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Organiser
European Congenital
Heart Surgeons
Association

ECHSA 2026

Annual Meeting

Final Program

18 June
20 2026



Leuven
Belgium

Professional Congress Organizer:

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The Meeting App will be available about one week before Meeting



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Welcome Message

Dear ECHSA Members and friends,

We are delighted to welcome you to the Annual Meeting of the European Congenital Heart Surgeons Association (ECHSA), taking place in the city of Leuven, Belgium, from 18 to 20 June 2026.

This year's meeting will bring together congenital heart surgeons, cardiologists, intensivists, and allied professionals from across Europe and beyond. Participants can expect a rich scientific program featuring:

- State of the art lectures by leading experts
- Interactive case discussions and surgical technique sessions
- Cutting-edge research presentations
- Opportunities for professional networking and collaboration

Leuven—home to one of Europe's oldest universities and a hub for medical innovation—provides the perfect setting for inspiring discussions, scientific exchange, and community-building. The city's welcoming atmosphere, makes your stay both memorable and enjoyable.

We are pleased to welcome you to Leuven for an engaging and forward-looking ECHSA Meeting 2026.

With our best regards,

Bart Meyns
ECHSA 2026 Annual Meeting Host



Attilio Lotto
ECHSA President



Organizers

Organized by



**European Congenital Heart
Surgeons Association**

Professional Congress Organizer



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Committees

Local Host

Bart Meyns – ECHSA Member (UZ Leuven, Belgium)

Filip Rega – ECHSA Member (KU Leuven, Belgium)

Joeri Van Puyvelde – ECHSA Member (UZ Leuven, Belgium)

Chair of Scientific Committee

Attilio Lotto - ECHSA President (Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool, UK)

Members

Massimo Padalino - ECHSA Secretary General
(University of Bari, Italy)

Tommi Pätilä - ECHSA Treasurer
(New Children's Hospital, Helsinki University, Finland)

Jürgen Hörer – ECHSA Board Member
(German Heart Center Munich, Germany)

Jeffrey Jacobs – ECHSA Board Member
(University of Florida, USA)

Sara Arrigoni – ECHSA Board Member
(Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands)

Matej Nosal – ECHSA Board Member
(National Institute for Cardiovascular Disease-Children´s Heart Centre, Bratislava Slovakia)

Julie Cleuziou – ECHSA Board Member
(German Heart Center Munich, Germany)

Tomasz Mroczek – ECHSA Board Member
(Jagiellonian University, Poland)

Eleftherios Protopapas – ECHSA Research Committee Chair
(Athens Heart Surgery Institute, Greece)

George Sarris – ECHSA Database Chair
(MITERA Children's Hospital, Greece)

Mauro Lo Rito – ECHSA Member
(IRCCS Policlinico San Donato, Italy)

James St Louis – ECHSA Member
(Augusta University GA, USA)

Lorenzo Galletti – ECHSA Member
(Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital IRCCS, Italy)

Vladimiro Vida – ECHSA Honorary Member
(University of Padova, Italy)

