: To understand how emerging artificial intelligence technologies are transforming cardiovascular diagnostics and clinical decision-making;
To explore the potential of artificial intelligence-driven imaging and biological ageing metrics in predicting cardiovascular risk and improving patient outcomes; and
To discuss the opportunities and limitations of integrating digital healthcare tools across diverse clinical and ethnic populations.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Friday, 28 August 2026	10:30 - 11:30	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Role of coronary microvascular dysfunction in heart failure and cardiomyopathy

Session Number: 115

Joint session with the Japanese Circulation Society (JCS) international young community

Chairpersons: M Chimura (Osaka, JP) (F)

10:30 **Pathophysiological role of coronary microvascular dysfunction in heart failure**
T Toya (Setagaya-Ku, JP, M)

10:45 **Pathophysiological role of coronary microvascular dysfunction in cardiomyopathy**
Y Ueki (Matsumoto, JP, M)

11:00 **How to diagnose and classify microvascular dysfunction**

11:15 **Treatment of microvascular disease**

Learning Objectives: To provide an overview of the pathophysiological mechanisms of coronary microvascular dysfunction from a mechanistic perspective; and
To deliver insights on prognostic roles in heart failure and cardiomyopathy.

Categories:

Hot Line	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 1

Session Number: 1010

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Bring your Questions	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Bucharest - ICM

The floor is yours: bring your questions on optimising guideline-directed medical therapy in heart failure

Session Number: 109

Chairpersons: M Crespo-Leiro (La Coruna, ES) (F) - A Cannata (London, GB) (M)

11:00 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on optimising guideline-directed medical therapy in heart failure - get ready for the session**
A Cannata (London, GB, M)

11:05 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on optimising guideline-directed medical therapy in heart failure - expert panel**
A Mebazaa (Paris, FR, M)

Learning Objectives: To hear from the experts how they optimise rapidly guideline-directed medical therapy for heart failure patients.
Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Athens - ICM

Building the next-generation care models in cardio-oncology

Session Number: 146

Chairpersons: A Macedo (Sao Paulo, BR) (F) - T Suter (Bern, CH) (M)

11:00 **Clonal haematopoiesis as a new driver of cardiovascular risk**
J Fuster (Madrid, ES, M)

11:15 **Priorities to optimise cardiovascular prevention in cancer survivors**

11:30 **Artificial intelligence for phenotyping of cardio-oncology patients**
FA Wenzl (Schlieren, CH, M)

11:45 **Building the next-generation care models in cardio-oncology - discussion**
ST Ramalingam (- , GB, U)

Learning Objectives: To identify mechanisms for late cardiovascular toxicity;
To integrate multidisciplinary decision-making to optimise cardiovascular management of cancer survivors; and
To understand the global challenges and emerging opportunities of analysing real-world data to advance the cardio-oncology field.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Vienna - ICM

Advances in the management of hypertension

Session Number: 272 **Joint session with the European Society of Hypertension (ESH)**

Chairpersons: S Brouwers (Aalst, BE) (F) - A Januszewicz (Warszawa, PL) (M)

11:00 **New ways to measure blood pressure: ready for clinical use?**
G Stergiou (Athens, GR, M)

11:15 **New blood pressure targets: how do we get there?**

11:30 **Overview of new antihypertensive drugs**

11:45 **Overview of lifestyle interventions**
F Charchar (Ballarat, AU, M)

Learning Objectives: To provide a deeper understanding of new options for treatment of hypertension and the importance of lifestyle changes.

Hypertension remains the major contributor to cardiovascular morbidity and mortality worldwide. To improve this situation, new hypertension guidelines consistently recommend blood pressure goals previously considered overly enthusiastic. Are they really evidence-based? Can new blood pressure measurements and new antihypertensive drugs help? And what can be done in clinical practice and beyond to achieve the new targets?

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Practical Seminar	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Bratislava - ICM

Balancing short-term risks and long-term benefits of myocardial revascularisation

Session Number: 377

Chairpersons:

11:00 Explaining risk in myocardial revascularisation: what is important to patients?

11:20 Percutaneous coronary intervention and fly: the beauty of a fast recovery

11:40 Coronary artery bypass surgery for the long run: the beauty of long-term benefit

Learning Objectives: To understand the balance of risks and benefits in myocardial revascularisation in the context of patient values.

Categories: Includes a patient perspective

Bring your Questions	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Lisbon - ICM

The floor is yours: bring your questions on genetic testing in cardiomyopathies

Session Number: 410

Chairpersons:

11:00 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on genetic testing in cardiomyopathies - get ready for the session**

11:05 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on genetic testing in cardiomyopathies - expert panel**

J Ingles (Darlinghurst, AU, F)

U Tayal (London, GB, F)

J Verdonschot (Maastricht, NL, M)

A Verstrael (Antwerpen, BE, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the indication for genetic testing to gain insights into genetic results.

Categories: Includes a patient perspective, Mobile App - Ask a Question

Late-Breaking Science	**Friday, 28 August 2026**	**11:00 - 12:00**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1031

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: artificial intelligence-enhanced coronary computed tomography angiography will replace invasive coronary angiography in the near future

Session Number: 224

Chairpersons: K Toutouzas (Athens, GR) (M)

11:00 **Artificial intelligence-enhanced coronary computed tomography angiography will replace invasive coronary angiography in the near future: pro**
C Antoniades (Oxford, GB, M)

11:15 **Artificial intelligence-enhanced coronary computed tomography angiography will replace invasive coronary angiography in the near future: con**
S Windecker (Bern, CH, M)

11:30 **Artificial intelligence-enhanced coronary computed tomography angiography will replace invasive coronary angiography in the near future - discussion**
MC Williams (Edinburgh, GB, F)

Learning Objectives: To discover how photon-counting coronary computed tomography angiography delivers unmatched image clarity and diagnostic precision in coronary artery disease;
To learn how artificial intelligence-driven plaque analysis is transforming risk assessment and personalised care; and
To explore the expanding role of coronary computed tomography angiography in percutaneous coronary intervention planning and to review key clinical trials comparing coronary computed tomography angiography with invasive angiography before transcatheter aortic valve implantation or cardiac surgery.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Skopje - Hall A3

Challenges with antithrombotic strategies in atrial fibrillation and coronary disease: time to personalise?

Session Number: 229

Chairpersons: M Endres (Berlin, DE) (M) - V Markides (London, GB) (M)

11:00 When to consider left atrial appendage occlusion

11:15 Personalised antithrombotic therapy after atrial fibrillation ablation

11:30 Antiplatelet therapy for atrial fibrillation and chronic coronary syndromes

11:45 Novel antithrombotic strategies in atrial fibrillation: time to personalise? - patient perspective

Learning Objectives: To understand the current evidence base and options to personalise antithrombotic care strategies for patients with atrial fibrillation; to review and appraise the outcome of the latest trials and how this might be applied to clinical care - specifically, when to recommend left atrial appendage occlusion for patients with atrial fibrillation;
To review the evidence base over the last two years for antithrombotic strategies after successful atrial fibrillation ablation and to review evidence and best practices for antithrombotic strategies for patients with atrial fibrillation and coronary disease; and
To learn how to minimise ischaemic and bleeding risk in patients with atrial fibrillation.

Categories: Includes a patient perspective

Special Session	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Tripoli - Hall B1

The artificial intelligence frontier in heart failure: from promise to trustworthy practice

Session Number: 550

Chairpersons: FW Asselbergs (Amsterdam, NL) (M)

11:00 **Artificial intelligence in heart failure: expectations from patients and cardiologists**

11:15 **Artificial intelligence-phenotyping of heart failure: impact on trials and guidelines**
A Uijl (Amsterdam, NL, F)

11:30 **Artificial intelligence risk modelling in heart failure**
S Rao (Oxford, GB, M)

11:45 **Trustworthy implementation of artificial intelligence**
C Izquierdo Morcillo (Barcelona, ES, M)

Learning Objectives: To help evaluate how artificial intelligence transforms heart failure management - from patient and clinician expectations to phenotyping and risk modelling - so that participants will leave with a critical framework for implementing trustworthy artificial intelligence systems into clinical trials, guidelines, and daily practice.

Categories:

Official Joint Session	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Reykjavik - Hall A3

Beyond the guidelines: closing outcome gaps in cardiovascular care in ethnically diverse populations

Session Number: 156 **Joint session with the Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC)**

Chairpersons: A Onwuanyi (Georgia, US) (M)

11:00 **Reimagining guideline-based care: strategies to improve adherence and outcomes in underrepresented populations**

11:15 **From evidence to equity: implementing culturally responsive cardiovascular care**
L Brewer (Rochester, US, F)

11:30 **Cardiovascular care for women in different parts of the world: challenges and solutions**
M Rubini Gimenez (Valencia, ES, F)

11:45 **From guidelines to outcomes in Middle Eastern, North African, and migrant populations: practical steps to close cardiovascular care gaps**

Learning Objectives: To identify where ‘guideline-concordant’ care still fails to deliver equal outcomes across ethnically diverse populations and to recognise the main structural, clinical, and implementation drivers of these gaps;
To apply practical, measurable strategies to improve adherence, access, and follow-up in underrepresented groups, including team-based care, risk communication, and pathway redesign;
To integrate culturally responsive care into everyday cardiovascular practice, tailoring prevention and treatment plans to language, health beliefs, trust, and social context without compromising clinical standards; and
To select equity-relevant metrics and implementation approaches to monitor progress and close outcome gaps in women, Middle Eastern, North African, and migrant populations, as well as other high-risk groups within their own health systems.

Categories:

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Latest advances in primary arrhythmias beyond the ESC Guidelines

Session Number: 193

Chairpersons: K Haugaa (Oslo, NO) (F)

11:00 **ECG and artificial intelligence in the prediction of cardiac arrest**
ER Behr (London, GB, M)

11:15 **Long QT syndrome: should we use mexiletine in all long QT syndrome type 2? and how?**

11:30 **Catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia: is gene therapy the holy grail?**

11:45 **Latest advances in primary arrhythmias beyond the ESC Guidelines - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To summarise novel treatment strategies for primary arrhythmia syndromes beyond the ESC Guidelines, including targeted pharmacotherapy and emerging gene-based approaches; and
To evaluate the role of advanced ECG analysis, artificial intelligence models, and polygenic risk scores in improving cardiac arrest prediction and risk stratification in inherited arrhythmias.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Pristina - Hall A3

Imaging innovations for diagnosis, risk, and therapy in transthyretin amyloidosis

Session Number: 340

Chairpersons: F Graziani (Rome, IT) (F) - C Nitsche (Vienna, AT) (M)

11:00 **Novel tracers to improve transthyretin amyloidosis diagnostics**
S Dorbala (Boston, US, F)

11:12 **Imaging-guided risk stratification in transthyretin amyloidosis**

11:24 **Therapy selection based on imaging**

11:36 **Monitoring transthyretin amyloidosis diseases using imaging**

11:48 **Imaging innovations for diagnosis, risk, and therapy in transthyretin amyloidosis - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand how novel imaging tracers improve the diagnosis and phenotyping of transthyretin amyloidosis;
To apply imaging-based markers for risk stratification and prognostic assessment in transthyretin amyloidosis;
To recognise how multimodality imaging can support therapy selection and treatment timing in transthyretin amyloidosis; and
To use imaging to monitor disease progression and therapeutic response in patients with transthyretin amyloidosis.

Categories:

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Tashkent - Hall A3

The new toolbox for cardiovascular discovery: from multiomics to computational modelling

Session Number: 456

Chairpersons: MMC Maleckar (Oslo, NO) (F) - N Bruining (Rotterdam, NL) (M)

11:00 **Electromechanical computational modelling of heart failure**

11:12 **Spatial multiomics of myocardial infarction**

11:24 **Digital twins in arrhythmia management**

11:36 **From biophysical computational models to clinical translation**
S Niederer (London, GB, M)

11:48 **The new toolbox for cardiovascular discovery: from multiomics to computational modelling - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore how integrative computational and data-driven frameworks are shaping the future of precision cardiovascular medicine;
To examine the role of electromechanical computational modelling in clarifying the mechanisms underlying heart failure, and tohighlight how spatial multiomics approaches are generating new insights into the pathobiology of myocardial infarction; and
To discuss the emerging use of cardiac digital twins for personalised arrhythmia management before addressing the key steps and challenges involved in translating biophysical computational models from research settings into routine clinical practice.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track

New ESC Guidelines	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Heart Failure

Session Number: **1001**

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Vienna - ICM

Managing complications of antihypertensive treatment

Session Number: 264

Chairpersons:

13:45 **Diuretics-induced hypokalaemia**
M Tomaszewski (Manchester, GB, M)

14:00 **A drop in kidney function and acute kidney injury**

14:15 **Allergic and immune-mediated reactions**

14:30 **Intolerance of antihypertensive medications**

14:45 **Managing complications of antihypertensive treatment - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To learn how to detect and manage rare and common side effects of antihypertensive treatment; and
To recognise the intolerance of antihypertensive treatment as a common referral to hypertension service.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Bratislava - ICM

Artificial intelligence will transform contemporary percutaneous coronary intervention!

Session Number: 372

Chairpersons: V Paradies (Rotterdam, NL) (F) - C Indolfi (Rende, IT) (M)

13:45 **Deep-learning detection of high-risk coronary morphologies**
N van Royen (Nijmegen, NL, M)

14:00 **Improving plaque characterisation to guide plaque modification strategies**
M Alasnag (Jeddah, SA, F)

14:15 **Artificial intelligence-driven physiology for pre-procedural planning of percutaneous coronary intervention**

14:30 **Invasive and angio-derived approaches to microvascular dysfunction**

14:45 **Artificial intelligence will transform contemporary percutaneous coronary intervention! - discussion**
S Tu (Shanghai, CN, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the role of deep-learning algorithms in identifying high-risk coronary plaque;
To evaluate artificial intelligence-enhanced detection and quantification of coronary calcium and to learn how automated calcium mapping can optimise lesion preparation strategies;
To integrate artificial intelligence-driven physiological assessment into pre-procedural planning; and
To compare invasive and angiography-derived methods for assessing microvascular dysfunction.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Lisbon - ICM

Tough calls in the management of pulmonary embolism

Session Number: 415

Chairpersons: N Skoro-Sajer (Vienna, AT) (F) - S Konstantinides (Mainz, DE) (M)

13:45 **Subsegmental pulmonary embolism: to treat or not to treat?**
T Tritschler (Bern, CH, M)

14:00 **Optimal approach to diagnose and treat thrombotic antiphospholipid syndrome**

14:15 **Treatment of acute pulmonary embolism in patients with advanced cancer**
I MAHE (Paris, FR, F)

14:30 **Diagnosing and treating pulmonary embolism in pregnant patients**

14:45 **Tough calls in the management of pulmonary embolism - discussion**
C Becattini (Perugia, IT, F)

Learning Objectives: To gain insight into the management strategies for complex pulmonary embolism; and
To learn about treatment of pulmonary embolism in patients at special risk.

Categories:

Late-Breaking Science	**Friday, 28 August 2026**	**13:45 - 15:00**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1032

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: is weight loss the main reason incretins reduce cardiovascular risk?

Session Number: 300

Chairpersons: M Lettino (Milano, IT) (F) - G Schiattarella (Berlin, DE) (M)

13:45 **Is weight loss the main reason incretins reduce cardiovascular risk?: pro**

14:05 **Is weight loss the main reason incretins reduce cardiovascular risk?: con**
N Marx (Aachen, DE, M)

14:25 **Is weight loss the main reason incretins reduce cardiovascular risk? - discussion**
N Sattar (Glasgow, GB, M)

Learning Objectives: To explore whether weight loss is the principal driver of the cardiovascular benefits observed with incretin-based therapies or whether these effects extend beyond body weight reduction.

Through a structured debate informed by recent landmark trials, the discussion will examine evidence for direct cardiac, vascular, and renal actions of incretins. By contrasting opposing perspectives, the session aims to clarify current controversies and provide a framework for interpreting emerging data and translating it into clinical practice.

Categories:

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Skopje - Hall A3

Cardiogenic shock: what's new in 2026?

Session Number: 231

Chairpersons: A Tycinska (Bialystok, PL) (F)

13:45 **Cardiogenic shock definition, phenotyping, and risk stratification**
J Poess (Leipzig, DE, F)

14:00 **Short-term mechanical circulatory support: one size does not fit all**
JE Moller (Odense M, DK, M)

14:15 **Vasoactive drugs in cardiogenic shock: seeking clarity**
A Combes (Paris, FR, M)

14:30 **Leveraging networks to centralise cardiogenic shock care**
B Schrage (Hamburg, DE, M)

14:45 **Cardiogenic shock: what's new in 2026? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To review the latest evidence on cardiogenic shock management.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Chisinau - Hall B1

Innovative prevention strategies: long-acting siRNA therapy

Session Number: 563

Chairpersons: B Casadei (London, GB) (F)

13:45 Action mechanism of siRNAs

14:00 siRNAs to lower LDL-cholesterol
L Bowman (Oxford, GB, F)

14:15 siRNAs to lower Lp(a)
M O'Donoghue (Boston, US, F)

14:30 siRNAs to lower blood pressure
CB Granger (Durham, US, M)

14:45 Innovative prevention strategies: long-acting siRNA therapy - discussion

Learning Objectives: To gain a clinically focused overview of how long-acting siRNA therapies may redefine cardiovascular prevention by enabling sustained control of major risk drivers with infrequent dosing;
To outline the mechanistic basis of siRNA therapeutics and examine their emerging application across LDL-cholesterol, lipoprotein(a), and blood pressure lowering;
To learn how these agents may complement or challenge existing preventive strategies, which patient groups are most likely to benefit, and what level of evidence currently supports their use; and
To address the practical issues that will determine real-world impact, including adherence, safety, durability of effect, cost, delivery models, and health-system implementation.

Overall, the session will help participants to understand whether long-acting siRNA therapy represents an incremental advance or a genuine step change in preventive cardiology.

Categories:

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

How imaging-based digital twins, artificial intelligence, and robotics will guide interventions

Session Number: 331

Chairpersons: S Ernst (London, GB) (F)

13:45 **Imaging-based digital twin to guide interventions and outcomes**
I Shiri (Bern, CH, M)

14:00 **Co-pilot automated cardiac imaging measurements to guide treatment**

14:15 **Imaged-based virtual reality for procedure planning in cardiac surgery**

14:30 **Imaging-based robotics guiding in structural heart disease**

14:45 **How imaging-based digital twins, artificial intelligence, and robotics will guide interventions - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand how multimodality imaging enables patient-specific digital twins for cardiovascular treatment planning;
To learn how artificial intelligence-based automation supports imaging measurements, reporting and clinical decision-making;
To explore the role of virtual reality and simulation in procedural planning and interdisciplinary communication; and
To recognise how imaging-derived digital twins can guide interventions, robotics and personalised therapy strategies.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Pristina - Hall A3

Key messages for imaging from the current ESC Guidelines

Session Number: 335

Chairpersons:

13:45 **2025 ESC/EACTS Guidelines for the Management of Valvular Heart Disease: imaging perspectives**
N Ajmone Marsan (Leiden, NL, F)

14:00 **2025 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Myocarditis and Pericarditis: imaging perspectives**
R Manka (Zurich, CH, M)

14:15 **2025 Focused Update of the 2019 ESC/EAS Guidelines for the Management of Dyslipidaemias: imaging perspectives**
G Pontone (Milan, IT, M)

14:30 **2025 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Cardiovascular Disease and Pregnancy: imaging perspectives**

14:45 **Key messages for imaging from the current ESC Guidelines - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To highlight the most relevant imaging recommendations from the current ESC Guidelines across valvular heart disease, as well as inflammatory myocardial and pericardial heart disease;
To clarify how recent guideline updates impact imaging strategies, modality selection and timing in clinical practice, applying guideline-aligned imaging approaches to improve diagnostic consistency and to support clinical decision-making; and
To apply guideline-aligned imaging approaches to improve diagnostic consistency and to support clinical decision-making across diverse patient populations.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Tashkent - Hall A3

Multicellular crosstalk in the heart: relevance for arrhythmias and heart failure

Session Number: 458

Chairpersons: K Dibb (Manchester, GB) (F)

13:45 **Mapping multicellular networks and interactions in the heart**
L Sacconi (Sesto Fiorentino, IT, M)

14:00 **Extracellular matrix, fibroblast, and cardiomyocyte crosstalk in heart failure**
S Van Linthout (Berlin, DE, F)

14:15 **Immune cells and cardiac arrhythmias**

14:30 **Neuron and cardiomyocyte crosstalk: impact on arrhythmogenesis**

14:45 **Multicellular crosstalk in the heart: relevance for arrhythmias and heart failure - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To describe how advanced mapping approaches reveal multicellular networks and functional interactions in the heart;
To explain how extracellular matrix remodelling and fibroblast-cardiomyocyte crosstalk contribute to heart failure progression;
To discuss key immune cell mechanisms influencing electrical remodelling and cardiac arrhythmias; and
To evaluate how neuro-cardiac communication modulates cardiomyocyte excitability and promotes arrhythmogenesis.

