

SUNECHO

Provisional Programme 2026



Protea Hotel and Conference Centre, Techno Park, Stellenbosch

SUNECHO
CRITICAL THINKING IN ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

TUESDAY 5 May 2026

Principles and fundamentals of echocardiography

07h00 – 07h50 Registration
07h50 – 08h00 Welcome and introduction

SESSION 1

08h00 – 08h45 Applied cardiac morphology – Understanding the echo views
08h45 – 09h30 Knobology and image optimization – Understanding the echo machine
09h30 – 10h15 Understanding Doppler

10h15 – 10h45 MORNING TEA

SESSION 2

10:45 – 11h25 The TTE examination – a systematic approach
11h25 – 11h55 Critical thinking in echocardiography
11h55 – 12h30 Artefacts and common pitfalls in echocardiography

12h30 – 13h30 LUNCH

SESSION 3

13h30 – 14h15 Assessment of global LV systolic function
14h15 – 14h45 Assessment of regional LV function
14h45 – 15h05 Critical Thinking Focus session: Which coronary is it?

15h05 – 15h35 AFTERNOON TEA

SESSION 4

15h35 – 16h15 Speckle tracking: Nuts and bolts of acquisition with illustrative case
16h15 – 16h45 Pregnancy and the heart

WEDNESDAY 6 May 2026 Evaluating cardiac function and haemodynamics

SESSION 5

08h00 – 08h40 LV diastolic function assessment
08h40 – 09h05 Critical thinking focus session: Diastology cases
09h05 – 09h45 Assessment of the right heart and PA pressures

09h45 – 10h15 MORNING TEA

SESSION 6

10h15 – 11h00 Tricuspid valve assessment
11h00 – 11h45 Assessing LVH: Echo and MRI.
11h45 – 12h15 Approach to LV dilatation
12h15 – 12h35 Case based assessment of LV dilatation with MR: Is Mitraclip an option

12h35 – 13h35 LUNCH

SESSION 7

13h35 – 14h25 Case studies in heart muscle disease
14h25 – 15h05 Infective endocarditis

15h05- 15h35 AFTERNOON TEA

SESSION 8

15h35 – 16h15 Echo after stroke
16h15 – 16h55 Identify this Cardiac Mass – Registrar QUIZ

THURSDAY 7 May 2026

Valvular heart disease

SESSION 9

08h00 – 08h45 MR: Mitral valve anatomy and TOE exam exploring mechanisms of MR
08h45 – 09h20 MR: Assessing severity
09h20 – 09h45 MR: Systematic assessment of repair success

09H45 - 10H10 MORNING TEA

SESSION 10

10h10 – 10h50 Mitral stenosis assessment with cases
10h50 – 11h10 Assessment of Aortic Regurgitation
11h10 – 11h50 Critical thinking focus session: Aortic Regurgitation
11h50 – 12h30 Assessment of the thoracic aorta and pathology

12H30 – 13H30 LUNCH

SESSION 11

13h30 – 14h15 Assessment of aortic stenosis
14h15 – 14h45 Critical thinking focus session: Aortic stenosis
14h45 – 15h10 Aortic coarctation assessment

15H10 – 15H40 AFTERNOON TEA

SESSION 12

15h40 – 16h10 Prosthetic valve evaluation: Aortic valve
16h10 – 16h40 Prosthetic valve evaluation: Mitral valve
16h40 – 17h05 Critical thinking focus session: Prosthetic valves

FRIDAY 8 May 2026

The rest

SESSION 13

08h00 – 08h35 Simple GUCH: ASD, AVSD and evaluation for percutaneous closure
08h35 – 09h05 Simple GUCH: VSD evaluation
09h05 – 09h45 Complex GUCH: An approach and Illustrative case

09H45 - 10H15 MORNING TEA

SESSION 14

10h15 – 11h15 Wetlab session: Getting to grips with cardiac morphology | Echo Views

11h15 – 11h35 BREAK

11h35 – 12h05 Complications of myocardial infarction
12h05 – 12h45 Emergency echocardiography / Echo in ICU

12H45 – 13H45 LUNCH

SESSION 15

13h45 – 14h15 Pericardial constriction: Haemodynamics in a nutshell
14h15 – 15h00 Pericardial disease: Effusion, tamponade and other interesting cases
Closing remarks
Course End