Invited Speakers

Robert H. Anderson



Robert H. Anderson is now recognized as the foremost expert Worldwide currently researching the structure and development of the normal and the congenitally malformed heart, with special emphasis on the disposition of the cardiac conduction tissues. Throughout his career, when he was based first at Royal Brompton Hospital, and subsequently at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, all his studies had been directed towards clinicians, with the aim of stimulating surgical techniques, improving the management of children born with congenital heart defects, and contributing to the understanding of the various fields of diagnosis. On his retirement, he was made Emeritus Professor at University College, London. Subsequent to this alleged "retirement", he has remained deeply involved in collaborative research, now using episcopic microscopy and molecular biological techniques to follow the fate of tissues, and thus tracing the development of both normal and abnormal hearts. To this end, he has been appointed as Professorial Fellow at the Biosciences Institute of Newcastle University. He has also been granted an Honorary Consultant appointment at Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Until recently, he retained his direct involvement in education, particularly in the United States of America, where he worked with colleagues at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago to produce teaching programmes. He collaborated in comparable fashion with his colleague Andrew Redington in Cincinnati and, prior to the pandemic, he had established similar collaborations in Houston, Milwaukee and Denver. Now working remotely, he has retained his long-standing connections with the University of Pittsburgh, where he continues to be involved in regular masterclasses in cardiac anatomy. In 2018, he visited India, establishing strong connections with fetal cardiologists in Chennai, with pathologists and pediatric cardiologists in Mumbai, and with the team working at the All-India Institute of Medical Studies in New Delhi. During the pandemic, he was asked to coordinate webinars on behalf of the Indian Association of Cardio-Vascular and Thoracic Surgery, and the Congenital Heart Academy. The collaboration has continued with the Congenital Heart Academy, and an extensive series of webinars relating to cardiac anatomy is now maintained on their YouTube website. He was particularly thrilled, in 2017, to be elected an honorary fellow of the European Congenital Heart Surgeons' Association, and to be granted an Honorary Doctorate in Philosophy by the Nova University in Lisbon, Portugal. This was then matched when, in 2019, when he was also accorded honorary membership of the Congenital Heart Surgeons' Society of North America. He is currently ranked at 245 in the Research.com Rankings for Medicine in the United Kingdom, with a D-Index of 128. His H-Index now stands at 142.

Werner Budts



Werner Budts is an adult congenital cardiologist, director of the Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) program at University Hospitals Leuven, and a full professor at the Catholic University Leuven, Belgium. As an adult cardiologist, he began his clinical career by taking over the care of paediatric congenital heart disease patients transitioning into adolescence and adulthood. Under his leadership, the ACHD program has grown significantly, now handling over 4,000 outpatient visits and 200 catheterizations annually, with regular referrals to electrophysiologists and congenital cardiac surgeons. He has been instrumental in advancing non-invasive imaging for congenital heart disease and performing structural and congenital interventions in adults. Since 2024 he is chairperson of the clinical Department of Cardiovascular Diseases at University Hospitals Leuven.

In 2001, he completed his PhD thesis on pulmonary hypertension and ACHD, leading to his appointment at the University of Leuven. He teaches congenital heart disease at the School of Medicine and conducts research at the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences, where he served as chair for eight years. His research interests include heart failure, advanced cardiac imaging, congenital cardiac interventions, and exercise in congenital heart disease, resulting in over 400 peer-reviewed papers and an H-index of 62 (Web of Science).

He founded the Belgian Working Group on Adult Congenital Heart Disease and served over a decade as a nucleus member and two years as chair of the Working Group on Adult Congenital Heart Disease of the European Society of Cardiology. He is currently a council member and scientific secretary of the Association for European Pediatric and Congenital Cardiology, and co-chaired for several years the examining committee of the European Society of Cardiovascular Imaging. He has served as an associate editor for the European Heart Journal and currently holds an associate editor position in the International Journal of Cardiology, Congenital Heart Disease. He has actively contributed to several European Society of Cardiology guidelines, including the latest on Adult Congenital Heart Disease, and regularly reviews for high-impact journals.

Yves d'Udekem



Yves d'Udekem, M.D., Ph.D., joined Children's National Hospital as division chief of Cardiac Surgery in September 2020.

Dr. d'Udekem is Belgian-born with Canadian and Australian citizenship and received his early training in cardiac surgery in Belgium and Toronto. He worked as a cardiac surgeon in Belgium, operating on both adults and children with congenital heart disease. Dr. d'Udekem then worked with internationally-recognized heart surgeon professor Marc de Laval and others in London to train in congenital heart surgery at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children.

From there, he was recruited as a pediatric heart specialist to The Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia, an institution that has been a leader in advancing the field of congenital heart disease. In Melbourne, Dr. d'Udekem built an outstanding reputation for clinical excellence and an exceptional academic career. To date, he has authored over 500 publications and is highly cited and respected for his work in pediatric cardiovascular surgery. He has also established a strong reputation for clinical and academic excellence, playing a leading role in the development of the Australia and New Zealand Fontan Registry, which has advanced knowledge of single-ventricle heart conditions.