Categories:

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Bucharest - ICM

Optimising monitoring and reducing costs in heart failure: the potential of artificial intelligence

Session Number: 107

Chairpersons: CM Linde (Stockholm, SE) (F)

16:15 **Optimising monitoring and reducing costs in heart failure: the potential of artificial intelligence - patient view and preferences**

16:30 **Cardiac implantable electronic devices: can artificial intelligence help manage alarms?**
G Boriani (Castenaso, IT, M)

16:45 **Implanted haemodynamic monitoring: can artificial intelligence help improve care and reduce the workload?**
C Angermann (Wurzburg, DE, F)

17:00 **Optimising monitoring and reducing costs in heart failure: the potential of artificial intelligence - discussion**
FW Asselbergs (Amsterdam, NL, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand how artificial intelligence can help with remote monitoring in heart failure.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, Includes a patient perspective

Official Joint Session	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Athens - ICM

Obesity management and its impact on cardiovascular disease

Session Number: 161 **Joint session with the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO)**

Chairpersons:

16:15 **The use of artificial intelligence in the management of obesity**

16:30 **European Association for the Study of Obesity framework of the pharmacological management of obesity, beyond weight loss**

16:45 **Weight loss is the easy part, the struggle of maintenance**

17:00 **Obesity management and its impact on cardiovascular disease - patient perspective**

Learning Objectives: To understand the biological mechanisms that underpin obesity;
To understand the cascade of complications and conditions linked to obesity, and how obesity management can support other disease prevention; and
To understand how artificial intelligence tools can improve and support obesity management.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track, Includes a patient perspective

Bring your Questions	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Vienna - ICM

The floor is yours: bring your questions on direct oral anticoagulants monitoring and reversal - for whom, when, and why?

Session Number: 307

Chairpersons:

16:15 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on direct oral anticoagulants monitoring and reversal - for whom, when, and why? - get ready for the session**

16:20 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on direct oral anticoagulants monitoring and reversal - for whom, when, and why? - expert panel**
B Gigante (Stockholm, SE, F)

H Ten Cate (Maastricht, NL, M)

J Eikelboom (Hamilton, CA, M)

Learning Objectives: To identify appropriate indications for direct oral anticoagulants monitoring and reversal;
To interpret laboratory assessments of direct oral anticoagulants activity; and
To apply guideline-based and individualised management strategies in clinical practice.

Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question

Official Joint Session	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Bratislava - ICM

Progress in structural heart valve interventions: current status and perspectives

Session Number: 381 **Joint session with the Cardiovascular Research Technologies (CRT)**

Chairpersons:

16:15 **Lifetime management of aortic stenosis**

16:27 **Transcatheter mitral valve implantation**
S Windecker (Bern, CH, M)

16:39 **Transcatheter tricuspid valve implantation**
G Nickenig (Bonn, DE, M)

16:51 **Transcatheter treatment of aortic regurgitation**

17:03 **Progress in structural heart valve interventions: current status and perspectives - discussion**
A Petronio (Pisa, IT, F)

Learning Objectives: To critically appraise current evidence, indications, and device technologies for transcatheter interventions on the mitral, tricuspid, and aortic valves;
To compare procedural strategies, patient selection criteria, and clinical outcomes across different structural heart interventions, including left atrial appendage closure; and
To identify emerging perspectives and unmet needs that will shape future research and clinical practice in structural heart interventions.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Lisbon - ICM

Pregnancy in complex cardiovascular conditions: everything you need to know

Session Number: 427

Joint session with the Association for European Paediatric and Congenital Cardiology (AEPC) and the International Society for Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ISACHD)

Chairpersons: GEA Egidy Assenza (Bologna, IT) (M)

16:15 **Pregnancy physiology and heart diseases: do we have pathophysiologic milestones?**

16:35 **Pregnancy in complex congenital heart disease: nice and easy - can every woman do it?**
O Tutarel (Berlin, DE, M)

16:55 **Management of pregnancy in patients with pulmonary hypertension**

Learning Objectives: To provide practical information on the treatment of women with complex cardiovascular conditions who want to become pregnant or are already pregnant.

Categories:

Late-Breaking Science	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1033

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Beirut - Hall A3

2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Heart Failure: Ask the Task Force

Session Number: **1101**

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Autonomous artificial intelligence agents in clinical practice

Session Number: 485

Chairpersons:

16:15 **Large language models as central orchestrator: the concept of artificial intelligence agents**
S Engelhardt (Heidelberg, DE, F)

16:30 **Artificial intelligence agents for diagnostic purposes: will they automatically order medical tests?**

16:45 **Artificial intelligence agents in medicine: what level of autonomy can we accept?**

17:00 **Autonomous artificial intelligence agents in clinical practice - discussion**
X Li (- , HK, F)

Learning Objectives: To introduce the concept of artificial intelligence agents with large language models as central component as it reflects on current applications and to discuss whether they are applicable in medicine given the current strict regulations.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Clinical Case Management	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Pristina - Hall A3

Clinical Case Management: how multimodality imaging guides cardio-oncology decision-making

Session Number: 334

Chairpersons: T Lopez Fernandez (Madrid, ES) (F)

16:15 Case 1: a young woman with breast cancer

16:35 Case 2: middle-aged man with Hodgkin lymphoma

16:55 Clinical Case Management: how multimodality imaging guides cardio-oncology decision-making - discussion

Learning Objectives: To understand how multimodality imaging is used to assess baseline cardiovascular risk and therapy-related cardiotoxicity in patients with cancer; and
To apply imaging findings from echocardiography, cardiovascular magnetic resonance and cardiovascular computed tomography to guide individualised cardio-oncology management in representative clinical scenarios.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Friday, 28 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Tashkent - Hall A3

RNA and extracellular vesicle therapies for cardiovascular disease

Session Number: 462

Chairpersons: E Stroes (Amsterdam, NL) (M)

16:15 Non-coding RNAs in lipid metabolism and their roles in atherosclerosis

16:27 RNA therapies for cardiac repair and regeneration

16:39 Exploiting the secretome for regenerative applications

S Bollini (Genova, IT, F)

16:51 First-in-man use of a cardiovascular cell-derived secretome in heart failure
P Menasche (Paris, FR, M)

17:03 RNA and extracellular vesicle therapies for cardiovascular disease - discussion

Learning Objectives: To present and discuss state-of-the-art information in the development of lipid nanoparticles for cardiac gene transfer, the current status of RNA-based drugs for lipid-lowering therapies and the outcome of a first-in-human clinical trial using extracellular vesicles for the treatment of heart failure.

There is a strong interest in developing advanced therapies for different cardiac conditions, including small noncoding RNAs and RNA-loaded extracellular vesicles.

Categories:

Special Event	Friday, 28 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

Inaugural session

Session Number: 5000

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Hot Line	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 2

Session Number: 1011

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Athens - ICM

Obesity treatments: what are the issues going forward?

Session Number: 149

Chairpersons: R Gabulova (Baku, AZ) (F) - M Papadakis (London, GB) (M)

08:15 **Optimal body weight for cardiovascular health: how to reach it**

08:33 **GLP-1 agonists: drug for weight loss - are they longevity agents?**

08:51 **Obesity treatment: impact on women's health**

09:09 **Obesity treatment and health inequalities: drugs for the affluent?**
P Marques-Vidal (Lausanne, CH, M)

09:27 **Obesity treatments: what are the issues going forward? - discussion**
N Marx (Aachen, DE, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand:
The opportunities for different weight-loss treatments;
The broader benefits from weight-loss treatments; and
The impact on individual and population health.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Vienna - ICM

Challenging scenarios in hypertension treatment

Session Number: 265

Chairpersons: TJ Jafar (Singapore, SG) (F) - M Tomaszewski (Manchester, GB) (M)

08:15 **Patients with end-stage renal disease**
P Swift (London, GB, F)

08:33 **Patients with neurocardiogenic syncope and postural hypotension**

08:51 **Patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and/or left ventricular outflow tract obstruction**

09:09 **Patients with preeclampsia**

09:27 **Challenging scenarios in hypertension treatment - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To learn how to manage difficult-to-control hypertension as a common referral to the specialist service; and
To recognise common comorbidities coexisting with difficult-to-treat hypertension.

Categories:

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Bratislava - ICM

Leave nothing behind with bioresorbable scaffolds or drug-coated balloons: fact or fiction?

Session Number: 374

Chairpersons:

08:15 **Bioresorbable scaffolds: where are we and what's next?**
M Sabate Tenas (Hospitalet De Llobregat Barcelona, ES, M)

08:33 **Drug-coated balloons vs. stents: what is better?**
V Paradies (Rotterdam, NL, F)

08:51 **How to integrate intracoronary imaging in leave nothing behind scenarios?**

09:09 **Pearls and pitfalls of trial design: how can we move these technologies forward?**

D Capodanno (Catania, IT, M)

09:27 **Leave nothing behind with bioresorbable scaffolds or drug-coated balloons: fact or fiction? - discussion**
M Degertekin (Istanbul, TR, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the new developments in 'leave nothing behind' as a complimentary strategy to drug-eluting stents;
To appreciate device properties of drug-coated balloons and bioresorbable scaffolds;
To understand the indication for imagining 'leave nothing behind' strategy; and
To know how to design appropriate clinical trials to evaluate 'leave nothing behind' technology.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Clinical Case Management	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Lisbon - ICM

Clinical Case Management: multivalvular heart disease - challenging dilemmas for the Heart Team

Session Number: 425

Chairpersons: A Petronio (Pisa, IT) (F) - M Borger (Leipzig, DE) (M)

08:15 **Case 1: aortic stenosis and mitral regurgitation**
L Sanchis Ruiz (Barcelona, ES, F)

08:33 **Case 1: aortic stenosis and mitral regurgitation - discussion**

08:51 **Case 2: mitral regurgitation and tricuspid regurgitation**

09:09 **Case 2: mitral regurgitation and tricuspid regurgitation - discussion**

09:27 **What is the evidence and what do the guidelines say?**
N Ajmone Marsan (Leiden, NL, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand the difficulties in diagnosing the severity of each valvular heart disease; and
To decide timing and best treatment for multivalvular heart disease: which therapy and when.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Late-Breaking Science	**Saturday, 29 August 2026**	**08:15 - 09:45**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1034

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debates: the new kids on the block in cardiac implantable electronic device therapy

Session Number: 190

Chairpersons: C Leclercq (Rennes Cedex, FR) (M)

08:15 **Conduction system pacing vs. leadless pacing for treating bradycardia: pro**
H Burri (Geneva, CH, M)

08:30 **Conduction system pacing vs. leadless pacing for treating bradycardia: con**

08:45 **Conduction system pacing vs. leadless pacing for treating bradycardia - discussion**
S Al-Khatib (Durham, US, F)

09:00 **Transvenous vs. non-transvenous implantable cardioverter defibrillators: pro**
C Israel (Bielefeld, DE, M)

09:15 **Transvenous vs. non-transvenous implantable cardioverter defibrillators: con**

09:30 **Transvenous vs. non-transvenous implantable cardioverter defibrillators - discussion**
J Joza (Montreal, CA, F)

Learning Objectives: To discuss the pros and cons of each pacing modality in this debate-format session, as conduction system pacing and leadless pacing have been paradigm shifts in antibradycardia therapy; and
To discuss the respective roles of non-transvenous implantable cardioverter-defibrillators as they are an alternative to traditional transvenous devices.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Skopje - Hall A3

Novel antithrombotic approaches in acute coronary syndromes

Session Number: 226

Chairpersons: DA Gorog (London, GB) (F)

08:15 **Unfractionated heparin in the field**

08:33 **Zalunfiban: is it really time to CELEBRATE?**
AWJ van 't Hof (Hattem, NL, M)

08:51 **Is there a role for prasugrel monotherapy?**
P Guimaraes (Sao Paulo, BR, F)

09:09 **Any hope for factor XI inhibition?**
JL Ferreiro (Tarragona, ES, M)

09:27 **Novel antithrombotic approaches in acute coronary syndromes - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To learn about new antithrombotic strategies to improve outcomes in acute coronary syndromes, drugs that will reduce coronary thrombosis and reduce bleeding, allowing clinicians novel insights into new pharmacological approaches and novel use of existing antithrombotic medications.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Tripoli - Hall B1

Cardiovascular prevention in 2026: from novel tools to societal impact

Session Number: 566

Chairpersons: G Figtree (Sydney, AU) (F)

08:15 **Cardiovascular prevention: from national to global scale**
J Deanfield (London, GB, M)

08:30 **Artificial intelligence-enabled cardiovascular risk prediction and digital prevention**

08:45 **Imaging and subclinical atherosclerosis: enabling precision prevention**

09:00 **Cardiovascular prevention in Africa: epidemiology, implementation, and scalable solutions**

09:15 **Societal determinants of cardiovascular disease: food systems, policy, and prevention**
S Anand (Hamilton, CA, F)

09:30 **Cardiovascular prevention in 2026: from novel tools to societal impact - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To gain an updated framework for cardiovascular prevention by integrating new technologies, implementation science, and policy;
To examine how artificial intelligence, digital tools, and advanced imaging can improve risk prediction and earlier identification of subclinical disease;
To explore how prevention can be delivered from national to global scale, including Africa; and
To evaluate how food systems, public policy, and wider societal determinants shape cardiovascular risk and preventive success.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Chisinau - Hall B1

Session Number: 513

Atrial fibrillation management update: multidisciplinary approach in prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up

Organised in collaboration with the German Cardiac Society

Chairpersons: F Straube (Munich, DE) (M)

08:15 **The role of nurses and allied professionals in atrial fibrillation comorbidity and risk factor management in Europe: what can we learn from each other?**
J Hendriks (Maastricht, NL, M)

08:33 **Ambulatory pre-procedural assessment for atrial fibrillation ablation: practical pathways and safety considerations from the allied professional and nursing perspective**

08:51 **Inside the electrophysiology lab: the expanding role of nurses and allied professionals**

09:09 **Same-day discharge after atrial fibrillation ablation: how nurses and allied professionals make it work**

09:27 **Atrial fibrillation management update: multidisciplinary approach in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up - discussion**

Learning Objectives:
To explain the roles of allied professionals and nurses in atrial fibrillation management, including prevention, comorbidity control, procedures, and follow-up;
To compare multidisciplinary atrial fibrillation comorbidity management across Europe and to highlight transferable best practices;
To summarise pre-procedural pathways for atrial fibrillation ablation, focusing on safety, sedation diagnostics, and patient selection;
To detail the broader responsibilities of allied professionals during electrophysiology and catheter lab procedures, covering preparation, support, documentation, and post-care transition;
To list organisational requirements for safe same-day discharge after atrial fibrillation ablation, such as monitoring, criteria, education, and handover;
To use team-based care models to improve safety, workflow, and continuity in ambulatory and short-stay atrial fibrillation management.

Categories: Nurses and Allied Professionals Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Phenotyping and personalised management of pulmonary hypertension

Session Number: 414

Chairpersons:

08:15 **Haemodynamics and echocardiography: an integrative approach for diagnosis, phenotyping, and risk assessment**

08:33 **Artificial intelligence for diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension**

08:51 **Pulmonary hypertension associated with left heart disease: prevalence, phenotyping, and management**
S Rosenkranz (Koln, DE, M)

09:09 **The future in pulmonary hypertension phenotyping and risk assessment: the role of artificial intelligence**
G Kopec (Krakow, PL, M)

09:27 **Phenotyping and management of pulmonary hypertension - discussion**
C Hjalmarsson (Gothenburg, SE, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand the value of artificial intelligence in pulmonary hypertension; and
To gain insights into the diagnosis and phenotypes of distinct forms of pulmonary hypertension.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Pristina - Hall A3

Imaging knowledge gaps in inflammatory myopericarditis syndromes and beyond

Session Number: 336

Chairpersons: C Van De Heyning (Antwerpen, BE) (F) - R Nijveldt (Nijmegen, NL) (M)

08:15 **Timing of imaging in myopericarditis: what's missing?**
J Schulz-Menger (Berlin, DE, F)

08:33 **Where the guidelines fall short on imaging-based risk prediction and prognosis**
C Grani (Bern, CH, M)

08:51 **Whole body imaging-based autoimmune and inflammatory disorders, extracardiac inflammation, lack of integrated cardio-immunology pathway**

09:09 **What evidence, imaging, and collaboration are needed for the next guideline generation?**

09:27 **Imaging knowledge gaps in inflammatory myopericarditis syndromes and beyond – discussion**

Learning Objectives: To identify key knowledge gaps in the timing and interpretation of imaging in inflammatory myopericarditis;
To understand limitations of current guidelines for imaging-based risk prediction and prognosis;
To recognise the role of systemic and extracardiac inflammation beyond cardiac-focused pathways;
To appreciate the added value of multimodality and whole-body imaging approaches; and
To define priorities for evidence generation and collaboration to inform future guidelines.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Tashkent - Hall A3

New tools for discovery in cardiology: human tissue platforms meet artificial intelligence

Session Number: 450

Chairpersons:

08:15 **Engineered human heart tissue: modelling contractility, conduction, and disease**

08:33 **Myocardial slices: an intermediate complexity platform for translational cardiovascular research**

08:51 **Human derived pluripotent stem cells in engineered heart tissues and organoids**

09:09 **Artificial intelligence as a new approach methodology**
B Rodriguez (Oxford, GB, F)

09:27 **New methods for translational cardiovascular research: from cellular systems to artificial intelligence - discussion**
S Bollini (Genova, IT, F)

Learning Objectives: To introduce state-of-the-art non-animal research platforms in cardiovascular science with a particular focus on the use of human myocardial slices, engineered heart tissue, organoids and artificial intelligence, placed within the broader context of the FDA's 2025 initiative to phase out mandatory animal testing in favour of new approach methodologies (NAMs); and
To provide an overview of new approach methodologies relevant to cardiovascular research, emphasising their predictive value, translational potential, and current limitations.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	10:30 - 11:30	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Frontiers and innovations in Chinese and European cardiology: from discovery to intervention

Session Number: 308

Joint session with the Great Wall International Congress of Cardiology (GW-ICC)

Chairpersons: A Oto (Medical Office Cinnah Cad 98 / 4 Cankaya, TR) (M)

10:30 Early phase study for drug discovery in China

10:45 EuroHeart shapes the future of heart care
B Casadei (London, GB, F)

11:00 The innovation in transcatheter valve therapy in China

11:15 Future of cardiovascular innovation in Europe

Learning Objectives: To highlight technological advances in global cardiology emerging from China and Europe with a focus on early-phase cardiovascular drug discovery ecosystems, research infrastructures, and key drivers of innovation in both regions;
To understand how data-driven initiatives in Europe, such as EuroHeart, alongside large-scale research platforms in China are shaping the future of cardiovascular care, enabling real-world evidence generation, quality improvement, and innovation across diverse healthcare systems;
To examine advances in transcatheter valve therapies developed in China and Europe, showcasing novel technologies, evolving procedural strategies, and their relevance to contemporary clinical practice; and
To explore future directions for cardiovascular innovation in China and Europe, including emerging technologies, supportive regulatory environments, and collaborative models that foster translational science and patient-centred care.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Hot Line	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 3

Session Number: 1012

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Bucharest - ICM

Guidelines in Practice: 2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Heart Failure

Session Number: **1201**

Practical Seminar	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Rome - ICM

New challenges and solutions in atrial fibrillation

Session Number: 180

Chairpersons: IC Van Gelder (Groningen, NL) (F) - D Conen (Hamilton, CA) (M)

11:00 Cardio-kidney-metabolic syndrome and atrial fibrillation

11:20 Frail patients with atrial fibrillation

11:40 Inflamm-ageing and atrial fibrillation: can specific diet help?