At Children's National Hospital, Dr. d'Udekem directs the Children's National Heart Research Institute, where he organizes an annual research symposium to share advancements and foster collaboration. Clinically, he is advancing the field as chief of cardiac surgery, pioneering techniques in single ventricle procedures, valve repairs, and partial heart transplantation. Additionally, he initiated the Surgical Boot Camp Series, which brings together leading pediatric surgeons from around the world for hands-on education and training. Dr. d'Udekem has also been named The Baier Family Distinguished Professor of Cardiac Surgery and serves as a professor at the George Washington School of Medicine and Health Sciences, contributing to the education of future cardiac specialists.

He is committed to multidisciplinary collaboration and emphasizes providing comprehensive care throughout the patient journey, from outpatient visits and inpatient care to surgery and recovery. His efforts continue to support innovation and education in pediatric cardiac surgery, benefiting patients and advancing the field on a global scale.

David Overman



Dr. David M. Overman grew up in Chicago and Minneapolis. He completed his undergraduate education at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, OR, attended medical school at the University of Minnesota, and took a general surgery residency at Hennepin County Medical Center. He completed vascular surgery and cardiothoracic surgery fellowships at Rush Presbyterian – St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago and a fellowship in pediatric cardiac surgery at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. Upon completion of his training Dr. Overman joined The Children's Heart Clinic, where he remains in practice today.

Dr. Overman is Chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery at Children's Minnesota and staff surgeon for the Mayo Clinic-Children's Minnesota Cardiovascular Collaborative, with appointment as Adjunct Associate Professor of Surgery at Mayo Clinic Medical School. He is Immediate Past-President of the Congenital Heart Surgeons Society, serves as a Senior Editor of the Annals of Thoracic Surgery, and on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, the International Journal of Cardiology – Congenital, and the Annals of Pediatric Cardiology. He served as the Senior Auditor for the Society of Thoracic Surgeons Congenital Heart Surgery Database for over ten years, is a member of the STS CHSD Workforce, and is an examiner for the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. He is Medical Director of Children's Heart Link, a non-governmental organization that builds capacity for sustainable congenital heart disease programs in the developing world through partnerships between volunteer institutions in North America and Europe and partner institutions across the world. Dr. Overman's clinical interests include the surgical management of neonates, children and adults with congenital heart disease. He has specific expertise with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, complex neonatal repairs, and the Ross Procedure. His research interests include unbalanced atrioventricular septal defect, measurement and optimization of clinical outcomes, and regional and national systems that optimize delivery of congenital heart surgery.

Scientific

Program



Thursday, June 18, 2026

12:00 - 14:00

Wet Lab

The Decellularized Homografts - RVOT homograft / Ross

Proctors

Filip Rega, KU Leuven-Belgium

Thierry Bove, UZ Leuven-Belgium

Attilio Lotto, Liverpool-UK

14:00 - 14:10

Welcome Address

14:00 - 14:05

Welcome by the Local Host

Bart Meyns, Leuven-Belgium

14:05 - 14:10

Welcome by the ECHSA President

Attilio Lotto, Liverpool-UK

14:10 - 15:30

Fontan Failure

Moderators: **Bart Meyns**, Leuven-Belgium & **Attilio Lotto**, Liverpool-UK

14:10 - 14:40

Marc Gewillig, Leuven-Belgium: What surgeons should avoid creating the Fontan circulation | [Invited Lecture](#)

14:40 - 15:10

Introduction: **Bart Meyns**, Leuven-Belgium

Yves D'udekem, Washington-US: The new revival of the lateral tunnel

15:10 - 15:30

Michael Bowes, Liverpool-UK: Resynchronisation Post Fontan

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee break

16:00 - 17:30

Chronic Heart Failure

Moderators: **Yves D'udekem**, Washington-US & **Filip Rega**, Leuven-Belgium

16:00 - 16:30

Werner Budts, Leuven-Belgium: Heart Failure in Congenital Heart Disease

16:30 - 16:45

Joeri Van Puyvelde, Leuven-Belgium: Modes of Failure in the Fontan Circulation

16:45 - 17:00

Katrien Vandersmissen, Leuven-Belgium: Heartmate 3 in primary school children

17:00 - 17:15

Jürgen Hörer, Munchen-Germany: Regive study

17:15 - 17:30

Sonya Bhavsar, Aachen-Germany: Impella in Pediatric Patients

17:30 - 19:00

ECHSA Board Meeting

Friday June 19, 2026

08:30 - 10:00

The Fontan Circulation

Moderators: **Massimo Padalino**, Bari-Italy & **Sara Camilla Arrigoni**, Leiden- The Netherlands

08:30 - 08:45

Yves D'udekem, Washington-US: AV Valve repair along the Fontan pathway

08:45 - 09:00

Christina Ruda, Munich-Germany: The Fontan procedure: Results from the ECHSA Database

09:00 - 09:15

Mohamed Nassar, Newcastle-UK: Outcome of isolated heart transplant in Fontan patients with advanced liver disease

09:15 - 09:25

Christina Ruda, Munich-Germany: Surgical outcomes of 630 extra-cardiac total cavopulmonary connection

09:25 - 09:35

Aleksander Szypulski, Kraków-Poland: Back to the lateral tunnel? Long-term outcomes after Fontan completion in a single-center experience

09:35 - 10:00

Discussion

10:00 - 10:30

Coffee break | Poster Session

Poster Chair: **Ruth Heying**, Leuven-Belgium

10:30 - 12:00

Coarctation of the Aorta

Moderators: **Emanuela Angeli**, Bologna-Italy & **Jürgen Hörer**, Munich-Germany

10:30 - 10:50

Robert Anderson, London-UK: Morphology of Aortic Coarctation

10:50 - 11:10

Massimo Padalino, Bari-Italy: Surgical approach to Aortic Coarctation

11:10 - 11:20

Oleg Fedevici, Liverpool-UK: Re-coarctations of the aorta: twenty-year single centre outcomes following primary repair

11:20 - 11:30

Helena Van den Heuvel, Leuven-Belgium: Narrowing the Gap: A Retrospective Analysis of Surgical and Catheter-Based Repair of Aortic Coarctation in Infancy

11:30 - 11:40

Bjorn Cools, Leuven-Belgium: Possibilities to upgrade stents in coarctation to adult size

11:40 - 12:00

Discussion

12:00 - 13:00 Lunch break

13:00 - 13:30 **Invited Lecture**
David Overman, Minnesota-US: Beyond Recommendations: Certification of CHS Centers in the U.S. - A CHSS Initiative

13:30 - 14:30 **Video and Case Session**
Moderators: **Tommi Pätilä**, Helsinki-Finland & **Thierry Bove**, Gent-Belgium

13:30 – 13:42 **Matej Nosal**, Bratislava-Slovakia: Surgical treatment of a vascular ring-sling complex associated with segmental tracheal stenosis

13:42 – 13:54 **Oleksandr Yachnik**, Lviv-Ukraine: Double Root Translocation in complex anatomy: DORV, PS, non-committed ventricular septal defect

13:54 – 14:06 **Eleftherios Protopapas**, Athens-Greece: Management of Failing Glenn in an infant with “isolated” mitral atresia with normal aortic root

14:06 – 14:18 **Andriy Pylypets**, Lviv-Ukraine: A Hemodynamic Nightmare case: LV retraining in TGA/IVS/PS complicated by COVID-19 pneumonia managed by VA-ECMO

14:18 – 14:30 **Massimo Padalino** Bari-Italy: Heart Transplantation in Adults after Atrial Switch for TGA: Surgical Challenges and Outcomes

14:30 - 15:00 Coffee break | Poster Session
Poster Chair: **Ruth Heying**, Leuven-Belgium

15:00 - 16:30 **Abstract Session**
Moderators: **Matej Nosal**, Bratislava-Slovakia & **David Overman**, Minnesota-USA

15:00 – 15:15 **Massimo Padalino** Bari-Italy: Clinical Phenotype and Mid-Term Outcomes in Anomalous Aortic Origin of a Coronary Artery: Insights from the EUROAAOCA Multicenter Registry

15:15 – 15:30 **Thierry Bove**, Gent-Belgium: Reinterventions after the Arterial Switch operation for Transposition of the Great Arteries: A late concern?