Learning Objectives: To understand how inflamm-ageing and the cardio-kidney-metabolic syndrome that contributes to atrial fibrillation;
To recognise key challenges in managing atrial fibrillation in frail patients with multiple comorbidities; and
To gain insight into emerging strategies, including lifestyle and dietary interventions, to improve patient outcomes.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Athens - ICM

Lipids over the life course: how to manage

Session Number: 160 **Joint session with the European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS)**

Chairpersons: B Nordestgaard (Herlev, DK) (M)

11:00 **Lipids in the young**
A Wiegman (Amsterdam, NL, M)

11:15 **Lipids and pregnancy**
K Holven (Oslo, NO, F)

11:30 **Lipids in the elderly**
F Mach (Geneva, CH, M)

11:45 **Lipids in patients with comorbidities**
M Kayikcioglu (Istanbul, TR, F)

Learning Objectives: To increase understanding about how to apply life-course strategies to manage cardiovascular disease risk in clinical practice;
To explore how lipid metabolism and cardiovascular risk evolve from childhood to old age; and
To integrate ESC/EAS Guidelines to deliver personalised lipid care across all life stages.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Bratislava - ICM

Heart Team Discussion: optimal management of asymptomatic severe aortic stenosis

Session Number: 380

Joint session with the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery (EACTS)

Chairpersons: J Wykrzykowska (Groningen, NL) (F)

11:00 **Transcatheter aortic valve implantation in asymptomatic severe aortic stenosis patients: pros and cons**

11:12 **Surgical aortic valve replacement in asymptomatic severe aortic stenosis patients: pros and cons**

11:24 **Aortic Valve and the Aortic Heart Team: towards a comprehensive integrated team approach**
M Czerny (Freiburg, DE, M)

11:36 **Aortic medicine: progress, gaps, and perspectives**

11:48 **Heart Team Discussion: optimal management of asymptomatic severe aortic stenosis - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand how to manage patients with (asymptomatic) aortic stenosis and what the innovations are in this space;
To understand the multidisciplinary nature of optimal care in asymptomatic aortic stenosis; and
To understand the complexity of aortic medicine and risk stratification.

Categories:

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Lisbon - ICM

Sudden cardiac death risk stratification in dilated cardiomyopathy, non-dilated left ventricular cardiomyopathy, and arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy

Session Number: 412

Chairpersons: R Jurcut (Bucharest, RO) (F) - S Heymans (Maastricht, NL) (M)

11:00 **The role of cardiac magnetic resonance**

11:15 **The role of genetics**

11:30 **Are risk calculators and digital monitoring the missing link?**

11:45 **Sudden cardiac death risk stratification in dilated cardiomyopathy, non-dilated left ventricular cardiomyopathy, and arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy - discussion**
K Zeppenfeld (Leiden, NL, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand the role of cardiac magnetic resonance imaging in risk stratification and the role of genetic testing for risk stratification.

Categories:

Late-Breaking Science	**Saturday, 29 August 2026**	**11:00 - 12:00**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1035

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: transcatheter or surgical repair for degenerative mitral regurgitation?

Session Number: 370

Chairpersons: V Falk (Berlin, DE) (M)

11:00 **Transcatheter edge-to-edge repair is preferable to surgical repair for degenerative mitral regurgitation: pro**

11:15 **Transcatheter edge-to-edge repair is preferable to surgical repair for degenerative mitral regurgitation: con**
A Pitsis (Thessaloniki, GR, M)

11:30 **Transcatheter edge-to-edge repair is preferable to surgical repair for degenerative mitral regurgitation - discussion**
T Rudolph (Bad Oeynhausen, DE, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand the benefits, outcomes, and limitations of endoscopic mitral valve repair and transcatheter edge-to-edge repair for treating degenerative mitral regurgitation;
To identify the best patients for each procedure (surgical or interventional); and
To understand the challenges and potential complications of each procedure.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Great Debates	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Skopje - Hall A3

Great Debate: routine complete or culprit-only revascularisation for acute coronary syndromes?

Session Number: 225

Chairpersons: JAL Leopold (Boston, US) (F)

11:00 **All patients with acute coronary syndromes should have routine complete revascularisation: pro**
BE Stahli (Zurich, CH, F)

11:15 **All patients with acute coronary syndromes should have routine complete revascularisation: con**
H Thiele (Leipzig, DE, M)

11:30 **All patients with acute coronary syndromes should have routine complete revascularisation - discussion**
F Weidinger (Vienna, AT, M)

Learning Objectives: To summarise the pathophysiological rationale for complete vs. culprit-only revascularisation in patients presenting with acute coronary syndromes;
To critically appraise evidence from randomised clinical trials and meta-analyses evaluating clinical outcomes associated with routine complete revascularisation compared with culprit-only strategies;
To differentiate the benefits and risks of each revascularisation approach in specific acute coronary syndrome subgroups including ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction, non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction, multivessel disease, and haemodynamic instability;
To assess the optimal timing of non-culprit lesion intervention (index procedure vs. staged-approach) and its impact on ischaemic and safety outcomes; and
To apply current ESC Guideline recommendations and patient-centred considerations to select the most appropriate revascularisation strategy in contemporary acute coronary syndrome practice.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Bring your Questions	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Tripoli - Hall B1

The floor is yours: bring your questions on hormonal replacement therapy and cardiovascular health

Session Number: 152

Chairpersons: C Lerchenmueller (Zurich, CH) (F) - M Rubini Gimenez (Valencia, ES) (F)

11:00 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on hormonal replacement therapy and cardiovascular health - get ready for the session**
M Rubini Gimenez (Valencia, ES, F)

11:05 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on hormonal replacement therapy and cardiovascular health - expert panel**
C Gebhard (Zurich, CH, F)

M Gulati (Los Angeles, US, F)

M Tiberi (Pesaro, IT, F)

Learning Objectives: To discuss the pros and cons of cardiovascular health when prescribing hormone replacement therapy for women.
Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Chisinau - Hall B1

Life after spontaneous coronary artery dissection: understanding psychological and physical recovery

Session Number: 512 **Organised in collaboration with the German Cardiac Society**

Chairpersons:

11:00 **Spontaneous coronary artery dissection pathophysiology**

11:15 **Spontaneous coronary artery dissection coping diseases**
H Tulloch (Ottawa, CA, F)

11:30 **Spontaneous coronary artery dissection physical recovery**
C Hanson (Edinburgh, GB, F)

11:45 **Life after spontaneous coronary artery dissection: understanding psychological and physical recovery - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explain the physiological mechanisms and recovery trajectory following spontaneous coronary artery dissection;
To analyse the psychological impact of spontaneous coronary artery dissection on patients, including anxiety, fear of recurrence, and identity changes after diagnosis; and
To evaluate strategies to support holistic recovery, integrating physical rehabilitation and psychosocial interventions tailored to people with spontaneous coronary artery dissection.

Categories: Nurses and Allied Professionals Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Beyond biomarkers: artificial intelligence-driven insights into cardiometabolic disease

Session Number: 484

Chairpersons: CM Linde (Stockholm, SE) (F)

11:00 **How artificial intelligence is transforming cardiovascular metabolism research through multiomics integration**

11:15 **Predicting metabolic syndrome using artificial intelligence and genetics**

11:30 **From plasma multiomics to artificial intelligence interpretation of atherosclerotic plaque stability and inflammation**
G Figtree (Sydney, AU, F)

11:45 **Beyond biomarkers: artificial intelligence-driven insights into cardiometabolic disease - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To present insights into the potential capabilities of artificial intelligence in detecting cardiovascular metabolism diseases.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, Cardiometabolic Track

Bring your Questions	Saturday, 29 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Pristina - Hall A3

The floor is yours: bring your questions on multimodality imaging in infective endocarditis

Session Number: 333

Chairpersons: BA Popescu (Bucharest, RO) (M) - M Kyriakou (Larnaca, CY) (F)

11:00 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on multimodality imaging in infective endocarditis - get ready for the session**
M Kyriakou (Larnaca, CY, F)

11:05 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on multimodality imaging in infective endocarditis - expert panel**
N Ajmone Marsan (Leiden, NL, F)

G Habib (Marseille, FR, M)

F Caobelli (Bern, CH, M)

Learning Objectives: To select the most appropriate imaging modality (transthoracic echocardiogram, transoesophageal echocardiogram, or cardiac computed tomography) for suspected or confirmed infective endocarditis based on the clinical question, including vegetation detection, prosthetic valve assessment, peri-annular complications, and embolic risk;
To strengthen interpretation skills through expert-led, multimodality case discussions of native and prosthetic valve endocarditis;
To apply key acquisition and guidance techniques to obtain high-quality, clinically actionable valve and peri-valvular images for diagnosis and surgical planning; and
To integrate imaging findings into clinical decision-making and interdisciplinary endocarditis Heart Team discussions.

Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	12:45 - 13:45	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Preventing sequelae of heart failure

Session Number: 116 **Joint session with the Cardiological Society of India (CSI)**

Chairpersons:

12:45 **How to manage worsening heart failure**

13:00 **Endovascular management of chronic severe cerebral ischaemia**

13:15 **Prevention of heart failure in type 2 diabetes**

13:30 **Halting chronic kidney disease in heart failure**

Learning Objectives: To understand the clinical signs, biomarkers, and diagnostic tools used to identify early worsening heart failure before significant decompensation occurs;
To outline evidence-based treatment strategies, including pharmacologic adjustments and monitoring approaches;
To recognise when escalation of care or advanced therapies are warranted to prevent further deterioration;
To identify appropriate diagnostic criteria and imaging modalities for chronic severe cerebral ischaemia and to recognise which patients may benefit from endovascular intervention;
To understand current endovascular techniques, their indications, and associated risks; and
To evaluate outcomes and apply evidence-based decision-making in selecting optimal treatment strategies.

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	**Saturday, 29 August 2026**	**13:45 - 15:00**	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Cardiovascular Disease and Chronic Kidney Disease

Session Number: **1002**

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Bucharest - ICM

Hot topics in cardiomyopathy: novel drugs changing the game

Session Number: 113

Chairpersons: S Van Linthout (Berlin, DE) (F) - J Hulot (Paris, FR) (M)

13:45 **Editing the future: gene therapies transforming cardiomyopathy care**
B Meder (Heidelberg, DE, M)

14:00 **Breaking the paradigm: novel therapies transforming hypertrophic cardiomyopathy**
PM Elliott (London, GB, M)

14:15 **Precision treatment in amyloidosis: what's new and what's next**

14:30 **Designing drugs at machine speed: the future of artificial intelligence in drug discovery**

14:45 **Hot topics in cardiomyopathy: breakthrough drugs changing the game - discussion**
B Bozkurt (Houston, US, F)

Learning Objectives:

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Athens - ICM

Optimising preventive cardiology: why and how?

Session Number: 148

Chairpersons: CM Linde (Stockholm, SE) (F) - J Deanfield (London, GB) (M)

13:45 **Cardiovascular disease prevention: the economic imperative**

14:00 **How to assess lifetime risk and benefit**
E Di Angelantonio (Cambridge, GB, M)

14:15 **Nudging the public to foster prevention**

14:30 **Does the medical system need to change? training for precision preventive medicine**

14:45 **Optimising preventive cardiology: why and how? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand:
The impact on direct health costs as well as wealth creation by the workforce;
The value of risk and benefit prediction at individual and population level;
The introduction of new curriculum for cardiologists in precision prevention; and
To review traditional and new strategies to engage and motivate the public to manage their health.

Categories:

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Vienna - ICM

Advanced therapies for myocardial repair and regeneration

Session Number: 302

Chairpersons: M Gladka (Amsterdam, NL) (F) - S Dimmeler (Frankfurt, DE) (F)

13:45 CAR-T cells targeting cardiac fibrosis

14:00 Towards cardiac regeneration in the clinic
E Van Rooij (Utrecht, NL, F)

14:15 Vascular regeneration in remodelling myocardium

M Brittan (Edinburgh, GB, F)

14:30 Induced pluripotent stem cells therapy for heart failure

K Fukuda (Tokyo, JP, M)

14:45 Advanced therapies for myocardial repair and regeneration - discussion

Learning Objectives: To highlight emerging advanced therapies aimed at myocardial repair and regeneration, moving beyond conventional pharmacological approaches toward transformative interventions for heart failure.

The programme will cover cutting-edge strategies including CAR-T cell therapies targeting cardiac fibrosis, approaches to achieve cardiac regeneration in the clinical setting, vascular regeneration within the remodelling myocardium, and induced pluripotent stem cell–based therapies. By integrating advances from immunotherapy, regenerative biology, vascular science, and cell-based therapeutics, the session will provide a forward-looking perspective on how these innovative modalities may reshape future treatment paradigms for myocardial injury and heart failure.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Bratislava - ICM

Novel and complex scenarios in stroke-heart care: what the cardiologist must know

Session Number: 268

Chairpersons: Y Guo (Beijing, CN) (F)

13:45 **Optimising re-initiation of oral anticoagulation after stroke or intracranial bleeding: a catalyst for optimising the timing of direct oral anticoagulants**

14:00 **Stroke-heart-syndrome: does it exist and why should cardiologists be worried?**
W Doehner (Berlin, DE, M)

14:15 **Clinical complexity in cardio-cerebrovascular care: definition, prognosis, and optimal management**

14:30 **Tackling the residual cardiovascular risk of stroke or cardiovascular events through integrated care: do we need a miracle?**
M Li (Nanjing, CN, F)

14:45 **Novel and complex scenarios in stroke-heart care: what the cardiologist must know - discussion**
GF Romiti (Rome, IT, M)

Learning Objectives: To define evidence-based timing to restart anticoagulation after atrial fibrillation-related stroke by integrating infarct size/severity, haemorrhagic risk, and imaging to individualise decisions; and To select antithrombotic strategies after breakthrough stroke, including switching/intensifying therapy and integrated care to reduce residual risk through risk factor control, adherence, and multidisciplinary pathways to prevent recurrence.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Late-Breaking Science	**Saturday, 29 August 2026**	**13:45 - 15:00**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1036

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: clopidogrel should replace aspirin for patients with chronic coronary syndromes

Session Number: 221

Chairpersons: DA Gorog (London, GB) (F) - F Weidinger (Vienna, AT) (M)

13:45 **Clopidogrel should replace aspirin for patients with chronic coronary syndromes: pro**

14:05 **Clopidogrel should replace aspirin for patients with chronic coronary syndromes: con**
B Rocca (Casamassima, IT, F)

14:25 **Clopidogrel should replace aspirin for patients with chronic coronary syndromes - discussion**
S James (Uppsala, SE, M)

Learning Objectives: To discuss advantages of aspirin vs. clopidogrel in patients with chronic coronary syndromes;
To understand the additional benefit of aspirin or clopidogrel outside of chronic coronary artery disease; and
To guide optional selection of antiplatelet therapy in chronic coronary syndromes for cardiovascular risk reduction.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Tripoli - Hall B1

Immune and inflammatory mechanisms of hypertension: from novel mechanisms to therapies

Session Number: 565

Chairpersons:

13:45 **Hypertension as an immune disorder: new mechanisms, therapeutic opportunities, and unresolved questions**

13:57 **Neuroimmune circuits in hypertension and organ damage**
D Carnevale (Pozzilli, IT, F)

14:10 **Multi-organ relevance of immune and inflammatory networks for hypertension pathology**
D Harrison (Nashville, US, M)

14:22 **Inflammation, vascular remodelling, and microvascular injury in hypertension**

14:35 **Therapeutic targeting of the neurohumoral-inflammatory axis in resistant hypertension**
F Mahfoud (Basel, CH, M)

14:47 **Immune and inflammatory mechanisms of hypertension: from novel mechanisms to therapies - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To gain an integrated understanding of how immune and inflammatory mechanisms contribute to the pathogenesis of hypertension and its cardiovascular complications;
To examine the current mechanistic framework linking innate and adaptive immunity with neurohumoral activation, vascular dysfunction, and target-organ damage;
To discuss emerging concepts including neuroimmune communication, gut-immune interactions, and inflammatory drivers of vascular remodelling;
To learn how these insights may inform new therapeutic strategies including device-based interventions and precision approaches to resistant hypertension; and
To explore how mechanistic advances can translate into improved cardiovascular prevention strategies and future policy directions in hypertension management.

Categories:

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Chisinau - Hall B1

Artificial intelligence in cardiovascular care: from clinical decision support to ethics and patient trust

Session Number: 510 **Organised in collaboration with the German Cardiac Society**

Chairpersons: JJ Orchard (Sydney, AU) (F) - N Bruining (Rotterdam, NL) (M)

13:45 **Leveraging large language models for enhanced clinical decision-making: a practical guide for nurses and allied professionals**
P Moons (Leuven, BE, M)

14:03 **Navigating the ethical landscape of artificial intelligence in healthcare**
E Svennberg (Stockholm, SE, F)

14:22 **Patient expectations of using artificial intelligence for individual health**
Mr Rucinski (Blonie, PL, M)

14:41 **Artificial intelligence in cardiovascular care: from clinical decision support to ethics and patient trust - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore practical applications of artificial intelligence and large language models in nursing and allied health professions, including clinical decision support, documentation, and patient communication;
To evaluate the benefits and limitations of integrating artificial intelligence tools into everyday healthcare workflows with attention to ethical, legal, and professional considerations; and
To identify opportunities for nurses and allied professionals to engage with artificial intelligence technologies, including training, collaboration, and innovation in patient-centred care.

Categories: Includes a patient perspective, Nurses and Allied Professionals Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Pristina - Hall A3

Artificial intelligence in cardiovascular imaging: hype or hope?

Session Number: 330

Chairpersons: A Baritussio (Padova, IT) (F)

13:45 **Evidence thresholds for artificial intelligence: when should we start using artificial intelligence in cardiovascular imaging?**
A Fraser (Cardiff, GB, M)

14:00 **Artificial intelligence in echocardiography: now and the future**
B Cosyns (Brussels, BE, M)

14:15 **Artificial intelligence in cardiac-CT/nuclear: now and the future**

14:30 **Artificial intelligence in cardiac magnetic resonance: now and the future**

14:45 **Artificial intelligence in cardiovascular imaging: hype or hope? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand the current evidence thresholds required for safe and effective clinical implementation of artificial intelligence in cardiovascular imaging;
To recognise validated and emerging artificial intelligence applications in echocardiography and their impact on workflow and clinical decision-making;
To identify the strengths, limitations and regulatory challenges of artificial intelligence in cardiac computed tomography and nuclear imaging; and
To evaluate present and future artificial intelligence use cases in cardiac magnetic resonance, including automation, tissue characterisation and prognostic applications.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Tashkent - Hall A3

New insights into genetic and molecular mechanisms regulating atherosclerosis

Session Number: 455

Chairpersons: E Osto (Zurich, CH) (F)

13:45 **Unveiling the molecular blueprint of atherosclerosis: artificial intelligence meets multiomics**

14:00 **Innate immunity and atherosclerosis**
C Monaco (Oxford, GB, F)

14:15 **Immune checkpoint targeting in atherosclerosis**
A Zirlik (Graz, AT, M)

14:30 **New insights into epigenetic mechanisms regulating atherosclerosis**

14:45 **New insights into genetic and molecular mechanisms regulating atherosclerosis - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore the rapidly advancing field of therapies for atherosclerosis management, emphasising the transition from fundamental molecular discoveries to clinical application; and
To gain insight into novel molecular targets involved in vascular ageing, lipid metabolism, inflammation, and plaque stabilisation including how artificial intelligence and network biology can unravel hidden molecular signatures driving vascular inflammation, plaque instability, and cell composition.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Hot Line	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 4

Session Number: 1013

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Bucharest - ICM

Heart failure care without walls: powering outcomes with teamwork

Session Number: 112

Chairpersons:

16:15 **Team-based heart failure management: overcoming barriers to deliver better outcomes**

16:30 **Continuous heart failure care: building a network that doesn't end at discharge**

16:45 **The heart's second chance: why cardiac rehabilitation changes everything**
J Nunez Villota (Valencia, ES, M)

17:00 **Heart failure care without walls: powering outcomes with teamwork - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore multi-professional care for heart failure.