15:30 – 15:45 **Attilio Lotto**, Liverpool-UK: ECMO after Mechanical Valve Replacement in Children: 10 years' experience in a UK tertiary centre

15:45 – 16:00 **Hanna Niedner**, Munich-Germany: Surgery for left atrioventricular valve and left ventricular outflow tract after atrioventricular septal defect repair

16:00 - 16:30 **ECHSA Presidential Address**
Attilio Lotto, Liverpool-UK

Saturday, June 20, 2026

08:30 - 10:00

Abstract Session

Moderators: **Tomasz Mroczek**, Krakow-Poland & **Stojan Lazarov**, Sofia-Bulgaria

08:30 – 08:45

Maximiliaan Notenboom, Rotterdam-The Netherlands: Lifetime Outcome modeling of Critical Aortic Stenosis in the Neonate

08:45 – 09:00

Thomas Salaets, Leuven-Belgium: Management of borderline left ventricle with reversed shunt

09:00 – 09:12

Attilio Lotto, Liverpool-UK: Collagen fibril ultrastructure and nanomechanical properties in Coarctation of the Aorta: association with biochemistry, histology and hypertension

09:12 – 09:24

Wojciech Silka, Krakow-Poland: Impact of Delayed Sternal Closure After Norwood Palliation on Postoperative Outcomes in High-Risk Patients: A Single-Centre Experience

09:24 – 09:36

Ayush Balaji, Leeds-UK: Shaping the Pipeline: A Cross-Sectional Study of Career Drivers and Perceived Deterrents in Congenital Cardiac Surgery

09:36 – 09:48

Mohamed Nassar, Newcastle-UK: Personalized Ross autograft support: The ROSS-PEARS procedure. Single Centre experience

09:48 – 10:00

Justine Goudezeune, Leuven- Belgium: Management strategies for children diagnosed with a persistent left superior vena cava (PLSVC): a retrospective cohort

10:00 - 10:30

Invited Lecture

Bob Anderson, London-UK: Richard Van Praagh; the importance of cardiac pathology

10:30 - 11:00

Coffee break

11:00 - 11:30

Data Base and Research Session

Moderators: **George Sarris**, Athens-Greece & **Eleftherios Protopapas**, Athens-Greece

11:00 – 11:20

George Sarris, Athens-Greece: Data Base and Research Report

11:20 – 11:25

Eleftherios Protopapas, Athens-Greece: ECHSA Database Work in Progress: Extracting Long-term outcome information from a procedure-based registry - the paradigm of Tetralogy of Fallot

11:25 – 11:30

Ali-Dodge Khatami, Aachen-Germany: Redo Surgery after minimal invasive Thoracotomy Repair. Study Proposal

11:30 - 12:30

ECHSA Business Meeting

Closing – Adjourn

General

Information A–Z



A BOUT THE VENUE

Founded in 1984, Irish College Leuven is an international residential centre for education, training, and networking in European and global affairs. Located on the historic site of the 17th-century Franciscan Irish College of St. Anthony in Leuven, Belgium, the College advances its mission by promoting Ireland's presence, visibility, and influence across Continental Europe.

HOW TO REACH THE VENUE

The Irish College Leuven is centrally located within walking distance of Leuven railway station and the city's main attractions.

➤ Arriving by train

Leuven railway station offers excellent national and international rail connections, including direct trains from Brussels Airport and Brussels city Centre. From the station, the Irish College can be reached by taxi, local bus, or approximately 20 minutes on foot through the historic city centre.

➤ Arriving by air

Brussels Airport is located approximately 20 minutes from Leuven by direct train, with frequent departures throughout the day. Taxis and shuttle services are also available from the airport to Leuven.

➤ Arriving by car

Leuven is easily accessible via the Belgian motorway network, including the E40 and E314 highways. Several public parking facilities are available in and around the city centre near the venue. As Leuven's historic centre has limited traffic access in certain areas, visitors are encouraged to check parking and navigation information in advance.



B adges

Badges will be provided to all participants upon check-in at the Registration Desk. For identification and access to scientific sessions, delegates are required to wear their badges at all times. Access to Meeting areas will not be permitted without a valid badge.

CURRENCY / EXCHANGE

The official currency in Belgium is the Euro (€). Credit and debit cards are widely accepted in hotels, restaurants, shops, and public transport services throughout Leuven and Belgium.

Belgium widely accepts both cash and card payments, although most hotels, restaurants, shops, and public transport services strongly encourage contactless and electronic payments.

ELECTRICITY

The electrical power supply in Belgium is 230 volts / 50 Hz (standard European plug type C & E). Participants travelling from countries using different voltage systems may require an adapter.

EXHIBITION OPERATING HOURS

The exhibition will operate during the official Meeting opening hours.

EVALUATION

To continually improve and provide delegates with the best possible experience, participants will receive an evaluation form via email after the Meeting. Your feedback is highly appreciated and helps us enhance future meetings and events.

ETHICAL MEDTECH

ECHSA Annual Meeting 2026 has been determined as compliant with MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice and EFPIA Code of Practice.

EACCME

The ECHSA 2026 Annual Meeting has been accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME®) for a maximum of 13.0 European CME credits (ECMEC®s)

FACILITIES FOR PERSONS WITH IMPAIRED MOBILITY

The Irish College Leuven is fully accessible, featuring ground-floor reception, conference rooms, auditorium, dining areas, and accommodation facilities. Upper floors are served by passenger lifts. Staff are trained in accessibility awareness.

FOOD & BEVERAGES

Coffee and Lunch during official breaks is included in the delegate registration fee and will be served in designated catering stations.

I NTERNET ACCESS

Free Wi-Fi access will be available in all meeting areas throughout the duration of the event. Network details and the password will be provided at the Registration Desk.

L ANGUAGE

English is the official language of the Annual Meeting.

LIABILITY & INSURANCE

Registration fees do not include participant's insurance against personal accidents, sickness and cancellation by any party, theft, loss or damage to personal possessions. Participants are requested to make their own arrangements with respect to health and travel insurance. ECHSA 2026 and the Congress Organizer CONVIN S.A. accept no liability.

LOST & FOUND

A lost and found service is available at the Registrations Desk during the Meeting hours.

P HOTOS

Participants who do not wish to appear in photos are kindly advised to contact the Registration Desk.

R EGISTRATION & HOSPITALITY DESK

Operating hours

Thursday, 18 June 2026	11:00 – 17:30
Friday, 19 June 2026	07:30 – 16:30
Saturday, 20 June 2026	08:00 – 13:00

T IME

Belgium follows Central European Time (CET, UTC/GMT +1) and Central European Summer Time (CEST, UTC/GMT +2) during the summer period.

W EATHER

The average temperature in Leuven in June typically ranges from a high of around 22°C (72°F) to a low of approximately 12°C (54°F). Weather conditions are generally mild and pleasant, with a mix of sunny periods and occasional rainfall.

ABOUT THE HOST CITY

Welcome to Leuven, Belgium's vibrant university city where centuries of history meet youthful energy and innovation. Located in the heart of Belgium, Leuven offers visitors a unique blend of Gothic architecture, lively squares, world-renowned academic heritage, and warm Belgian hospitality. Wander through picturesque streets and discover hidden courtyards and medieval landmarks.

From the stunning Gothic Town Hall and the historic University Library to the lively terraces of the famous Oude Markt, Leuven invites you to explore its rich cultural heritage while enjoying its dynamic contemporary spirit. Discover UNESCO World Heritage sites, and savor Belgian culinary specialties alongside some of the world's finest beers.

Join us in Leuven for the Annual Meeting and experience a city where knowledge, culture, and hospitality come together to create unforgettable memories.

➤ **Leuven Town Hall**

Leuven's Gothic Town Hall, located on the Grote Markt, is one of Belgium's most iconic architectural landmarks, famous for its detailed 15th-century façade and historic character.

➤ **Groot Begijnhof**

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Great Beguinage is a charming medieval quarter with cobblestone streets, bridges, gardens, and traditional brick houses.

➤ **University Library and Tower**

The historic University Library is one of Leuven's best-known landmarks, offering impressive architecture and panoramic views from its tower.