Categories:

Guidelines in Practice	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Rome - ICM

Guidelines in Practice: ESC Guidelines for the Management of Atrial Fibrillation

Session Number: 182

Chairpersons: S Tzeis (Athens, GR) (M)

16:15 **My 55-year-old patient with obesity is diagnosed with HFrEF and persistent atrial fibrillation: case presentation**
H Puererfellner (Linz, AT, M)

16:30 **My 55-year-old patient with obesity is diagnosed with HFrEF and persistent atrial fibrillation: what do the guidelines say?**
A Sarkozy (Brussels, BE, F)

16:45 **My 55-year-old patient with obesity is diagnosed with HFrEF and persistent atrial fibrillation: how to implement the guidelines and take-home messages**

17:00 **Living with atrial fibrillation - patient perspective**

Learning Objectives: To apply the 2024 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Atrial Fibrillation to a practical clinical case;
To recognise key diagnostic and therapeutic recommendations for persistent atrial fibrillation;
To individualise treatment decisions using guideline-based strategies; and
To translate guideline recommendations into daily clinical practice.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track, Includes a patient perspective

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Athens - ICM

Immunotherapy challenges across the patient journey

Session Number: 162 **Joint session with the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)**

Chairpersons: A Lyon (London, GB) (M)

16:15 **Acute immune checkpoint inhibitor myocarditis: early clues, fast decisions**
T Lopez Fernandez (Madrid, ES, F)

16:30 **Late immune-related cardiotoxicity: when symptoms reappear years later**

16:45 **Immunotherapy in 2030: global challenges and emerging opportunities in cancer care**

17:00 **Immunotherapy challenges across the patient journey - patient perspective**

Learning Objectives: To recognise early and late cardiovascular complications related to immunotherapy and to apply practical diagnostic strategies across the patient journey;
To integrate multidisciplinary decision-making to optimise acute management, long-term follow-up, and continuity of cancer treatment whenever possible; and
To understand the global challenges and emerging opportunities in the expanding use of immunotherapy with a focus on improving access, consistency of care, and patient outcomes.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track, Includes a patient perspective

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Vienna - ICM

Pragmatic hypertension management in an era of ever-changing definitions, targets, and guidelines

Session Number: 260

Chairpersons: Y Chia (Bandar Sunway, MY) (F)

16:15 **How to diagnose hypertension and hypertension-mediated organ damage?**

16:27 **When to start antihypertensive treatment?**

16:39 **How fast and low should we go in blood pressure lowering?**
A Heagerty (Manchester, GB, M)

16:51 **How to monitor and support adherence to antihypertensive treatment?**
L Halvorsen (Oslo, NO, F)

17:03 **Pragmatic hypertension management in an era of ever-changing definitions, targets, and guidelines - discussion**
P van de Borne (Brussels, BE, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the practical principles of hypertension management;
To recognise the importance of hypertension treatment targets; and
To learn the practical approach to management of non-adherence.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Bratislava - ICM

Integrating artificial intelligence in interventional cardiology

Session Number: 486 **Joint session with the Cardiovascular Research Foundation (CRF)**

Chairpersons: K O'gallagher (London, GB) (M)

16:15 **Seeing before treating: advanced imaging, personalised planning, and smart procedural guidance**

16:30 **Predicting response, not just risk: advanced algorithms shaping personalised cardiovascular therapy**
R Mehran (New York, US, F)

16:45 **Machine learning for diagnosis and personalised management of myocardial infarction**
FA Wenzl (Schlieren, CH, M)

17:00 **Predicting response to intervention using coronary flow measures: the role of artificial intelligence**
C Bourantas (London, GB, M)

Learning Objectives: To explain how advanced multimodality imaging and intelligent guidance tools enable personalised procedural planning, improve standardisation, and enhance clinical decision-making;
To describe how advanced prediction models and algorithms integrate data to anticipate individual responses to therapy and to guide more precise treatment selection; and
To recognise how convergent technologies support the transition from reactive care to more predictive care.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Great Debate: aortic valve replacement for moderate aortic stenosis

Session Number: 417

Chairpersons: A Petronio (Pisa, IT) (F) - S Blankenberg (Hamburg, DE) (M)

16:15 **Patients with moderate aortic stenosis should undergo aortic valve replacement: pro**

16:30 **Patients with moderate aortic stenosis should undergo aortic valve replacement: con**

16:45 **Patients with moderate aortic stenosis should undergo aortic valve replacement - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To describe the adverse prognostic impact of moderate aortic stenosis;
To explain the role of prevalent cardiac damage;
To discuss the potential role of transcatheter aortic valve implantation; and
To summarise ongoing clinical trials investigating transcatheter aortic valve implantation vs. conservative therapy for moderate aortic stenosis.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Late-Breaking Science	**Saturday, 29 August 2026**	**16:15 - 17:15**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1037

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Beirut - Hall A3

2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Cardiovascular Disease and Chronic Kidney Disease: Ask the Task Force

Session Number: **1102**

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Chisinau - Hall B1

When temperatures rise: protecting cardiovascular health in an era of extreme heat

Session Number: 511 **Organised in collaboration with the German Cardiac Society**

Chairpersons: J Niehaus (Munich, DE) (F) - K Hinterbuchner (Rum, AT) (F)

16:15 **Current evidence base linking high ambient temperatures and heatwaves to cardiovascular morbidity and mortality**

G Chaseling (Sydney, AU, F)

16:30 **Multidisciplinary response: prevention, clinical care, and system adaptation**

16:45 **Heat, heart rhythm, and risk: what device data tell us about atrial fibrillation in a warming climate**
V Bilgeri (Innsbruck, AT, M)

17:00 **When temperatures rise: protecting cardiovascular health in an era of extreme heat - discussion**
C Ferguson (Sydney, AU, M)

Learning Objectives: To analyse epidemiological data to identify key cardiovascular risks associated with extreme heat exposure, based on current ESC evidence;
To explain and interpret the physiological mechanisms by which heat stress contributes to cardiovascular instability, guiding early recognition and clinical decision-making; and
To design and evaluate interdisciplinary care strategies that integrate cardiology, nursing, allied health, and public health interventions to reduce heat-related cardiovascular morbidity and mortality.

Categories: Nurses and Allied Professionals Track

Practical Seminar	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Artificial intelligence in scientific publishing: the good, the bad, and the ugly

Session Number: 482

Chairpersons:

16:15 **Do’s and don’ts using artificial intelligence in cardiovascular publishing**
N Bruining (Rotterdam, NL, M)

16:35 **Reading between the lines: key criteria for the use of artificial intelligence in scientific publishing**

16:55 **Artificial intelligence for writing and reviewing scientific papers: an editor’s perspective**
H Krumholz (New Haven, US, M)

Learning Objectives: To provide some key background and tips and tricks how to review papers using artificial intelligence methodology; and
To provide editors perspectives about if and how artificial intelligence can (not) help you to draft papers and to review other papers.

Artificial intelligence methodology is increasingly used in clinical research papers. It is of eminent importance to educate the cardiology of today about how to interpret the value of these artificial intelligence methods, including their pitfalls.

Categories:

Great Debate: imaging beats risk scores for primary prevention

Session Number: 338

Chairpersons: E Galli (Strasbourg, FR) (F)

16:15 **Imaging beats risk scores for primary prevention: pro**
D Newby (Edinburgh, GB, M)

16:30 **Imaging beats risk scores for primary prevention: con**
F Mach (Geneva, CH, M)

16:45 **Imaging beats risk scores for primary prevention - discussion**
M Gulati (Los Angeles, US, F)

Learning Objectives: To evaluate the added prognostic value of imaging biomarkers in primary prevention risk scores including their ability to improve individual risk reclassification; and
To critically discuss limitations of imaging-based risk scores including cost, availability, standardisation, and potential overuse in low-risk populations.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Tashkent - Hall A3

Liver-heart crosstalk and metabolic drivers of cardiovascular dysfunction

Session Number: 453

Chairpersons: N Hamdani (Bochum, DE) (F)

16:15 **Hepato-cardiac crosstalk: mechanisms linking liver to cardiovascular dysfunction**
G Schiattarella (Berlin, DE, M)

16:30 **How the heart impacts liver function**
GD Norata (Milan, IT, M)

16:45 **New therapeutic targets for liver-heart crisis**

17:00 **Liver-heart crosstalk and metabolic drivers of cardiovascular dysfunction - discussion**
E Osto (Zurich, CH, F)

Learning Objectives: To explore how metabolic dysfunction, inflammation, and liver steatosis drive cardiovascular impairment, highlighting shared molecular pathways that connect hepatic disease to heart failure and vascular dysfunction; and
To gain an integrated understanding of how early detection and targeted metabolic or anti-inflammatory interventions may modify cardiovascular risk in patients with chronic liver disease.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Artificial intelligence-supported hypertension management

Session Number: 273 **Joint session with the Argentine Society of Cardiology (ASC)**

Chairpersons: M Medus (Buenos Aires, AR) (F)

16:15 **Artificial intelligence in hypertension: what we can use now and how to get ready for what's coming?**

16:30 **Redefining hypertension-mediated organ damage in the age of artificial intelligence**
S Obregon (San Isidro, AR, M)

16:45 **Artificial intelligence-enabled digital twins in hypertension**

17:00 **Multimodal risk prediction in hypertension combining blood pressure trajectories: labs, ECG, imaging, and medications**
T Kuznetsova (Leuven, BE, F)

Learning Objectives: To present state-of-the-art artificial intelligence and machine learning including large language model approaches used in analysing medical data related to MT (e.g. cuffless monitoring, imaging, ECG, laboratory markers and omics);
To demonstrate how artificial intelligence-driven interpretation improves sensitivity, specificity, and reproductivity of medical tests; and
To assess how artificial intelligence-assisted diagnostics can support clinical decision-making, personalised risk prediction, and earlier intervention in hypertensive patients.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Hot Line	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 5

Session Number: 1014

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Bucharest - ICM

Guidelines in Practice: 2026 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Cardiovascular Disease and Chronic Kidney Disease

Session Number: **1202**

Practical Seminar	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Rome - ICM

The next era of ventricular arrhythmia management: beyond shocks, drugs, and ablation

Session Number: 191

Chairpersons: A Saguner (Zurich, CH) (M)

17:30 **From reaction to prediction? near-term prediction by artificial intelligence**
E Marijon (Paris, FR, M)

17:50 **Neuromodulation up front? A new bedside path to stabilising ventricular arrhythmias**

18:10 **Radiotherapy for arrhythmias: ready for prime time?**
K Zeppenfeld (Leiden, NL, F)

Learning Objectives: To describe emerging strategies for ventricular arrhythmia management including artificial intelligence-based prediction, neuromodulation, and radiotherapy; and
To evaluate their potential role in moving from reactive to proactive arrhythmia care.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Practical Seminar	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Athens - ICM

The role of artificial intelligence in early cardiovascular disease detection and prevention

Session Number: **143**

Chairpersons:

17:30 **Seeing the invisible: multiomics approaches for early detection of cardiovascular risk**

17:50 **Artificial intelligence tools for early identification and outcome prediction in peripartum cardiomyopathy**
J van der Velden (Amsterdam, NL, F)

18:10 **Artificial intelligence coaching for lifestyle and adherence in young adults**

Learning Objectives: To understand how artificial intelligence-enhanced imaging detects early atherosclerotic disease, providing risk information beyond traditional scores and before symptoms appear;
To recognise the contribution of artificial intelligence to the diagnostic work-up and management of peripartum cardiomyopathy in low-income countries;
To assess the value of artificial intelligence-guided lifestyle and adherence coaching in young adults as part of long-term cardiovascular prevention; and
To integrate artificial intelligence solutions across different life stages, adapting strategies for early detection, pregnancy-related cardiomyopathy and preventive care in younger populations.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Vienna - ICM

Frontiers in anti-inflammatory therapies

Session Number: 304

Chairpersons: C Monaco (Oxford, GB) (F)

17:30 **Targeting inflammasome axis and NLRP3 inhibitors and IL-1 blockade in cardiovascular disease**
P Libby (Boston, US, M)

17:42 **Targeting IL-6 signalling from biological rationale to cardiovascular outcome trials**
P Ridker (Boston, US, M)

17:54 **Heart failure and immune-mediated syndrome: new insights and emerging targets**
J Hill (Dallas, US, M)

18:06 **Expanding frontiers in cardiometabolic therapy: SGLT2 inhibitors and GLP-1 receptor agonists**

18:18 **Frontiers in anti-inflammatory therapies - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore inflammation as a central and targetable driver of cardiometabolic disease, marking a shift toward mechanism-based cardiovascular therapeutics;
To frame the discussion within an expanded cardiovascular–kidney–liver–metabolism paradigm, in order to examine how chronic inflammatory signalling links metabolic dysfunction to cardiovascular injury;
To address emerging and established anti-inflammatory strategies, including the pleiotropic effects of incretin-based therapies, the immunomodulatory actions of SGLT2 inhibitors, and the role of colchicine as a targeted anti-inflammatory intervention in cardiovascular disease; and
To redefine inflammation not as a bystander, but as a therapeutic entry point in cardiometabolic cardiovascular care by integrating insights from clinical trials, translational research, and evolving disease frameworks.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Lisbon - ICM

Applying artificial intelligence in the management of cardiomyopathies

Session Number: 413

Chairpersons: K Haugaa (Oslo, NO) (F) - M Merlo (Trieste, IT) (M)

17:30 **Artificial intelligence ECG for cardiomyopathies**

17:45 **Artificial intelligence-enhanced echocardiography in cardiomyopathies**
C Lam (Singapore, SG, F)

18:00 **Integrating artificial intelligence, magnetic resonance imaging, and genetics in cardiomyopathies**
D O'Regan (London, GB, M)

18:15 **Applying artificial intelligence in the management of cardiomyopathies - discussion**
L Mestroni (Aurora, US, F)

Learning Objectives: To learn how to apply artificial intelligence in diagnosis and treatment of cardiomyopathies; and To understand the limitations and opportunities of artificial intelligence in the management of cardiomyopathies.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Late-Breaking Science	**Saturday, 29 August 2026**	**17:30 - 18:30**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1038

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: PFO closure beyond age 60 - a patient with multiple cardiovascular comorbidities

Session Number: 267

Chairpersons: D Nikas (Ioannina, GR) (M)

17:30 **A 68-year-old man with stroke and no other cause than a patent foramen ovale: should be closed? - pro**

17:45 **A 68-year-old man with stroke and no other cause than a patent foramen ovale: should be closed? - con**

18:00 **A 68-year-old man with stroke and no other cause than a patent foramen ovale: should be closed? - discussion**
G Lembo (Pozzilli, IT, M)

Learning Objectives: To identify the diagnostic and clinical significance of a patent foramen ovale with atrial septal aneurysm in patients presenting with cryptogenic transient ischaemic attacks or stroke;
To evaluate current evidence and guideline recommendations for patent foramen ovale closure in older patients with vascular risk factors; and
To assess risk–benefit considerations and individualised decision-making in determining whether patent foramen ovale closure is warranted in this clinical context.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Tripoli - Hall B1

Albuminuria as a clinical compass: guideline-driven approaches to cardiorenal protection

Session Number: 157 **Joint session with the European Renal Association (ERA)**

Chairpersons: R Torra (Barcelona, ES) (F) - M Tomaszewski (Manchester, GB) (M)

17:30 **Testing for albuminuria to prevent cardiovascular disease**
R Gansevoort (Groningen, NL, M)

17:45 **Albuminuria-based guideline implementation to improve cardiovascular outcomes**
C Wanner (Wuerzburg, DE, M)

18:00 **How to manage albuminuria in primary care**
SE Claudel (Boston, US, F)

18:15 **Which drugs to select and which to avoid in a patient with microalbuminuria**
P Swift (London, GB, F)

Learning Objectives: To recognise albuminuria as a powerful early marker of cardiovascular and renal risk;
To understand the value of systematic testing for timely identification of high-risk individuals;
To apply guideline-supported therapeutic strategies triggered by albuminuria findings; and
To integrate cardiology-nephrology approaches to improve cardiovascular outcomes through earlier intervention and optimised risk stratification.

Categories:

Symposium	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Pristina - Hall A3

Current and future plaque imaging

Session Number: 341

Chairpersons: MA Clavel (Quebec, CA) (F)

17:30 **Monitoring plaque regression by computed tomography plaque imaging**

17:42 **Artificial intelligence and radiomics in computed tomography plaque evaluation**
C Antoniades (Oxford, GB, M)

17:54 **Assessing atherosclerotic plaque activity with positron emission tomography**
FM Bengel (Hannover, DE, M)

18:06 **Multimodality imaging endpoints for novel lipid lowering and anti-inflammatory drugs**
A Gimelli (Pisa, IT, F)

18:18 **Current and future plaque imaging - discussion**
J Knuuti (Turku, FI, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand how cardiac computed tomography plaque imaging can be used to monitor plaque progression and regression over time;
To recognise the role of artificial intelligence and radiomics in advanced cardiac computed tomography-based plaque characterisation and risk assessment;
To identify multimodality imaging biomarkers as surrogate endpoints in trials of novel lipid-lowering therapies; and
To evaluate imaging endpoints for assessing vascular effects of emerging anti-inflammatory treatments.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Saturday, 29 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Pharmacologic management of heart failure with mildly reduced or preserved ejection fraction

Session Number: 117 **Joint session with the Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS)**

Chairpersons: E Van Craenenbroeck (Edegem, BE) (F)

17:30 **Canadian recommendations for the use of SGLT2i and mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists in the management of heart failure with mildly reduced or preserved ejection fraction**
M Davis (Vancouver, CA, F)

17:45 **Canadian recommendations for the use of angiotensin receptor neprilysin inhibitor and GLP-1 RA in the management of heart failure with mildly reduced or preserved ejection fraction**
S Zieroth (Winnipeg, CA, F)

18:00 **ESC recommendations for the use of SGLT2i, GLP-1 RA, mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists, and angiotensin receptor neprilysin inhibitor in the management of heart failure with mildly reduced or preserved ejection fraction**
RA De Boer (Rotterdam, NL, M)

18:15 **What is the horizon for heart failure with mildly reduced or preserved ejection fraction?**

Learning Objectives: To integrate updated Canadian Cardiovascular Society (CCS)/Canadian Heart Failure Society (CHFS) guideline recommendations for managing heart failure with mildly reduced and preserved ejection fraction using pharmacologic therapy;
To identify patient subgroups likely to benefit from specific drug classes; and
To tailor treatment strategies based on comorbidities and patient-specific factors to optimise heart failure outcomes.
This is benchmarked against ESC Guidelines, and a look towards the future is provided.

Categories:

Hot Line	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 6

Session Number: 1015

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Bucharest - ICM

Will artificial intelligence take over heart failure care?