➤ **Oude Markt**

Known as "the longest bar in Europe," Oude Markt is Leuven's lively social center, filled with cafés, restaurants, and vibrant terraces.

➤ **Botanical Garden Leuven**

Founded in 1738, Belgium's oldest botanical garden is a peaceful green oasis featuring exotic plants, flowers, and elegant greenhouses.

➤ **M Leuven**

M Leuven is the city's museum of art and culture, combining historic collections with contemporary exhibitions in a striking modern setting.

➤ **Park Abbey**

Just outside the city center, Park Abbey is a beautifully preserved historic abbey surrounded by ponds, greenery, and walking paths.

Acknowledgements

The Organizing Committee of the Meeting extends its warmest thanks to the sponsors and exhibitors for their valuable contribution and support.

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Medtronic

Exhibitor



Company Profiles



Abbott's Heart Failure (HF) division is a global leader in advanced circulatory support, focused on improving outcomes for patients with severe heart failure. Its flagship HeartMate 3™ (HM3) left ventricular assist device (LVAD) is a fully magnetically levitated pump designed to enhance blood flow while minimizing complications such as thrombosis and hemolysis. With proven long-term survival and reduced adverse events, HM3 has set a new standard of care for both bridge-to-transplant and destination therapy patients, reflecting Abbott's commitment to life-saving innovation and patient-centered cardiovascular care.



Andocor is a Belgian medical device manufacturer specialized in cardiovascular surgery products. Since 1997, we have been designing and producing high-quality cannulae, perfusion solutions and accessories that support cardiac surgeons and healthcare professionals worldwide. From our manufacturing facility in Belgium, we combine innovation, clinical expertise, and stringent quality standards to deliver reliable products that contribute to better patient outcomes. With a strong focus on customer partnership, regulatory excellence, and continuous improvement, Andocor has become a trusted global partner in the field of cardiac surgery and extracorporeal circulation.



Berlin Heart GmbH develops, manufactures and distributes innovative mechanical cardiac support systems. With our EXCOR® Adult, EXCOR® Pediatric and EXCOR® Revive products, we are able to support patients of all ages and sizes.

Our systems provide left, right, or biventricular cardiac support. This enables us to offer highly flexible therapy options that can be adapted to the individual needs of each patient.

With our globally recognized products, we are among the market leaders. We are committed to developing solutions with the highest precision and reliability which are guided by the needs of our customers and the demands of the market.



Corlife is dedicated to improving the quality of life of patients undergoing cardiovascular surgery. To achieve this, we have developed innovative cell-free allografts – human donor tissues processed through advanced decellularization techniques that remove donor cells while preserving the stable connective tissue structure, thus significantly reducing immunogenicity of the implant.

Since heart valves and blood vessels function primarily through their mechanical properties, the preserved cell-free tissue maintains full functionality immediately after implantation. Our technology combines safety, durability, and biocompatibility, providing cardiac surgeons with a reliable solution for cardiovascular reconstruction and repair.



LivaNova PLC is a global medical technology and innovation company. Headquartered in London, LivaNova employs approximately 3,000 employees and has a presence in more than 100 countries for the benefit of patients, healthcare professionals and healthcare systems worldwide. LivaNova Cardiopulmonary products and systems include heart-lung machines, oxygenators, autotransfusion machines, cannulae and more. For more information, please visit www.livanova.com



Medtronic is a global medical technology company focused on developing therapies that address a wide range of cardiovascular and other health conditions. The company's long-standing mission is to alleviate pain, restore health, and extend life. It operates in more than 150 countries and collaborates with healthcare professionals to advance clinical practice and improve patient outcomes. Medtronic invests in research, innovation, and education to support evidence-based medicine and responsible adoption of new therapies. Ethical conduct, quality, and patient safety are central to its approach, alongside close partnerships with clinicians to better understand and address evolving healthcare needs



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This update offers care teams an additional option for managing pediatric patients, whether they are awaiting a heart transplant or are not eligible due to surgical risks or other complications. For these children, LVAD therapy may offer the opportunity for fuller, more active lives.