Session Number: 102

Chairpersons: A Mebazaa (Paris, FR) (M)

08:15 **Artificial intelligence in heart failure care: promises and limitations**

08:33 **Digital health interventions to reduce heart failure care burden**

08:51 **Smarter use of data from regular care**
HGC Van Spall (Hamilton, CA, F)

09:09 **Artificial intelligence cardiologists will replace non-artificial intelligence cardiologists**

09:27 **Will artificial intelligence take over heart failure care? - discussion**
N Girerd (Nancy, FR, M)

Learning Objectives: To get up to speed with artificial intelligence in heart failure.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Bratislava - ICM

Paradoxical low-flow, low-gradient aortic stenosis: challenges, strategies, and implications

Session Number: 375

Chairpersons: J Wykrzykowska (Groningen, NL) (F) - T Pilgrim (Bern, CH) (M)

08:15 **Low-flow, low-gradient aortic stenosis with HFpEF: the role of echocardiography**

08:33 **Low-flow, low-gradient aortic stenosis with HFpEF: the role of computed tomography**

08:51 **Low-flow, low-gradient aortic stenosis with HFpEF: the role of invasive physiology**

09:09 **Low-flow, low-gradient aortic stenosis with HFpEF: the role of pharmacotherapy**

09:27 **Paradoxical low-flow, low-gradient aortic stenosis: challenges, strategies, and implications - discussion**
J Grapsa (Boston, US, F)

Learning Objectives: To examine the diagnostic and therapeutic challenges posed by low-flow, low-gradient aortic stenosis with preserved ejection fraction;
To review current imaging and non-echocardiographic modalities for assessing aortic stenosis severity;
To identify emerging diagnostic tools and to evaluate their potential integration into the aortic stenosis diagnostic algorithm;
To analyse the mechanisms underlying worse post-transcatheter aortic valve implantation outcomes in low-flow, low-gradient severe aortic stenosis with preserved ejection fraction, with a focus on myocardial contribution; and
To discuss strategies to improve patient prognosis.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Lisbon - ICM

Precision medicine in congenital heart disease: imaging, intervention, and innovation in the artificial intelligence era

Session Number: 422

Chairpersons: M Brida (Zagreb, HR) (F)

08:15 **Multimodality imaging for complex adult congenital heart disease: from anatomy to function**

08:33 **Catheter-based innovations: closing the gap between paediatric and adult interventions**

08:51 **Big data in congenital heart disease: insights into the lifespan**

09:09 **Integrating genomics and artificial intelligence into adult congenital heart disease risk prediction: are we there yet?**

09:27 **Precision medicine in congenital heart disease: imaging, intervention, and innovation in the artificial intelligence era - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore state-of-the-art imaging for complex adult congenital heart disease diagnosis and intervention;
To review cutting-edge transcatheter and device-based therapies; and
To discuss the integration of artificial intelligence and genetics into adult congenital heart disease care.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Late-Breaking Science	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1039

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates: atrial fibrillation without oral anticoagulation - future vision or dangerous illusion?

Session Number: 187

Chairpersons: HN Pak (Seoul, KR) (M)

08:15 **Can we stop oral anticoagulation after successful atrial fibrillation ablation?: pro**

08:30 **Can we stop oral anticoagulation after successful atrial fibrillation ablation?: con**
IC Van Gelder (Groningen, NL, F)

08:45 **Can we stop oral anticoagulation after successful atrial fibrillation ablation? - discussion**

09:00 **Is left atrial appendage closure replacing oral anticoagulation?: pro**
D Nair (Jonesboro, US, F)

09:15 **Is left atrial appendage closure replacing oral anticoagulation?: con**
P Kirchhof (Hamburg, DE, M)

09:30 **Is left atrial appendage closure replacing oral anticoagulation? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To critically evaluate whether successful atrial fibrillation ablation justifies withdrawal of long-term anticoagulation and to understand residual thromboembolic risk despite sinus rhythm maintenance;
To assess whether left atrial appendage closure can replace anticoagulation in atrial fibrillation; and
To define which patients benefit most from left atrial appendage closure and which still require oral anticoagulation.

Categories:

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Kyiv - Hall B1

Is artificial intelligence improving or impairing equity in healthcare?

Session Number: 515

Joint session with the American College of Cardiology (ACC), the American Heart Association (AHA), and the World Heart Federation (WHF)

Chairpersons: S Khan (Chicago, US) (F)

08:15 **The promise of artificial intelligence: can technology democratise cardiovascular care?**
TF Luescher (London, GB, M)

08:37 **Artificial intelligence in clinical trials: improving clinical trial conduct or widening the gap?**
R Mehran (New York, US, F)

09:00 **Research for equity: designing artificial intelligence that serves all populations**
M Patel (Durham, US, M)

09:22 **Global perspective: artificial intelligence and equity in low-resource settings**
J Narula (Houston, US, M)

Learning Objectives: Assess the potential of artificial intelligence to improve access and quality of cardiovascular care across diverse populations;
Identify risks of inequity arising from algorithmic bias, data gaps, and uneven adoption;
Explore strategies for inclusive research and innovation to ensure artificial intelligence benefits all communities; and
Discuss global frameworks and collaborations to promote fairness in artificial intelligence-driven healthcare.

Categories:

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Chisinau - Hall B1

Managing global cardiovascular disease

Session Number: 500 **Organised in collaboration with the German Cardiac Society**

Chairpersons: B Rocca (Casamassima, IT) (F) - R Christodorescu (Timisoara, RO) (F)

08:15 **Multiplicity of hypertension guidelines: asset or obstacle for clinicians?**
I Sudano (Zurich, CH, F)

08:33 **Ask the Guideline: in treating hyperlipidaemia, is low density lipoprotein-lowering everything?**
O Weingaertner (Jena, DE, M)

08:51 **Is there a role for ultra-processed foods?**
L Guasti (Varese, IT, F)

09:09 **Smoking, alternative nicotine products, and cardiovascular harm: where do we stand today?**
D Richter (Athens, GR, M)

09:27 **Managing global cardiovascular disease - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To provide an update on global burden of cardiovascular disease and its impact on management;
To define the weight of different risk factors on global impact in prevention;
To provide skills for treating risk factors and prevention strategies in cardiovascular disease;
To improve knowledge about new developments in cardiovascular prevention (ultra-processed foods); and
To detect gaps in prevention strategies for reducing the burden of global cardiovascular risk to improve outcomes.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track, General Cardiology Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

STEMI/NSTEMI or OMI/NOMI? the case for a new nomenclature

Session Number: 373

Chairpersons:

08:15 STEMI and NSTEMI: understanding the limitations of current nomenclatures

08:33 ECG revisited: digital cardiology and new insights into acute coronary occlusion

08:51 The case for OMI and NOMI

09:09 Artificial intelligence for OMI and NOMI diagnosis

B Guzik (Krakow, PL, M)

09:27 STEMI/NSTEMI or OMI/NOMI? the case for a new nomenclature - discussion

Learning Objectives: To review current acute coronary syndrome guidelines and management pathways;
To evaluate how the OMI/NOMI paradigm shifts practice from ECG-based thresholds to a pathophysiology-driven model; and
To assess the role of artificial intelligence-enhanced ECG analysis in acute coronary syndrome evaluation and clinical decision-making.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Pristina - Hall A3

Exciting future of cardiovascular imaging

Session Number: 339

Chairpersons: A Timoteo (Lisboa, PT) (F) - D Muraru (Milan, IT) (F)

08:15 **What's new in echocardiography?**

08:33 **What's new in cardiac computed tomography?**
M Kolossvary (Budapest, HU, M)

08:51 **What's new in cardiac magnetic resonance?**
S Petersen (London, GB, M)

09:09 **What's new in nuclear cardiac imaging?**
PA Kaufmann (Zurich, CH, M)

09:27 **Exciting future of cardiovascular imaging - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To summarise the most relevant recent innovations in echocardiography and their clinical impact;
To identify key technological and methodological advances in cardiac computed tomography and their implications for patient care;
To understand major developments in cardiac magnetic resonance including new techniques for tissue characterisation and risk stratification; and
To recognise emerging trends in nuclear cardiac imaging and their role in precision diagnostics and personalised cardiovascular medicine.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	08:15 - 09:15	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Artificial intelligence in heart failure

Session Number: 114 **Joint session with the Japanese Circulation Society (JCS)**

Chairpersons:

08:15 **Artificial intelligence-enhanced electrocardiography for early detection of ventricular dysfunction**
S Kodera (Asahi-Chiba, JP, M)

08:30 **Artificial intelligence-driven innovations in echocardiography for improved diagnosis and risk assessment**
K Kusunose (Okinawa, JP, M)

08:45 **Using artificial intelligence for prediction of sudden cardiac death in heart failure**

09:00 **Using artificial intelligence in the intensive care unit**

Learning Objectives: To provide an overview of current clinical applications of artificial intelligence in heart failure; and
To discuss future directions for its implementation.
Categories: AI in Practice Track

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	10:30 - 11:30	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Artificial intelligence implementation in ischaemic heart disease

Session Number: 236 **Joint session with the Asian Pacific Society of Cardiology (APSC)**

Chairpersons:

10:30 **Artificial intelligence-powered ECG identification of ST-elevation myocardial infarction to facilitate emergency percutaneous coronary intervention**

10:45 **Artificial intelligence-enabled quantitative coronary plaque and haemodynamics analysis to predict acute coronary syndrome**
N Koh (Singapore, SG, F)

11:00 **Artificial intelligence for integration of multiomics in post-acute coronary syndrome patients**
F Sanchez Cabo (Madrid, ES, F)

11:15 **Artificial intelligence to guide and predict outcomes of precision percutaneous coronary intervention**
K O'gallagher (London, GB, M)

Learning Objectives: To learn the high performance and potential of integration of artificial intelligence-enabled electrocardiogram and coronary imaging in daily and emergency service of acute coronary syndrome.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track

Hot Line	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 7

Session Number: 1016

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Rome - ICM

Atrial fibrillation and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction: an inseparable pair

Session Number: 181

Chairpersons: A Sarkozy (Brussels, BE) (F)

11:00 **HFpEF and atrial fibrillation: catheter ablation vs. standard medical therapy**
C Teres (Lausanne, CH, F)

11:15 **Early rhythm control in patients with atrial fibrillation and HFpEF: the role of catheter ablation**
M Gunawardene (Hamburg, DE, F)

11:30 **Can catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation reverse HFpEF?**

11:45 **Atrial fibrillation and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction: an inseparable pair - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand the role of catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation in patients with HFpEF.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Bring your Questions	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Athens - ICM

The floor is yours: bring your questions on microplastics, nanoparticles, noise, ultra-processed food, and cardiovascular health

Session Number: 140

Chairpersons:

11:00 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on microplastics, nanoparticles, noise, ultra-processed food, and cardiovascular health - get ready for the session**

11:05 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on microplastics, nanoparticles, noise, ultra-processed food, and cardiovascular health - expert panel**
M Andreassi (Pisa, IT, F)

Learning Objectives: To get acquainted with the impact of environmental pollutants on cardiovascular disease so as to be able to communicate the risk to patients.

Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question

Clinical Case Management	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Vienna - ICM

Clinical Case Management: cardiovascular pharmacotherapeutic considerations in cardiovascular-kidney-metabolic

Session Number: 306

Chairpersons: R Kramann (Aachen, DE) (M)

11:00 **Case 1: targeting the liver for the heart health**
F Mahfoud (Basel, CH, M)

11:20 **Case 2: targeting the kidney for the heart health**
K Marx-Schuett (Aachen, DE, F)

11:40 **Clinical Case Management: cardiovascular pharmacotherapeutic considerations in cardiovascular-kidney-metabolic - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To address practical pharmacotherapeutic decision-making in patients with cardiovascular–kidney–metabolic disease using real-world cases to illustrate emerging treatment strategies;
To explore through two complementary clinical scenarios - one focused on targeting the liver to improve cardiovascular outcomes, and the other on targeting the kidney for heart health - how cardiometabolic organ crosstalk informs modern pharmacotherapy; and
To emphasise integration of novel evidence, guideline-directed therapies, and mechanistic insights into individualised patient management, highlighting the complexity and opportunity of cardiovascular–kidney–metabolic-oriented cardiovascular care.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track, Clinical Evidence Track

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Bratislava - ICM

Improving outcomes in atrial fibrillation-related stroke: interventions beyond anticoagulation

Session Number: 276 **Joint session with the European Stroke Organisation (ESO)**

Chairpersons: B Corica (Modena, IT) (F)

11:00 **Residual risk despite oral anticoagulation: causes and consequences**
GYH Lip (Liverpool, GB, M)

11:12 **Lifestyle, rhythm control, left atrial appendage closure, or more**

11:24 **Cardiac investigations to identify stroke aetiology and guide secondary prevention**
J Scheitz (Berlin, DE, M)

11:36 **New therapeutic targets for secondary prevention after ischaemic stroke: factor XIa inhibition and inflammation**

11:48 **Improving outcomes in atrial fibrillation-related stroke: interventions beyond anticoagulation - discussion**
M Manea (Bucharest, RO, F)

M Proietti (Milan, IT, M)

Learning Objectives: To learn the reasons, consequences, and advanced interventions for residual risk despite anticoagulation for atrial fibrillation-related stroke.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Lisbon - ICM

Clinical outcomes in patients with lung diseases and pulmonary hypertension

Session Number: 428 **Joint session with the European Respiratory Society (ERS)**

Chairpersons: H Bogaard (Amsterdam, NL) (M) - S Rosenkranz (Koln, DE) (M)

11:00 **Cardiovascular event rates in viral pulmonary infections: an underestimated problem**
G Giannakoulas (Thessaloniki, GR, M)

11:12 **Cardiopulmonary outcomes in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and impact of bronchodilators**

11:24 **Mixed phenotype of pulmonary hypertension (Groups 2-3): the cardiologist´s view**

11:36 **Mixed phenotype of pulmonary hypertension (Groups 2-3): the pulmonologist´s view**
E Nossent (Amsterdam, NL, F)

11:48 **Clinical outcomes in patients with lung diseases and pulmonary hypertension - discussion**
M Humbert (Le Kremlin-Bicetre, FR, M)

Learning Objectives: To learn about the clinical relevance of cardiovascular events in patients with acute or chronic lung diseases; and
To learn about the impact of co-existing left heart or lung disease in pulmonary hypertension Groups 2 and 3.

Categories:

Late-Breaking Science	**Sunday, 30 August 2026**	**11:00 - 12:00**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1040

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: should GLP-1 receptor agonists be used for population-level prevention?

Session Number: **147**

Chairpersons:

11:00 **Should GLP-1 receptor agonists be used for population-level prevention?: pro**
J Deanfield (London, GB, M)

11:15 **Should GLP-1 receptor agonists be used for population-level prevention?: con**

11:30 **Should GLP-1 receptor agonists be used for population-level prevention? - discussion**
M Benn (Hellerup, DK, F)

Learning Objectives: To differentiate a population-based prevention strategy from targeted high-risk use, and to define what 'prevention' means in this context (primary versus secondary, obesity/diabetes/cardiovascular risk);
To identify key candidates and exclusionary considerations for preventive use at scale (baseline risk, comorbidities, safety/tolerability, adherence);
To appraise potential benefits, harms, and unintended consequences of large-scale implementation (side effects, discontinuation, medicalisation, supply constraints); and
To outline practical implementation and policy options (care pathways, monitoring, prioritisation criteria, and outcomes to track).

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Great Debates	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Skopje - Hall A3

Great Debate: should percutaneous coronary intervention in acute coronary syndrome be angiography- or physiology-guided?

Session Number: 222

Chairpersons: S Brugaletta (Thorax Institute, Hospital Clinic Interv, ES) (M)

11:00 **Percutaneous coronary intervention in acute coronary syndrome should be physiology-guided: pro**
G Campo (Cona, IT, M)

11:15 **Percutaneous coronary intervention in acute coronary syndrome should be physiology-guided: con**

11:30 **Percutaneous coronary intervention in acute coronary syndrome should be physiology-guided - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand the methods of assessing severity of coronary artery stenosis for revascularisation in acute coronary syndromes, and
To assess pros and cons of various approaches to select patients for revascularisation in acute coronary syndromes.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Chisinau - Hall B1

How can artificial intelligence help in daily clinical practice: focus on electrophysiology and cardiac computed tomography

Session Number: 502 **Organised in collaboration with the German Cardiac Society**

Chairpersons:

11:00 **Wearables, artificial intelligence, and clinical decision-making: from continuous monitoring to actionable insights - opportunities and limitations in daily practice**
A Kharlamov (The Hague, NL, M)

11:15 **ECG-tracing with artificial intelligence: faster diagnosis, no misinterpretation, no drawbacks?**
A Sultan (Hamburg, DE, F)

11:30 **Can artificial intelligence transform the information received from cardiac computed tomography?**

11:45 **How can artificial intelligence help in daily clinical practice: focus on electrophysiology and cardiac computed tomography - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore how artificial intelligence-enabled devices integrate multiple physiological signals (ECG, blood pressure, heart sounds, imaging) into unified clinical workflows;
To evaluate the clinical relevance of wearables and artificial intelligence-driven decision-support systems, distinguishing screening tools from diagnostic instruments;
To discuss the role of artificial intelligence in combining electrophysiology and imaging data for individualised patient management;
To assess the strengths, limitations, and risks of artificial intelligence-assisted interpretation, including false reassurance, overdiagnosis, and algorithmic bias; and
To provide clinicians with a pragmatic framework for responsible artificial intelligence adoption in routine cardiovascular practice.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, General Cardiology Track

Practical Seminar	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

From concept to practice: utilising artificial intelligence to design the next generation of smart clinical trials

Session Number: 480

Chairpersons: L Shaw (New York, US) (F) - U Landmesser (Berlin, DE) (M)

11:00 **Using artificial intelligence to select therapeutic targets in early phase trials**
S Dimmeler (Frankfurt, DE, F)

11:20 **Using artificial intelligence agents to run digital clinical trials within large registries: is this the future?**
EK Oikonomou (New Haven, US, M)

11:40 **Using artificial intelligence to select patients in clinical trials**
C Shirodaria (Oxford, GB, M)

Learning Objectives: To present the current use of artificial intelligence in the discovery of novel therapeutic targets, as well as the use of artificial intelligence to run digital randomised trials within registries; and
To present how the use of artificial intelligence is seen in the selection of patients to enrol in randomised clinical trials.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Pristina - Hall A3

Clinical impact of artificial intelligence in cardiac imaging: cardiology and radiology perspective

Session Number: 343 **Joint session with the European Society of Radiology (ESR)**

Chairpersons:

11:00 **Photon-counting computed tomography: beyond conventional imaging, what is the incremental value?**

11:15 **Artificial intelligence in cardiac magnetic resonance imaging: benefits for human health**
D O'Regan (London, GB, M)

11:30 **Artificial intelligence in cardiac computed tomography: improving patient care and unlocking new biology**
MC Williams (Edinburgh, GB, F)

11:45 **How I use artificial intelligence in my multimodality imaging practice - case-based discussion**
T Pezel (Paris, FR, M)

Learning Objectives: To define the current clinical value of cardiac computed tomography and cardiac magnetic resonance imaging without artificial intelligence as a reference for artificial intelligence-enabled imaging;
To recognise opportunities and pitfalls of artificial intelligence in cardiac computed tomography and cardiac magnetic resonance imaging from a joint cardiology-radiology perspective;
To evaluate the clinical impact of artificial intelligence on workflow, diagnosis, and decision-making across imaging specialties; and
To integrate artificial intelligence into multimodality cardiac imaging practice using case-based examples while understanding its limitations.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	11:00 - 12:00	Tashkent - Hall A3

The new frontier: gene therapy for cardiomyopathies

Session Number: 457

Chairpersons: S Kaab (Munich, DE) (M)

11:00 **Advances and challenges in cardiac gene therapy**
R Hajjar (Cambridge, US, M)

11:15 **Hurdles and progresses in gene therapy for ischaemic cardiomyopathy**
S Yla-Herttuala (Kuopio, FI, F)

11:30 **Gene therapy and gene editing for arrhythmogenic and dilated cardiomyopathy**
E Van Rooij (Utrecht, NL, F)

11:45 **The new frontier: gene therapy for cardiomyopathies - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To highlight some of the most advanced applications currently under development with particular emphasis on the technical and conceptual obstacles that must be overcome to make gene therapy a routine component of cardiology practice.