**DISCOVER HOW THE HEARTMATE 3™ LVAD
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Abbott

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cardiovascular.abbott

Brief Summary: Prior to using these devices, please review the Instructions for Use for a complete listing of indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions, potential adverse events and directions for use.

HeartMate 3™ Left Ventricular Assist Device. CE marked device. CE 2797.

Legal Manufacturer: Abbott Medical, 6035 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588 USA.

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Supporting Congenital Heart Surgery

Andocor develops, manufactures and supplies high-quality cardiac catheters and cannulae for cardiac surgery and perfusion.



Paediatric cannulae



Adult cannulae



Cardiopulmonary bypass solutions

Committed to excellence
in **quality, safety and performance.**



Berlin Heart®



Fontan patient Luca received
EXCOR® Revive support



Luca's Story on
Youtube



EXCOR® Revive

Innovative, standardized, pulsatile,
subpulmonary circulatory support for
patients with Fontan failure

Meet us in Leuven, Belgium
18-20th June 2026



Build a Bridge to Transplant.
Build a Bridge to Life!

Visit us at:   
www.berlinheart.de

The access to some or all shown products may be restricted due to country-specific regulatory approvals. EXCOR® Active is intended for professional healthcare facility environments only. The use of EXCOR® VAD for adults, RVAD-support, EXCOR® Blood pumps with bileaflet valves, EXCOR® Venous Cannula, EXCOR® Arterial Cannula for Graft is not FDA approved. EXCOR® Active is an investigational device approved for pediatric use in a clinical study under IDE# G200252 approved by the FDA.



corlife is the leading provider of cell-free cardiovascular allografts in Europe. We process tissue donations to make them very well tolerated by patients.

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corlife presents:



GraftFinder

A Digital Platform to Support the Assignment of Cell-free Allografts.

- Search and request cell-free allografts that fit your patients
- Keep track of your requests and grafts assigned to your clinic
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Pulmonary Valve, Bifurcation

Diameter proximal

25 35

Length right min

0

Length min

20

Length left min

0

5 Results

∅	min	Lot Corlife	Available	Implantation	
> 29 mm	50 mm	T0461 251212-01	10/07/202	07/09/202	Request
> 26 mm	40 mm	T0461 251216-02	12/07/202	12/09/202	Request
> 28 mm	65 mm	T0461 260202-01	25/08/202	29/10/202	Request
> 25 mm	35 mm	T0461 260126-01	18/09/202	21/11/202	Request

Available now on the Web and as an App for iOS and Android:



Find out more and register for free at graftfinder.eu



Essenz™ Perfusion Solution

elevating perfusion
into a new era



Essenz™ Perfusion System Important Safety Information

Heart-Lung Machine with Integrated Essenz In-Line Blood Monitor (ILBM)

The Essenz Heart-Lung Machine is intended to perform, control, monitor and support extracorporeal blood circulation replacing the mechanical pumping function of the heart, monitoring and regulating physiologic parameters during procedures requiring extracorporeal circulation.

US: Essenz Heart-Lung Machine is intended to be used during cardiopulmonary bypass for procedures lasting six (6) hours or less.

Essenz In-Line Blood Monitor is indicated for supplementary, in-line monitoring of the extracorporeal arterial oxygen partial pressure, venous oxygen saturation, venous hematocrit/hemoglobin, and arterial and venous temperature during cardiopulmonary bypass procedures up to six hours.

Essenz Patient Monitor

The Essenz Patient Monitor software is a modularly structured software program package that is exclusively used with LivaNova heart-lung machines. The system allows detailed recording of perfusion data during cardiopulmonary bypass procedures as well as the processing and evaluation of this data. The data may be recorded automatically or entered manually. The LivaNova Perfusion Solution Monitor is a panel PC intended to be exclusively used with LivaNova heart lung machines as a base and user interface for the Essenz Patient Monitor software.

The devices should be used by qualified and skilled personnel, able to follow the indications and instructions for use contained in the information provided by the manufacturer.

Not approved in all geographies, consult your labeling. Please visit the LivaNova website to receive instructions for use containing full prescribing information including indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions and adverse events.

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