Replacement and enhancement gene therapy using AAV vectors holds great promise for curing inherited recessive cardiomyopathies and for achieving clinical improvement in ischaemic cardiomyopathy, respectively. For inherited conditions, both recessive and dominant, gene editing represents a potentially definitive cure. Although these approaches are advancing steadily, they continue to face significant technological and clinical challenges.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	12:45 - 13:45	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Aortic valve stenosis: should we always intervene?

Session Number: 426 **Joint session with the Saudi Heart Association (SHA)**

Chairpersons:

12:45 **Clinical manifestations of aortic stenosis: the role of annulus size**

13:00 **Aortic stenosis screening and planning before intervention**

13:15 **Outcomes of valve platforms and small annuli**
M Alasnag (Jeddah, SA, F)

13:30 **Low-flow, low-gradient: when to intervene?**
AH Linke (Dresden, DE, M)

Learning Objectives: To learn how to diagnose aortic stenosis;
To present how to screen and plan intervention of aortic stenosis; and
To review how aortic stenosis is different in women.

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	Sunday, 30 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

5th Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (with ACC, AHA, and WHF)

Session Number: **1003**

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Athens - ICM

Everything you wanted to know about lipoprotein(a)

Session Number: 145

Chairpersons: ST Ramalingam (, GB) (U) - B Nordestgaard (Herlev, DK) (M)

13:45 **Why measure lipoprotein(a)?**
L Cho (Cleveland, US, F)

14:03 **How to assess risk in the patient with high lipoprotein(a)**

14:22 **How to treat a patient with elevated lipoprotein(a): now and in the future**

14:41 **Everything you wanted to know about lipoprotein(a) - discussion**
E Stroes (Amsterdam, NL, M)

Learning Objectives: To learn why we should measure lipoprotein(a);
To understand how risk is assessed in patients with high lipoprotein(a); and
To know how these patients should be treated.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Vienna - ICM

Lifestyle interventions in hypertension

Session Number: 262

Chairpersons: A Dominiczak (Glasgow, GB) (F) - R Kruger (Potchefstroom, ZA) (M)

13:45 **Overview of the effective lifestyle strategies for blood pressure lowering**
F Charchar (Ballarat, AU, M)

14:00 **Practicality and acceptance of different lifestyle strategies - patient perspective**

14:15 **Wearables in management of hypertension: present and future applications**
K Kario (Shimotsuke-Shi, JP, M)

14:30 **A personalised lifestyle management plan for a hypertensive patient in 2026**
TJ Jafar (Singapore, SG, F)

14:45 **Lifestyle interventions in hypertension - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To recognise the importance of lifestyle modifications in the treatment of hypertension; and
To learn how to integrate lifestyle changes in the holistic management of hypertension.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track, Includes a patient perspective

Late-Breaking Science	**Sunday, 30 August 2026**	**13:45 - 15:00**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1041

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Sunday, 30 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: artificial intelligence vs. humans in cardiac imaging

Session Number: 332

Chairpersons: C Manisty (London, GB) (F)

13:45 **Artificial intelligence beats humans in cardiac imaging: pro**

14:00 **Artificial intelligence beats humans in cardiac imaging: con**

14:15 **Artificial intelligence beats humans in cardiac imaging - patient perspective**
B Mores (Ekeren, BE, M)

14:30 **Artificial intelligence beats humans in cardiac imaging - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To critically assess where artificial intelligence outperforms human experts in cardiac imaging, including efficiency, reproducibility and pattern recognition, and where human expertise remains essential; and
To understand the limitations, risks and ethical considerations of artificial intelligence in cardiac imaging, including bias, generalisability, explainability and clinical accountability.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, Includes a patient perspective

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Skopje - Hall A3

Non-obstructive coronary artery disease: the MINOCA-INOCA-ANOCA spectrum

Session Number: 227

Chairpersons: V Kunadian (Newcastle Upon Tyne, GB) (F)

13:45 **From normal coronaries to a diagnosis: the modern algorithm for MINOCA, INOCA and ANOCA**
C Berry (Glasgow, GB, M)

14:00 **Microvascular disease: diagnosis and management options**
T Gori (Mainz, DE, M)

14:15 **Prognosis matters: long-term outcomes and risk stratification in non-obstructive coronary artery disease**

14:30 **Spasm: optimal diagnosis and management**

14:45 **Non-obstructive coronary artery disease: the MINOCA-INOCA-ANOCA spectrum - discussion**
CN Bairey Merz (Los Angeles, US, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand best practice in evaluating and treating patients with unobstructed coronary disease and chest pain, including those presenting with acute myocardial infarction; and To learn about current evidence-based recommendations for treatment.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Tripoli - Hall B1

Personalised management of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

Session Number: 560

Chairpersons: PM Elliott (London, GB) (M)

13:45 **Phenotyping of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy with multimodality imaging**

14:00 **Molecular basis of myosin inhibition**
AJ Marian (Houston, US, M)

14:15 **Myosin inhibitors in hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy**
I Olivotto (Firenze, IT, M)

14:30 **Myosin inhibitors in non-obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy**
M Desai (Cleveland, US, M)

14:45 **Personalised management of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy - discussion**
J van der Velden (Amsterdam, NL, F)

Learning Objectives: To gain a practical framework for the personalised management of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy by integrating advanced phenotyping with emerging targeted therapies;
To review how multimodality imaging refines disease characterisation and risk stratification, clarify the molecular mechanisms underlying myosin inhibition, and examine current evidence for the use of myosin inhibitors in both obstructive and non-obstructive disease; and
To learn how to translate these insights into patient-specific treatment strategies, identify which patients are most likely to benefit from novel therapies, and understand how evolving pharmacological options may reshape the traditional management pathway for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

Categories:

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	13:45 - 15:00	Chisinau - Hall B1

Special focus on elderly patients with heart disease: what do we need to know when treating octogenarians?

Session Number: 503 **Organised in collaboration with the German Cardiac Society**

Chairpersons: L Guasti (Varese, IT) (F) - H Rittger (Fuerth, DE) (M)

13:45 **Dementia in cardiometabolic disease: prevention and treatment**

14:00 **Focus on comorbidities: cardiovascular disease and pulmonary function - where do they meet?**

14:15 **Treating older patients for valve diseases: what do we have to consider?**
K Toutouzas (Athens, GR, M)

14:30 **Outcome measures in elderly patients: endpoints, patient´s expectations, and wishes, as well as ethical considerations**

14:45 **Special focus on elderly patients with heart disease: what do we need to know when treating octogenarians? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To highlight the importance of dementia in the treatment of elderly patients in prevention strategies;
To understand the meaning of comorbidities and its impact on outcome exemplified with cardiovascular and pulmonary disease;
To raise the awareness for the impact of frailty on outcome in elderly patients, the importance of measuring them and to provide strategies for calculation of the extent of frailty in individual patients to improve treatment decisions;
To contextualise the weight of traditional cardiovascular endpoints like death and myocardial infarction according to patient expectations in the elderly, as well as to discuss and evaluate new end points like functional outcome; and
To discuss ethical considerations while treating elderly patients.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track, General Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	14:00 - 15:00	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Acute coronary syndromes in Africa

Session Number: 234 **Joint session with the Pan-African Society of Cardiology (PASCAR)**

Chairpersons: H Gamra (Sousse, TN) (M)

14:00 **Epidemiology and infrastructure for the management of acute coronary syndrome in Africa**

14:15 **Strategies and initiatives to improve the outcome of patients with acute coronary syndromes in Africa**

14:30 **Geographical disparities and healthcare capacity in Sub-Saharan Africa**
P Maffia (Glasgow, GB, M)

14:45 **Management of hypertension post-acute coronary syndrome in Africa: challenges and opportunities**

Learning Objectives: To know about the current epidemiological transition and the increasing prevalence of acute coronary syndrome in Africa; and
To learn about the current management of acute coronary syndrome on the continent and the strategies to improve outcomes.

Categories:

Hot Line	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 8

Session Number: 1017

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Bucharest - ICM

Great Debate: should all patients with heart failure be treated with GLP-1 receptor agonists?

Session Number: 100

Chairpersons: L Kober (Copenhagen, DK) (M)

16:15 **All patients with heart failure should be treated with GLP-1 RAs: pro**
MC Petrie (Glasgow, GB, M)

16:30 **All patients with heart failure should be treated with GLP-1 RAs: con**

16:45 **All patients with heart failure should be treated with GLP-1 RAs - discussion**
A Voors (Groningen, NL, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the evidence behind GLP-1 receptor agonists in HFrEF and HFpEF.

Categories:

Bring your Questions	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Rome - ICM

The floor is yours: bring your questions on triggered atrial fibrillation, device-detected atrial fibrillation, and atrial fibrillation burden

Session Number: 186

Chairpersons: M Manninger (Graz, AT) (M)

16:15 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on triggered atrial fibrillation, device-detected atrial fibrillation, and atrial fibrillation burden - get ready for the session**
M Manninger (Graz, AT, M)

16:20 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on triggered atrial fibrillation, device-detected atrial fibrillation, and atrial fibrillation burden - expert panel**
IC Van Gelder (Groningen, NL, F)

JL Merino (Madrid, ES, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand how acute medical illnesses and systemic stressors trigger atrial fibrillation (triggered atrial fibrillation) and whether they differ from atrial fibrillation in the setting of underlying heart diseases;
To understand the difference between device-detected subclinical atrial fibrillation and clinical atrial fibrillation and to discuss whether there are differences in (anticoagulant) treatment; and
To discuss the role of atrial fibrillation burden in atrial fibrillation progression and outcome.

Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Athens - ICM

Next-generation metabolic health

Session Number: 159 **Joint session with the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD)**

Chairpersons: I Gouni-Berthold (Cologne, DE) (F)

16:15 **Artificial intelligence to redefine metabolic risk assessment**

16:30 **From sensors to outcomes: how wearables are transforming metabolic and cardiovascular care**

16:45 **Putting it all together for clinical practice**

17:00 **Next-generation metabolic health - patient perspective**
K Boumaki (- , GR, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand how artificial intelligence and wearable technologies are reshaping metabolic and cardiovascular risk assessment and care;
To learn how data from clinical, biochemical, and sensor-based sources can improve early detection, risk stratification, and personalised intervention in patients with diabetes and heart disease; and
To gain insights into practical implementation opportunities and challenges.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track, Digital Cardiology Track, Includes a patient perspective

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Vienna - ICM

Optimal cardiovascular pharmacotherapy for the frail patient?

Session Number: 310

Joint session with the International Society of Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy (ISCP)

Chairpersons: L Guasti (Varese, IT) (F)

16:15 **The frail patient with HFrEF: challenges to pharmacotherapy**
F Martinez (Cordoba, AR, M)

16:30 **Management of atrial fibrillation in the frail**
GA Dan (Bucharest, RO, M)

16:45 **Should we reduce hypertension treatment in frail patients?**

17:00 **Artificial intelligence tools for guiding pharmacotherapy in frail patients**
I Uchmanowicz (Wroclaw, PL, F)

Learning Objectives: To focus on challenges of pharmacotherapy in frail patients with HFrEF, including practical approaches to managing atrial fibrillation in this population, and the clinical rationale for de-prescribing antihypertensive treatment when appropriate; and
To explore the emerging role of artificial intelligence tools in guiding individualised pharmacotherapy to improve outcomes and support patient-centred treatments.

Advances in artificial intelligence are accelerating the transition from global evidence-based medicine to personalised and precision care. Special management algorithms should in particular be considered for the growing number of frail older patients who are frequently excluded from randomised controlled trials and for whom standard treatment algorithms may be inappropriate.

Categories:

Bring your Questions	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Bratislava - ICM

The floor is yours: bring your questions on strategies for complex percutaneous coronary intervention

Session Number: 371

Chairpersons: H Thiele (Leipzig, DE) (M) - A Gasecka (Warsaw, PL) (F)

16:15 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on strategies for complex percutaneous coronary intervention - get ready for the session**
A Gasecka (Warsaw, PL, F)

16:20 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on strategies for complex percutaneous coronary intervention - expert panel**

Learning Objectives: To identify candidates for high-risk percutaneous coronary intervention and to anticipate the need for mechanical circulatory support;
To understand strategies for planning and performing high-risk percutaneous coronary intervention to optimise patient outcomes and minimise complications; and
To apply evidence-based preventive and management strategies to treat no-reflow and improve procedural success.

Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Practical Seminar	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Lisbon - ICM

Management of mitral regurgitation in complex scenarios

Session Number: 423

Chairpersons: M Guerrero (Rochester, US) (F)

16:15 **Mitral annular calcification with mitral regurgitation: repair or replace?**
S Ludwig (Hamburg, DE, M)

16:35 **Atrial secondary mitral regurgitation: is transcatheter edge-to-edge repair the best option?**
K Hayashida (Tokyo, JP, M)

16:55 **Concomitant mitral and tricuspid regurgitation: simultaneous, staged, or no treatment at all?**
N Karam (Beirut, LB, F)

Learning Objectives: Evaluate management strategies for mitral regurgitation in complex anatomical and clinical settings including mitral annular calcification, atrial secondary mitral regurgitation, and multivalvular disease;
Compare surgical and transcatheter treatment options and identify patient and anatomical specific factors guiding optimal therapy selection; and
Formulate individualised treatment approaches for concomitant mitral and tricuspid regurgitation.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Late-Breaking Science	**Sunday, 30 August 2026**	**16:15 - 17:15**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1042

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Beirut - Hall A3

5th Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (with ACC, AHA and WHF): Ask the Task Force

Session Number: **1103**

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Skopje - Hall A3

Fast transfers for better outcomes: the ideal hub-and-spoke model in acute cardiovascular care

Session Number: 233

Chairpersons: S Halvorsen (Oslo, NO) (F) - I Ahrens (Cologne, DE) (M)

16:15 **The cardiac arrest patient**
A Sionis (Barcelona, ES, M)

16:30 **The intermediate and high-risk pulmonary embolism patient**
C Becattini (Perugia, IT, F)

16:45 **The cardiogenic shock patient**
C Hassager (Copenhagen, DK, M)

17:00 **Fast transfers for better outcomes: the ideal hub-and-spoke model in acute cardiovascular care - discussion**
B Schrage (Hamburg, DE, M)

Learning Objectives: To review how to manage more standardised care practices across hospitals and improve survival rates in this high-risk population; and
To recognise, explain, and manage cardiogenic shock by integrating pathophysiology, haemodynamics, diagnosis, and evidence-based treatment to stabilise patients and improve outcomes.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Special Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Tripoli - Hall B1

Multimorbidity in elderly patients with atrial fibrillation: focus on AFFIRMO, EHRA-PATHS, and AF-B-STEP

Session Number: 551

Chairpersons: E Svennberg (Stockholm, SE) (F)

16:15 **Navigating one Medical Device Regulation across many countries: lessons learned from the EHRA-PATHS project**
L Desteghe (Edegem, BE, F)

16:30 **Multimorbidity, polypharmacy, and frailty: the healthcare and economic burden seen in the atrial fibrillation population**
D Vetrano (To Be Confirmed, SE, M)

16:45 **Atrial fibrillation burden: how to measure it and how to use it**

17:00 **Holistic or integrated care management of atrial fibrillation: insights from mAFA, MIRACLE-AF, and AFFIRMO**
GYH Lip (Liverpool, GB, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the burden and health-economic costs associated with atrial fibrillation, and the impact of evidence-based holistic or integrated care management - taking into account different national MDR interpretations during EU-wide clinical trial execution.

Categories:

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Chisinau - Hall B1

Cardiometabolic disease: a new or old syndrome?

Session Number: 501 **Organised in collaboration with the German Cardiac Society**

Chairpersons: B Assmus (Giessen, DE) (F)

16:15 **Cardio-renal-metabolic syndrome: understanding and managing the challenge**
Y Winhofer (Vienna, AT, F)

16:30 **GLP-1 agonists: the new standard for all cardiovascular patients?**
T Kumler (Herlev, DK, M)

16:45 **Heart failure with preserved ejection fraction and cardiometabolic syndrome: the same disease?**

D Tint (Brasov, RO, F)

17:00 **Cardiometabolic disease: a new or old syndrome? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To raise awareness about cardiometabolic disease in patients;
To optimise understanding of basic information about pathophysiology of cardiometabolic disease;
To contextualise new therapeutic strategies when treating cardiometabolic syndromes and their impact on outcomes; and
To accentuate the relationship between cardiometabolic disease and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction regarding diagnostic and therapeutic challenges, and to apply evidence-based strategies for treatment.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track, General Cardiology Track

Special Event	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Reykjavik - Hall A3

Awards Ceremony

Session Number: 5001

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Great Debate: can we use commercially available large language models in clinical practice today?

Session Number: 483

Chairpersons: C Lam (Singapore, SG) (F)

16:15 **We can use commercially available large language models in clinical practice today: pro**
R Mehran (New York, US, F)

16:30 **We can use commercially available large language models in clinical practice today: con**
M Packer (Dallas, US, M)

16:45 **Can we use commercially available large language models in clinical practice today? - patient perspective**
R Stephens (Stevenage, GB, M)

17:00 **Can we use commercially available large language models in clinical practice today? - discussion**
P Vardas (Athens, GR, M)

Learning Objectives: To discuss the concept of using commercially available large language models in clinical use for interrogating clinical datasets, interpreting medical history, and making diagnosis to guide treatments.

Categories: Includes a patient perspective

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Pristina - Hall A3

Imaging risk prediction in cardiomyopathies

Session Number: 337

Chairpersons: R Jurcut (Bucharest, RO) (F)

16:15 **Imaging based risk stratification in arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy**

16:30 **Imaging based risk stratification in dilated cardiomyopathy**
A Timoteo (Lisboa, PT, F)

16:45 **Imaging based risk stratification in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy**
C Kramer (Charlottesville, US, M)

17:00 **Imaging risk prediction in cardiomyopathies - discussion**
I Olivotto (Firenze, IT, M)

Learning Objectives: Understand the role of multimodality imaging in risk stratification of arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy;
Apply imaging-based risk markers to improve prognostic assessment in dilated cardiomyopathy; and
Recognise key imaging predictors of adverse outcomes in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and their integration into clinical risk models.

Categories:

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Tashkent - Hall A3

Metabolism and cardiac dysfunction: from mechanisms to therapies

Session Number: 460

Chairpersons: L Badimon (Barcelona, ES) (F)

16:15 **Metabolism across the cardiac lifespan: development, ageing, and vulnerability to injury**

16:27 **Metabolic reprogramming in heart failure**

16:39 **Lipotoxicity and cardiac lipid metabolism**

16:51 **Targeting metabolic stress and fibrosis in cardiomyopathy: SGLT2 inhibitors**

17:03 **Metabolism and cardiac dysfunction - from mechanisms to therapies - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To provide an integrated understanding of how metabolic remodelling across development, adulthood, and ageing drives heart failure, influences vulnerability to injury, and shapes cardiac structure and function; and
To highlight emerging metabolic-targeted therapies, including SGLT2 inhibitors, to mitigate fibrosis, cardiotoxicity, and energetic dysfunction in cardiomyopathy.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	16:15 - 17:15	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Cardiovascular prevention in children and adolescents

Session Number: 158 **Joint session with the Brazilian Society of Cardiology (SBC)**

Chairpersons:

16:15 **Tools for primordial prevention of cardiovascular disease**

16:30 **How to promote cardiovascular prevention in children and adolescents**

16:45 **How to treat hypercholesterolemia in children and adolescents**
R Santos (Sao Paulo, BR, M)

17:00 **Hypertension in children and adolescents: is it preventable?**
E Gerdts (Bergen, NO, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand the importance of early cardiovascular prevention, recognising childhood and adolescence as critical periods for reducing lifetime cardiovascular risk;
To identify the main cardiovascular risk factors in children and adolescents with emphasis on modifiable factors and social determinants of health, recognising the epidemiology, causes, and mechanisms of paediatric hypercholesterolemia including primary (genetic) and secondary forms;
To apply appropriate screening and diagnostic criteria for dyslipidaemia in paediatric populations in accordance with national and international guidelines; and
To discuss evidence-based strategies for promoting cardiovascular health, including lifestyle interventions, school-based initiatives, public policies, and family engagement.

Categories:

Hot Line	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 9

Session Number: 1018

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Bucharest - ICM

Obesity and heart failure: the next frontier

Session Number: 101

Chairpersons: E Prescott (Copenhagen, DK) (F)

17:30 **Obesity: why is it detrimental?**

17:45 **Obesity is the dominant risk factor for incident heart failure**
M Packer (Dallas, US, M)

18:00 **When and how to treat obesity in heart failure**

18:15 **Obesity and heart failure: the next frontier - discussion**
J Rayner (Oxford, GB, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand the role of obesity in the incidence of heart failure, how to measure, and treat obesity.
Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Rome - ICM

Personalised risk stratification in cardiomyopathies: where are we now?

Session Number: 188

Chairpersons: E Arbelo (Barcelona, ES) (F) - K Zeppenfeld (Leiden, NL) (F)

17:30 **What is the current role of cardiac magnetic resonance and clinical risk scores in risk stratification for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy?**
PM Elliott (London, GB, M)

17:45 **Is the arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy phenotype outdated for risk prediction?**
A te Riele (Utrecht, NL, F)

18:00 **Genotype or phenotype or both? Current risk prediction in dilated cardiomyopathy and non-dilated left ventricular cardiomyopathy**
L Crotti (Pavia, IT, F)

18:15 **Personalised risk stratification in cardiomyopathies: where are we now? - discussion**
K Haugaa (Oslo, NO, F)

Learning Objectives: To review current approaches to personalised risk stratification in cardiomyopathies including the role of cardiac magnetic resonance, clinical risk scores, and advanced imaging markers; and
To integrate genotype and phenotype-based information to improve arrhythmic risk prediction in hypertrophic, arrhythmogenic, and dilated cardiomyopathies.

Categories:

Practical Seminar	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Athens - ICM

Optimising outcomes in cardio-renal-metabolic patients

Session Number: 155

Chairpersons: A Castro Conde (Madrid, ES) (F) - J Mann (Munchen, DE) (M)

17:30 **Pathophysiological basis of cardiorenal metabolic disease: why and how are they linked?**
N Sattar (Glasgow, GB, M)

17:45 **Rapid implementation of cardiovascular risk reducing therapies in chronic kidney disease and type 2 diabetes - practical guidance**

18:00 **Cardio-renal-metabolic patients: where and how to manage treatment**

18:15 **Optimising outcomes in metabolic cardiovascular disease: national approaches for prevention**
K Marx-Schuett (Aachen, DE, F)

Learning Objectives: To give tips for everyday clinical practice including cardiovascular risk assessment in chronic kidney disease, initiation of therapy in chronic kidney disease and type 2 diabetes; and
To give advice on how to perform treatment in patients with HFrEF and advanced chronic kidney disease.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Guidelines in Practice	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Bratislava - ICM

Guidelines in Practice: aortic dissection

Session Number: 379

Chairpersons:

17:30 Type B aortic dissection: case presentation

17:45 Type B aortic dissection: what do the guidelines say?

18:00 Type B aortic dissection: how to implement the guidelines and take-home message

Learning Objectives: To understand prognosis and management options in acute and subacute distal aortic dissection including medical management and interventional endovascular options.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Late-Breaking Science	**Sunday, 30 August 2026**	**17:30 - 18:30**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1043

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: cuffless blood pressure measurements, artificial intelligence-based apps, and chatbots will become the mainstay of hypertension care

Session Number: 263

Chairpersons: K Kario (Shimotsuke-Shi, JP) (M)

17:30 **Cuffless blood pressure measurements, artificial intelligence-based apps, and chatbots will become the mainstay of hypertension care: pro**

17:45 **Cuffless blood pressure measurements, artificial intelligence-based apps, and chatbots will become the mainstay of hypertension care: con**

18:00 **Cuffless blood pressure measurements, artificial intelligence-based apps, and chatbots will become the mainstay of hypertension care - discussion**
I Sudano (Zurich, CH, F)

Learning Objectives: To describe the current landscape of cuffless blood pressure monitoring technologies and current validation strategy and standards; and
To present key challenges and limitations of cuffless blood pressure devices in clinical and real-world settings.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

New ESC Guidelines	**Sunday, 30 August 2026**	**17:30 - 18:30**	Skopje - Hall A3

Guidelines in Practice: 5th Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (with ACC, AHA, and WHF)

Session Number: **1203**

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Tripoli - Hall B1

Present and the future of PCSK9 inhibition in cardiovascular prevention: from antibodies to gene editing

Session Number: 562

Chairpersons: J Roeters Van Lennep (Rotterdam, NL) (F) - U Laufs (Leipzig, DE) (M)

17:30 **The discovery of PCSK9**

17:42 **The present: antibodies siRNAs**
KK Ray (London, GB, M)

17:54 **Oral PCSK9 inhibitors**
C Ballantyne (Houston, US, M)

18:06 **The future: gene editing**

18:18 **Present and the future of PCSK9 inhibition in cardiovascular prevention: from antibodies to gene editing - discussion**
GD Norata (Milan, IT, M)

Learning Objectives: To gain an integrated understanding of how PCSK9 inhibition has evolved from a genetic discovery to a central pillar of lipid-lowering therapy and a potential platform for next-generation cardiovascular prevention;
To review the biological discovery of PCSK9 and its translational journey into monoclonal antibodies and siRNA therapies that are now transforming LDL-cholesterol management in high-risk patients;
To examine emerging therapeutic strategies, including orally available PCSK9 inhibitors and early gene-editing approaches that may enable durable or even one-time lipid lowering; and
To learn how these technologies could reshape long-term prevention strategies, which patients are most likely to benefit from different modalities, and what scientific, safety, and implementation challenges must be resolved before genetic approaches become part of routine cardiovascular care.

Categories:

Practical Seminar	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Diagnosis of heart failure: quo vadis?

Session Number: 110

Chairpersons: J Celutkiene (Vilnius, LT) (F) - RA De Boer (Rotterdam, NL) (M)

17:30 **How do we currently diagnose heart failure?**

17:50 **Artificial intelligence ECG and echo for the diagnosis of heart failure: are we ready to go?**

18:10 **Screening high-risk groups for heart failure: an opportunity or a healthcare crisis?**
J Ho (Boston, US, F)

Learning Objectives: To explore where we are with artificial intelligence techniques to diagnose heart failure.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track

Symposium	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Tashkent - Hall A3

New targets for lipid-lowering and atherosclerosis: what's beyond low-density lipoprotein?

Session Number: **452**

Chairpersons:

17:30 **ANGPTL3 at the crossroad of liver and systemic lipid metabolism**

17:42 **Lp(a), aortic valve stenosis, and atherosclerosis**

17:54 **Emerging mechanisms controlling immunoinflammatory response during atherogenesis**

18:06 **Targeting deoxyribonucleic acid and ribonucleic acid in the context of lipid-lowering and vascular disorders**

18:18 **New targets for lipid-lowering and atherosclerosis: what's beyond low-density lipoprotein? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore the rapidly advancing field of lipid-lowering therapies and atherosclerosis management, emphasising the transition from fundamental molecular discoveries to clinical application; and
To gain insight into novel molecular targets involved in lipid metabolism and inflammation, and to understand how emerging DNA-, RNA-, and protein-based therapies are reshaping cardiovascular risk reduction.

Categories:

Official Joint Session	Sunday, 30 August 2026	17:30 - 18:30	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Immunisation and the heart in the post-pandemic era

Session Number: 309 **Joint session with the Inter-American Society of Cardiology (IASC)**

Chairpersons: A Munera (Medellin, CO) (F) - N Girerd (Nancy, FR) (M)

17:30 **Analysing physicians' attitudes toward vaccine prescription: can artificial intelligence-based tools be useful?**

17:45 **What is the post-pandemic reality of vaccination? results from the CorVacc Study**
F Wyss Quintana (Guatemala, GT, M)

18:00 **Flu vaccination and cardiovascular health in the European Union**
T Biering-Sorensen (Copenhagen, DK, M)

18:15 **Myocarditis and pericarditis after COVID-19 vaccines**
K Klingel (Tuebingen, DE, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand the impact of the post-pandemic context on immunisation strategies in patients with cardiovascular disease, including evolving perceptions, coverage gaps, and regional differences between inter-American and European settings;
To analyse physicians' attitudes, barriers, and facilitators toward vaccine prescription in cardiovascular care, and to explore the potential role of artificial intelligence–based tools in supporting clinical decision-making and improving vaccine uptake; and
To review real-world inter-American and European vaccination data with a focus on influenza vaccination and its implications for cardiovascular prevention and outcomes including a critically appraisal of the evidence on myocarditis and pericarditis following COVID-19 vaccinations, with a focus on incidence, risk stratification, and clinical relevance for cardiology.

Categories:

Hot Line	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 10

Session Number: 1019

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Bucharest - ICM

Advanced heart failure: what's new?

Session Number: 105

Chairpersons: M Crespo-Leiro (La Coruna, ES) (F)

08:15 **Timely referral of patients for left ventricular assist device or heart transplant: barriers and solutions**

08:33 **Evolution of antithrombotic regimens in left ventricular assist device patients: is thrombosis still a problem?**

08:51 **Personalised decision-making between left ventricular assist device and heart transplantation**
M Mehra (Boston, US, M)

09:09 **Care of heart transplant patients: what to monitor and how to treat?**

09:27 **Advanced heart failure: what's new? - discussion**
M Mehra (Boston, US, M)

Learning Objectives: To provide an update on the role of advanced heart failure therapies-mechanical circulatory support and heart transplantation in the management of heart failure.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Rome - ICM

Atrial fibrillation: what is new and what is to come?

Session Number: 183

Chairpersons: A Sultan (Hamburg, DE) (F)

08:15 **Direct inhibitors of factor XI/XIa: where are we now?**

08:33 **Left atrial appendage closure: integrating opposing trials**
U Landmesser (Berlin, DE, M)

08:51 **Antiarrhythmic drugs: any news yet?**

09:09 **Artificial intelligence-driven population screening for atrial fibrillation: ready for prime time?**

09:27 **Atrial fibrillation: what is new and what is to come? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To summarise recent advances in atrial fibrillation management including novel anticoagulants, device-based therapies, and antiarrhythmic drugs; and
To evaluate emerging strategies such as artificial intelligence-driven population screening and their potential impact on future atrial fibrillation care.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Athens - ICM

Electrocardiography for risk prediction in athletes: new criteria and utility of artificial intelligence

Session Number: 142

Chairpersons: JJ Orchard (Sydney, AU) (F) - C Schmied (Zurich, CH) (M)

08:15 **Athletes ECG revisited in 2026: what is normal?**
M Papadakis (London, GB, M)

08:33 **Athletes ECG revisited in 2026: when to suspect cardiac disease**
S Castelletti (Milan, IT, F)

08:51 **What the eye cannot see: artificial intelligence for the evaluation of the athlete's ECG**

09:09 **Wearable technology for arrhythmia detection: potential and limitations in athletes**

09:27 **Electrocardiography for risk prediction in athletes: new criteria and utility of artificial intelligence - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To recognise physiologic ECG adaptations associated with intensive training and how these have been modified in the 2026 criteria;
To identify ECG abnormalities that should prompt further evaluation in athletes and how these have been modified in the 2026 criteria;
To explore current applications and future utility of artificial intelligence-enabled ECG interpretation for detection of athletes at risk; and
To appraise the clinical utility and limitations of wearable technologies for arrhythmia detection in athletes.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Vienna - ICM

New developments in pharmacological treatment of hypertension

Session Number: 261

Chairpersons: A Dominiczak (Glasgow, GB) (F) - K Narkiewicz (Gdansk, PL) (M)

08:15 **Aldosterone synthase inhibition**

08:33 **Angiotensinogen RNA silencers**
N Pagidipati (Durham, US, F)

08:51 **Low-dose multidrug combinations**
A Schutte (Sydney, AU, F)

09:09 **Incretin-based therapy for hypertension**

09:27 **New developments in pharmacological treatment of hypertension - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To increase awareness of the new options to treat hypertension; and
To provide guidance on the integration of new antihypertensive medications into the existing therapeutic strategies.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Late-Breaking Science	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1044

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debates: should atrial fibrillation ablation be performed in patients with HFpEF?

Session Number: 103

Chairpersons: K Chun (Frankfurt, DE) (M)

08:15 **Atrial fibrillation ablation should be performed in patients with HFpEF: pro**
L Di Biase (Bari, IT, M)

08:30 **Atrial fibrillation ablation should be performed in patients with HFpEF: con**
C Lam (Singapore, SG, F)

08:45 **Atrial fibrillation ablation should be performed in patients with HFpEF - discussion**

09:00 **In newly discovered HFrEF the wearable defibrillator is a valuable solution for preventing sudden death: pro**
D Duncker (Hannover, DE, M)

09:15 **In newly discovered HFrEF the wearable defibrillator is a valuable solution for preventing sudden death: con**

09:30 **In newly discovered HFrEF the wearable defibrillator is a valuable solution for preventing sudden death - discussion**
M Packer (Dallas, US, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the role of atrial fibrillation ablation in HFpEF.

Categories:

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Skopje - Hall A3

Assessing and treating 'residual risk' beyond low-density lipoproteins

Session Number: 228

Chairpersons: L Badimon (Barcelona, ES) (F) - L Tokgozoglu (Ankara, TR) (F)

08:15 **Optimal ways to identify high-risk cohorts beyond low-density lipoproteins: unmet high-risk patients**
P Ridker (Boston, US, M)

08:33 **Targeting lipoprotein(a)**
B Nordestgaard (Herlev, DK, M)

08:51 **Colchicine: who benefits?**

09:09 **GLP1 agonist: for everyone?**

09:27 **Assessing and treating 'residual risk' beyond low-density lipoproteins - discussion**
JW Jukema (Leiden, NL, M)

Learning Objectives:
To identify high-risk patient cohorts within chronic coronary syndromes using clinical characteristics, imaging, biomarkers, and emerging risk stratification tools;
To explain the pathophysiological role of lipoprotein(a) in atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and to evaluate current and emerging therapeutic strategies targeting Lp(a);
To assess the evidence supporting anti-inflammatory therapies including colchicine, and to determine which chronic coronary syndrome patient subgroups derive the greatest clinical benefit;
To critically appraise the cardiovascular effects of GLP-1 receptor agonists and to define their potential role in reducing residual risk beyond glycaemic control in chronic coronary syndrome; and
To integrate multimodal approaches addressing lipid-related, inflammatory, and cardiometabolic residual risk into a personalised secondary prevention strategy for patients with chronic coronary syndromes.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Novel and emerging factors in heart-brain interactions: the known knowns and known unknowns

Session Number: 271

Chairpersons: M Proietti (Milan, IT) (M)

08:15 **The exposome and stroke: the impact of environmental and lifestyle exposures**
L Kuzma (Bialystok, PL, M)

08:33 **Social, age, and gender determinants of health in stroke: inequity, access, and outcomes**
HGC Van Spall (Hamilton, CA, F)

08:51 **AI/machine learning and digital twins for personalised ischaemic stroke and atrial fibrillation management**
S Ortega-Martorell (Liverpool, GB, F)

09:09 **Residual cardiovascular risk starts in the brain: neuroimaging insights into brain circuits and sympathetic drive**
L Carnevale (Pozzilli, IT, M)

09:27 **Novel and emerging factors in heart-brain interactions: the known knowns and known unknowns - discussion**
C Sia (Singapore, SG, M)

Learning Objectives: Understand the contribution of non-traditional biological, environmental, and social determinants to stroke risk beyond classical cardiovascular risk factors; describing how the exposome (including environmental and lifestyle exposures) affects cerebrovascular health and stroke susceptibility;
Evaluate the impact of social determinants of health such as socioeconomic status, access to care, and education on stroke incidence and outcomes; and
Recognise the influence of sex and gender-specific mechanisms on stroke risk, presentation, and recovery, and to apply this knowledge in clinical practice and research.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Pristina - Hall A3

Timing of intervention in aortic valve disease: is imaging all you need?

Session Number: 342

Chairpersons:

08:15 **How to use imaging to identify aortic stenosis patients who need intervention**
T Treibel (London, GB, M)

08:33 **How to use imaging to identify aortic regurgitation patients who need intervention**
P Pellikka (Rochester, US, F)

08:51 **Moderate mixed aortic valve disease: who needs an intervention?**
MA Clavel (Quebec, CA, F)

09:09 **Can imaging identify patients with aortic stenosis who can be candidates for medical therapy?**

09:27 **Timing of intervention in aortic valve disease: is imaging all you need? - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To understand how multimodality imaging can be used to identify the optimal timing for intervention across the spectrum of aortic valve disease including aortic stenosis, aortic regurgitation, and mixed valve disease;
To recognise imaging markers of disease severity, ventricular response, and risk that go beyond valve haemodynamics, and how these parameters inform decisions on intervention vs. continued surveillance or medical therapy; and
To critically appraise the strengths and limitations of imaging-guided decision-making in aortic valve disease, including current evidence gaps and scenarios where imaging alone may be insufficient.

Categories:

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:45	Tashkent - Hall A3

Vascular ageing: from novel mechanisms to therapeutic targets

Session Number: 451

Chairpersons: S Dimmeler (Frankfurt, DE) (F)

08:15 **News in longevity pharmacology: novel drug targets**

08:33 **Vascular inflammaging and calcification**

08:51 **Molecular perspectives on vascular ageing: latest findings on the role of inflammation**

09:09 **Role of neutrophils in vascular and cerebrovascular ageing**
L Liberale (Genova, IT, M)

09:27 **Vascular ageing: from novel mechanisms to therapeutic targets - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To provide an update on the most recently identified pathophysiologic mediators and their actionability as future therapeutic targets due to the fact that ageing has established itself as a crucial driver for vascular dysfunction and associated diseases.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Official Joint Session	Monday, 31 August 2026	08:15 - 09:15	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Acute coronary syndrome in patients with cancer

Session Number: 235 **Joint session with the Chinese Society of Cardiology (CSC)**

Chairpersons:

08:15 **Clinical artificial intelligence agent in cardio-oncology: coming at the right time**

08:30 **Novel mechanisms underlying plaque erosion in acute coronary syndrome: clinical, genetic, and fluid dynamics factors**

08:45 **Optimising antithrombotic therapy in patients with cancer**

09:00 **Revascularisation in non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction patients with cancer**
T Lopez Fernandez (Madrid, ES, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand the application of artificial intelligence in cardio-oncology;
To comprehend novel mechanisms of plaque erosion in acute coronary syndrome; and
To integrate multidisciplinary insights.

Categories:

Special Session	Monday, 31 August 2026	10:00 - 11:30	Reykjavik - Hall A3

ESC Ordinary General Assembly

Session Number: 5002

Chairpersons:

10:00 ESC General Assembly

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Official Joint Session	Monday, 31 August 2026	10:30 - 11:30	Global Stage - Global Community-Hall B1

Hypertension in women

Session Number: 275 **Joint session with the South African Heart Association (SAHeart)**

Chairpersons:

10:30 **Heart health challenges during pregnancy in a high-burden setting**

10:45 **Drug treatment of hypertension in pregnancy**

11:00 **Oral contraception and hypertension**
S Brouwers (Aalst, BE, F)

11:15 **Hypertension and menopause**
J Brguljan (Ljubljana, SI, F)

Learning Objectives: To explain the pathophysiological mechanisms leading to pulmonary oedema in preeclampsia, including endothelial dysfunction, cardiac dysfunction, volume overload, and altered oncotic pressure;
To differentiate cardiogenic from non-cardiogenic pulmonary oedema in pregnant patients using clinical assessment, echocardiography, and haemodynamic principles relevant to acute care settings;
To recognise hypertensive disorders of pregnancy as major cardiovascular stressors with implications for acute maternal morbidity and longer-term cardiovascular risk;
To apply practical cardiovascular management strategies for acute complications of preeclampsia, including fluid management, blood pressure control, and multidisciplinary decision-making;
To identify health-system and resource-related challenges in managing pregnancy-related cardiovascular disease, particularly in high-burden and resource-constrained settings;
To consider transferable solutions;
To integrate pregnancy history into cardiovascular risk assessment, reinforcing the role of hypertensive pregnancy disorders in life-course cardiovascular prevention strategies; and
To learn practical aspects of hypertension management after menopause.

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

2026 ESC Guidelines on Cardiac Rehabilitation

Session Number: **1004**

Practical Seminar	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Bucharest - ICM

Optimal management of acute heart failure: let's get STRONGer!

Session Number: 104

Chairpersons: J Nunez Villota (Valencia, ES) (M)

11:15 **Intensive and rapid decongestion on admission**
A Mebazaa (Paris, FR, M)

11:35 **More guideline-directed medical therapy, better outcomes: scaling nationwide**

11:55 **Acute heart failure discharge and telemonitoring: elevating patients to VIP status**
M Polovina (Belgrade, RS, F)

Learning Objectives: To understand how rapid and intensive therapies improve outcomes: preventing readmission and helping survival; and
How to monitor heart failure patients remotely after discharge.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Practical Seminar	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Rome - ICM

An update on syncope and cardiovascular autonomic disorders

Session Number: 185

Chairpersons:

11:15 Cardiac pacing and cardioneuroablation

11:35 Diagnosis and treatment of hypotensive phenotype

11:55 Postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome and tachycardiac phenotype
A Fedorowski (Stockholm, SE, M)

Learning Objectives: To present a practical approach to the most recent advances in diagnosis, therapy, and outcome of syncope and cardiovascular autonomic disorders; and
To provide a practical guidance to diagnosis and therapy for everyday clinical practice.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Clinical Case Management	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Athens - ICM

Clinical Case Management: smarter surveillance over the course of cancer care

Session Number: 150

Chairpersons: J Bergler-Klein (Vienna, AT) (F)

11:15 **Case 1 - troponin elevation during immune checkpoint inhibitors therapy: myocarditis or not?**

11:35 **Case 2 - asymptomatic decline in global longitudinal strain during cancer therapy: what should guide our decisions**

11:55 **Clinical Case Management: smarter surveillance over the course of cancer care - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To integrate multidisciplinary decision-making to optimise cardiovascular management of highly prevalent cardiovascular toxicities; and
To understand the clinical challenges and gaps in evidence for clinical decision-making.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Official Joint Session	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Vienna - ICM

The floor is yours: bring your questions on how to measure and monitor blood pressure in 2026

Session Number: 274 **Joint session with the International Society of Hypertension (ISH)**

Chairpersons: G Stergiou (Athens, GR) (M)

11:15 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on how to measure and monitor blood pressure in 2026 - get ready for the session**

11:20 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on how to measure and monitor blood pressure in 2026 - expert panel**
K Kario (Shimotsuke-Shi, JP, M)

Learning Objectives: To discuss the practicalities and challenges of measuring and monitoring blood pressure in view of recent advances.

Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question

Bring your Questions	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Lisbon - ICM

The floor is yours: bring your questions on diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension

Session Number: 416

Chairpersons: S Rosenkranz (Koln, DE) (M)

11:15 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension - get ready for the session**

11:20 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension - expert panel**
G Giannakoulas (Thessaloniki, GR, M)

M Escribano Subias (Madrid, ES, F)

Learning Objectives: To learn how to diagnose pulmonary hypertension with modern contemporary methods; and
To apply innovative treatment options.
Categories: Mobile App - Ask a Question

Late-Breaking Science	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1045

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: revascularisation of carotid artery disease

Session Number: 378

Chairpersons:

11:15 Carotid stenting is the default strategy for carotid disease: pro

11:30 Carotid stenting is the default strategy for carotid disease: con

11:45 Carotid stenting is the default strategy for carotid disease - discussion

Learning Objectives: To understand the indications for stenting in acute and chronic carotid artery obstruction;
To define criteria for selecting stenting vs. surgical revascularisation; and
To optimise evidence-based medical management of carotid artery disease.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Great Debates	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Skopje - Hall A3

Great Debate: no more beta-blockers for post-myocardial infarction patients with preserved left ventricular ejection fraction

Session Number: 223

Chairpersons: E Prescott (Copenhagen, DK) (F)

11:15 **No more beta-blockers for post-myocardial infarction patients with preserved left ventricular ejection fraction: pro**
B Ibanez (Madrid, ES, M)

11:30 **No more beta-blockers for post-myocardial infarction patients with preserved left ventricular ejection fraction: con**
J Silvain (Paris, FR, M)

11:45 **No more beta-blockers for post-myocardial infarction patients with preserved left ventricular ejection fraction - discussion**
D Atar (Oslo, NO, M)

Learning Objectives: To review the historical rationale for long-term beta-blocker therapy after myocardial infarction and its relevance in the contemporary reperfusion era;
To critically evaluate modern randomised clinical trial evidence assessing the impact of beta-blockers on mortality, recurrent ischaemic events, and heart failure in post-myocardial infarction patients with preserved (and mildly reduced) left ventricular ejection fraction;
To discuss the potential risks and adverse effects associated with chronic beta-blocker use, including effects on quality of life, exercise tolerance, and cardiometabolic profile;
To identify clinical scenarios and patient subgroups in which continuation or withdrawal of beta-blockers may be justified after myocardial infarction with preserved ejection fraction; and
To understand the impact of recent data on clinical practice worldwide including individualised decision-making regarding beta-blocker therapy, short term and long term, after myocardial infarction.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Clinical Case Management	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Clinical Case Management: artificial intelligence innovations in structural heart interventions

Session Number: 481

Chairpersons:

11:15 **Case 1: artificial intelligence to enhance procedural imaging guidance in structural interventions**

11:30 **Case 2: integrating digital twins for effective structural heart disease management**

11:45 **Artificial intelligence innovations in structural heart intervention - patient perspective**

12:00 **Clinical Case Management: artificial intelligence innovations in structural heart interventions - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To explore the evolving use of artificial intelligence tools in the diagnosis, procedural planning, management, and follow-up of valvular heart disease.

Categories: AI in Practice Track, Includes a patient perspective

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	11:15 - 12:15	Tashkent - Hall A3

Can we cure cardiomyopathies?: window to gene therapy

Session Number: 561

Chairpersons:

11:15 **How to target the myocardium**
A Baker (Edinburgh, GB, M)

11:27 **Selecting patients for gene editing**
H C Watkins (Oxford, GB, M)

11:39 **Curing hypertrophic cardiomyopathy**

11:51 **Gene editing of dilated cardiomyopathy: ready for prime time**

12:03 **Can we cure cardiomyopathies?: window to gene therapy - discussion**
E Van Rooij (Utrecht, NL, F)

Learning Objectives: To explore whether gene-based therapies can realistically move cardiomyopathies from lifelong management to disease modification or cure;
To examine the practical barriers to delivering genetic therapies to the myocardium, including vector targeting, tissue specificity, and safety considerations;
To discuss how to identify the patients most likely to benefit from gene-editing approaches, integrating genetic diagnosis, disease stage, and clinical phenotype;
To review emerging evidence for gene-targeted treatment strategies in hypertrophic and dilated cardiomyopathy, with particular attention to the readiness of these technologies for clinical translation; and
To help clinicians understand where gene therapy currently fits in the cardiomyopathy pathway, what hurdles remain before routine implementation, and how rapidly evolving genomic interventions may redefine future treatment strategies.

Categories:

Hot Line	Monday, 31 August 2026	13:00 - 14:00	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 11

Session Number: 1020

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	13:00 - 14:00	Bucharest - ICM

Catching inflammatory cardiomyopathies early: practical guides for diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up

Session Number: 111

Chairpersons: E Ammirati (Milan, IT) (M) - M Imazio (Udine, IT) (M)

13:00 **Cardiac magnetic resonance in myocarditis: clarity from Day One to done**

13:15 **Hybrid imaging at its best: harnessing the combined strength of cardiac magnetic resonance and positron emission tomography-computed tomography**

13:30 **From immunosuppression to innovation: the new treatment landscape for inflammatory cardiomyopathy**
B Heidecker (Berlin, DE, F)

13:45 **Catching inflammatory cardiomyopathies early: practical guides for diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To provide a comprehensive update on inflammatory cardiomyopathies.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track, New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Practical Seminar	Monday, 31 August 2026	13:00 - 14:00	Rome - ICM

Asymptomatic ventricular ectopic beats: what to do?

Session Number: 192

Chairpersons: A Russo (Moorestown, US) (F)

13:00 **Watchful waiting for asymptomatic ventricular ectopic beats**
F Bogun (Ann Arbor, US, M)

13:20 **Antiarrhythmic drugs for asymptomatic ventricular ectopic beats**

13:40 **Catheter ablation for asymptomatic ventricular ectopic beats**

Learning Objectives: To discuss the clinical significance and natural history of asymptomatic ventricular ectopic beats including when watchful waiting is appropriate; and
To compare pharmacological therapy and catheter ablation strategies, focusing on indications, benefits, and risks in asymptomatic patients.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	13:00 - 14:00	Athens - ICM

Improving patient adherence and quality of life

Session Number: 151

Chairpersons: R Landen (Moelndal, SE) (F)

13:00 **Patient-reported outcomes and experiences**
P Moons (Leuven, BE, M)

13:12 **Patient experience data in clinical trials**
L Neubeck (Edinburgh, GB, F)

13:24 **Therapy adherence in complex patients**

13:36 **Improving patient adherence and quality of life - patient perspective**

13:48 **Improving patient adherence and quality of life - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To learn how to measure patient outcome and quality of life, and to use it to improve therapy adherence and quality of care.
Categories: Includes a patient perspective

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	13:00 - 14:00	Vienna - ICM

Polypharmacy in cardiovascular disease: prioritisation, safety, and implementation

Session Number: 305

Chairpersons: B Rocca (Casamassima, IT) (F) - D Dobrev (Essen, DE) (M)

13:00 **Global medication safety and polypharmacy: a World Health Organization perspective**

13:12 **Polypharmacy and deprescribing: integrating age and comorbidity**
M Blanquet (Clermont-Ferrand, FR, F)

13:24 **Artificial intelligence for managing polypharmacy: from prediction to clinical decision support**

13:36 **Polypharmacy and drug persistence - patient perspective**
M Van Heetvelde (Gent, BE, M)

13:48 **Polypharmacy in cardiovascular disease: prioritisation, safety, and implementation - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To describe global trends in cardiovascular polypharmacy, including (if possible) the WHO 'Medication Without Harm' initiative addressing appropriate and inappropriate polypharmacy;
To identify evidence-based priorities for rationalising cardiovascular drug therapy, including strategies for deprescribing that include applying practical principles of medication reconciliation during transitions of care (admission, discharge, and outpatient visits) to prevent therapeutic duplication and high-risk drug combinations; and
To evaluate how artificial intelligence tools can predict drug–drug interactions, adverse drug events, and bleeding risk.

Categories: Includes a patient perspective

Practical Seminar	Monday, 31 August 2026	13:00 - 14:00	Lisbon - ICM

How to use artificial intelligence in assessment of valve disease?

Session Number: 420

Chairpersons: A Duncan (London, GB) (F) - E Donal (Rennes, FR) (M)

13:00 **Using artificial intelligence to quantify mitral regurgitation**

13:20 **Using artificial intelligence to quantify tricuspid regurgitation**

13:40 **Using artificial intelligence to quantify left and right ventricular disease in mitral regurgitation and tricuspid regurgitation**

Learning Objectives: To understand how artificial intelligence can enhance quantification of aortic valve disease and assess underlying biventricular function.

Categories: AI in Practice Track

Late-Breaking Science	**Monday, 31 August 2026**	**13:00 - 14:00**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1046

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

New ESC Guidelines	Monday, 31 August 2026	13:00 - 14:00	Beirut - Hall A3

2026 ESC Guidelines on Cardiac Rehabilitation: Ask the Task Force

Session Number: **1104**

Bring your Questions	Monday, 31 August 2026	13:00 - 14:00	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

The floor is yours: bring your questions on digital applications to assess and monitor patients post-acute coronary syndromes

Session Number: 220

Chairpersons: A Tycinska (Bialystok, PL) (F) - J Ciofani (Sydney, AU) (M)

13:00 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on digital applications to assess and monitor patients post-acute coronary syndromes - get ready for the session**
J Ciofani (Sydney, AU, M)

13:05 **The floor is yours: bring your questions on digital applications to assess and monitor patients post-acute coronary syndromes - expert panel**

M Rubini Gimenez (Valencia, ES, F)

EK Oikonomou (New Haven, US, M)

FA Wenzl (Schlieren, CH, M)

R Malhotra (Baech, CH, F)

Learning Objectives: To describe the clinical applications and advantages of remote patient monitoring in post-acute coronary syndrome care, including telecardiology and virtual follow-up models;
To explain how artificial intelligence and predictive analytics can be used to identify high-risk patients, predict recurrent ischaemic events, and support early clinical decision-making;
To evaluate the role of wearables and biosensors in continuous ECG and physiological monitoring, as well as their integration with electronic health records and clinical workflows;
To assess the clinical impact of digital health strategies on secondary prevention, patient engagement, and reduction in rehospitalisation and emergency visits; and
To recognise key challenges related to data quality, patient adherence, cybersecurity, and the need for robust outcome-based evidence to support implementation in routine practice.

Categories: Digital Cardiology Track, Includes a patient perspective, Mobile App - Ask a Question

Hot Line	Monday, 31 August 2026	14:15 - 15:15	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

HOT LINE 12

Session Number: 1021

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Practical Seminar	Monday, 31 August 2026	14:15 - 15:15	Bucharest - ICM

Right ventricular function: getting it right?

Session Number: 108

Chairpersons:

14:15 **Right heart catheterisation: getting it right?**
M Guglin (New Brunswick, US, F)

14:35 **Multimodality imaging of right heart function**
D Muraru (Milan, IT, F)

14:55 **Putting all the information together: are right ventricular scores useful?**
G Nickenig (Bonn, DE, M)

Learning Objectives: To review how to perform right ventricle haemodynamic assessments in general and pre-tricuspid valve procedures in particular using invasive (right heart catheterisation), and non-invasive modalities (echocardiography - magnetic resonance imaging) and right ventricle scoring systems.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

New ESC Guidelines	Monday, 31 August 2026	14:15 - 15:15	Athens - ICM

Guidelines in Practice: 2026 ESC Guidelines on Cardiac Rehabilitation

Session Number: **1204**

Practical Seminar	Monday, 31 August 2026	14:15 - 15:15	Bratislava - ICM

Innovations in cardiac surgery: will robots replace us?

Session Number: 376

Chairpersons:

14:15 Robotic cardiac surgery: finally prime time?

14:35 Minimally invasive valve surgery: we are getting there!

14:55 Aortic valve repair and root enlargement: a new perspective

Learning Objectives: To understand the principles and options offered by new robotic surgical platforms including totally endoscopic bypass grafting and telepresence-assisted surgery;
To understand the principles of enhanced recovery after surgery pathways in endoscopic valve procedures; and
To appreciate the role of new surgical options for aortic valve repair.

Categories: New Horizons in Cardiology Track

Guidelines in Practice	Monday, 31 August 2026	14:15 - 15:15	Lisbon - ICM

Guidelines in Practice: management of secondary mitral regurgitation

Session Number: 424

Chairpersons: M Garbi (Cambridge, GB) (F)

14:15 **Severe secondary mitral regurgitation: case presentation**
L Stolz (Munich, DE, M)

14:30 **Severe secondary mitral regurgitation: what do the guidelines say?**
N Ajmone Marsan (Leiden, NL, F)

14:45 **Severe secondary mitral regurgitation: how to implement the guidelines and take-home messages.**

Learning Objectives: To discuss how to introduce and optimise medical treatment in patients with severe secondary mitral regurgitation; and
To understand the role and timing of intervention of severe secondary mitral regurgitation.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Late-Breaking Science	**Monday, 31 August 2026**	**14:15 - 15:15**	Achgabat - Hall A3

Late-Breaking Science Session

Session Number: 1047

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories:

Great Debates	Monday, 31 August 2026	14:15 - 15:15	Beirut - Hall A3

Great Debate: beta-blockers remain a key treatment for the management of hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy

Session Number: 411

Chairpersons: L Crotti (Pavia, IT) (F)

14:15 **Beta-blockers remain a key treatment for the management of hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy: pro**

14:30 **Beta-blockers remain a key treatment for the management of hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy: con**
P Garcia-Pavia (Madrid, ES, M)

14:45 **Beta-blockers remain a key treatment for the management of hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy - discussion**
A Masri (Portland, US, M)

Learning Objectives: To understand the role of beta-blockers in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; and
To learn measurements of left ventricular outflow tract obstruction.

Categories: Clinical Evidence Track

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	14:15 - 15:15	Digital Health Stage - Hall B3

Artificial intelligence in cardiometabolic drug discovery: from molecular insight to regulatory approval

Session Number: 303

Chairpersons: A Hennemuth (Berlin, DE) (F)

14:15 **Artificial intelligence-enabled target discovery: decoding cardiometabolic pathways from omics to mechanism**

14:30 **Digital trials: how artificial intelligence optimises phenotyping, recruitment, and adaptive designs in cardiometabolic therapeutics**
S Niederer (London, GB, M)

14:45 **Regulatory science meets artificial intelligence: pathways for approval of artificial intelligence-developed cardiometabolic drugs**

15:00 **Artificial intelligence in cardiometabolic drug discovery: from molecular insight to regulatory approval - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To examine how artificial intelligence is transforming cardiometabolic drug discovery, spanning the full translational spectrum from molecular insight to regulatory approval;
To highlight how artificial intelligence and machine learning enable target identification through multi-omics integration, improve drug design by predicting efficacy and safety, and reshape clinical development via digital trials and advanced phenotyping; and
To address emerging regulatory frameworks and challenges associated with artificial intelligence-developed therapeutics, offering a forward-looking perspective on how these technologies may accelerate innovation while maintaining scientific and regulatory rigor in cardiometabolic medicine.

Categories: Cardiometabolic Track, Digital Cardiology Track

Symposium	Monday, 31 August 2026	14:15 - 15:15	Tashkent - Hall A3

Causes and consequences of cardiac fibrosis

Session Number: 454

Chairpersons: L Sacconi (Sesto Fiorentino, IT) (M)

14:15 **Novel insights into cardiac fibrosis pathogenesis**
N Frangogiannis (New York, US, M)

14:27 **Using genetically diverse mouse models to understand cardiac fibrosis**

14:39 **Mechano-electric coupling between fibroblasts and cardiomyocytes**
P Kohl (Freiburg, DE, M)

14:51 **Cardiac lymphatics in myocardial oedema and fibrosis**

15:03 **Causes and consequences of cardiac fibrosis - discussion**

Learning Objectives: To introduce participants to state-of-the-art concepts in cardiac fibrosis taking into account that this is both a common response to cardiac injury and a specific feature that accompanies several cardiac diseases of degenerative and inflammatory origin;
To describe the role of different fibroblast subpopulations in heart failure and the fibrotic response after different forms of cardiac damage; and
To discuss the extent to which cardiac fibrosis is a reversible process.

Categories:

Special Session	Monday, 31 August 2026	15:30 - 17:00	Munich - Main Auditorium-Hall B3

Highlight Session

Session Number: 5003

Chairpersons:

Learning Objectives:

Categories: