Monday, 09 November 2026
The National Symposium of Metabolic Bariatric Surgery
organized in partnership with
The Romanian Society for Metabolic Surgery
Hall 1, Crowne Plaza Hotel Bucharest

08:30 - 09:00
Welcome Message – on behalf of RSMS, ARSO, FORO
Cătălin Copăescu (Bucharest, Romania)

09:00 - 10:30
Session I – Joint Session RSMS, ARSO & FORO
Obesity as a complex chronic disease: the 2026 perspective in the incretin era

Chairpersons:
Florinela Cătoi-Galea (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
Ciprian Duță (Timișoara, Romania)
Cătălina Poiană (Bucharest, Romania)
Daniel Moritz Felsenreich (Viena, Austria)

Speakers:
Beyond the anthropometric measures – the Lancet Commission on Clinical Obesity Recommendations
Panagiotis Lainas (Athens, Greece)

The EASO perspective and recommendations for obesity
Florinela Cătoi-Galea (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

The FORO Guidelines – the local challenges of the multidisciplinary teams
Cornelia Bala (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

The role of Obesity Management Medication (OMM) in the field of Metabolic / Bariatric Surgery (MBS)
Daniel Moritz Felsenreich (Viena, Austria)

An update and future perspectives for pharmacotherapy for obesity
Horațiu Popescu-Vâlceanu (Bucharest, Romania)

Built to last? Long-term outcomes of metabolic and bariatric surgery and what the evidence really says
Bright Huo (Hamilton, Canada)

Discussions

10:30 - 11:00
Coffee break and exhibition visiting

11:00 - 12:40
Session II – Synergies in the obesity therapy – the multidisciplinary perspective

Chairpersons:
Dimitris Lapatsanis (Athens, Greece)
Francesco Carrano (Rome, Italy)
Daniel Timofte (Iași, Romania)

Speakers:
One disease, many tools: the obesity specialist in multimodal obesity care
Francesco Carrano (Rome, Italy)

The incretin ceiling: non-response, weight regain and intolerance as indications for metabolic and bariatric surgery
Florinela Cătoi-Galea (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

The actual and future role of bariatric endoscopy to control obesity
Dan Gheonea (Craiova, Romania)

Metabolic and bariatric surgery as a program, not a procedure: the pitfalls of medical tourism
Ciprian Duță (Timișoara, Romania)

Too young to operate? Evidence, indications and timing of metabolic and bariatric surgery in children and adolescents
Clarisa Bîrlog (Bucharest, Romania)

Beyond weight loss: measuring what matters in obesity care patient experience, communication, adherence, and sustainable healthy behaviors

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Violeta Moize (Barcelona, Spain) **Discussions**
12:40 - 13:00 **Session III – Presidential Lecture** **The people living experience after MBS** **Introduction**: Violeta Moize (Barcelona, Spain) **Invited Speaker**: Alina Constantin (Paris, France)
13:00 - 14:00 **Lunch break & industry-sponsored symposia**

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14:00 - 15:30 **Session IV – The loop closes: OAGB, SADI and SASI from controversy to long-term care** *Join Session RSMS & HABS* **Chairpersons**: Ionuț Hutopilă (Bucharest, Romania) Peter Vasas (Budapest, Hungary) Marius Nedelcu (Toulon, France) **Speakers**: **Concept and effects of one anastomosis** Viorel Dejeu (Oradea, Romania) **The SADI operation: technique, difference from the other operations, and results** Andrei Keidar (Tel Avis, Israel) **Internal hernia, leaks, twists** Marius Nedelcu (Toulon, France) **SASI: an emerging primary and conversion metabolic procedure. Where do we stand today?** Dimitris Lapatsanis (Athens, Greece) **SADI-S: from innovation to standard of care in metabolic surgery** Athanasios Pantelis (Athens, Greece) **SASI bipartition as primary procedure for the treatment of severe obesity** Panagiotis Lainas (Athens, Greece) **Incidence of de-novo gallstone formation after significant weight-loss: a systematic review and meta-analysis** Peter Vasas (Budapest, Hungary) **Discussions**	**14:00 - 15:30** **Session V – Beyond weight loss: measuring what matters in obesity care** **Chairpersons**: Violeta Moize (Barcelona, Spain) Cristian Boru (Bucharest, Romania) Cornelia Bala (Cluj-Napoca, Romania) **Speakers**: **Psychological pitfalls in bariatric surgery: from evaluation to follow-up** Emanuela Paone (Bologna, Italy) **Who is following the patient? Nutritional deficiencies after metabolic and bariatric surgery** Lidia Graur (Iași, Romania) **Virtual Reality Exposure Therapy (VRET) and self-image in bariatric surgery: from body transformation to the transformation of self-representation** Horațiu Miclea (Bucharest, Romania) **Humanize patient learning in a single operator platform with immersive virtual reality** Thierry Gricourt (Saint Marcel Les Valence, France) **Beyond the scale: body composition changes after metabolic surgery and GLP-1/GIP therapy** Anca Sîrbu (Bucharest, Romania) **SICOB Guidelines for Perioperative Nutritional and Dietary Program essential for patients undergoing bariatric surgery** Marika Visentin (Bologna, Italia) **Stigma and obesity care: from seeking support to long-term management – how weight stigma affects quality of life, access to treatment, and engagement with care** Ximena Ramos Salas (Lund, Sweden) **Discussions**
15:30 - 16:00 **Coffee break and exhibition visiting**	
16:00 - 17:30 **Session VI – Challenges of metabolic surgery** **Chairpersons**: Cristian Boru (Bucharest, Romania) Francesco Carrano (Rome, Italy) **Speakers**: **Does stapler line reinforcement make a difference in 2026? Novel adjunctive technologies for the prevention of complications as bleeding and leakage in BMS** Cristian Boru (Bucharest, Romania) **Long term results of rPEL reconstruction** Cătălin Copăescu, Ionuț Hutopilă (Bucharest, Romania) **Bariatric endoscopy across the treatment pathway: primary gastroplasty, revision, and management of surgical complications**	**16:00 - 17:30** **Session VII – Abstracts** **Chairpersons**: TBA **Presenters**: **BARIACOMP – Final results of the Romanian RSMS&RAES Study in Romania** Daniel Preda (Craiova, Romania) **Efficacy and complications of esophageal stenting in the endoscopic management of postoperative esophageal fistulas** Cristian Roșianu, Cristian Boru (Bucharest, Romania) **MBS during the Ukranian war** Iryna Pliuta (Kyiv, Ukraine)

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Sorina Telescu, Delia Olteanu, Bogdan Mateescu (Bucharest, Romania) **Dr. ChatGPT will see you now: how AI is reshaping the doctor-patient relationship** Francesco Carrano (Rome, Italy) **Long-term anatomical durability and clinical outcomes of concomitant laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy and hiatal hernia repair: up to 10-year multicenter analysis** Cristian Boru (Bucharest, Romania) Francesco Carrano (Rome, Italy) **Discussions**	**Severe malnutriton after OAGB** Ana-Maria Nedelcu (Bucharest, Romania) **Reinforced hiatal hernia repair during bariatric surgery. Is it necessary?** Victor Diaconu (Bucharest, Romania) **Can intraoperative difficulty be anticipated in the office? A simple preoperative score for predicting difficult laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy** Cornelia Olteanu, Răzvan Popescu, Andrei Ghioldiș, Andrea Kacani (Constanța, Romania) **When morbid obesity meets the emergency: laparoscopic TAPP repair of a strangulated umbilical hernia** Andrei Popa (Bucharest, Romania) **Discussions**
17:30 - 18:00 **Coffee break and exhibition visiting**	
18:00 - 19:00 **Session VIII – RSMS CUP** **Complex case confrontation – Quiz Contest** **Chairpersons**: Cătălin Copăescu (Bucharest, Romania) Rubin Munteanu (Bucharest, Romania) **Experts Evaluation** **Presenters: Case 1, Case 2** **Teams: All Europe, Hungary, Romania, Young RSMS**	
19:00 - 20:30 **Romanian Robotic & Metabolic Surgery Days 2026 Official Opening Ceremony** **Introduction:** Cătălin Copăescu (Bucharest, Romania) Victor Tomulescu (Bucharest, Romania) **Special Conferences:** **25 years of RAES** Irinel Popescu (Bucharest, Romania) **Precision surgery in the era of robotics – delivery and training** Jim Khan (Portsmouth, United Kingdom)	

Tuesday, 10 November 2026
The National Symposium of Robotic Surgery
Hall 1, Crowne Plaza Hotel Bucharest

09:00 - 11:00
Session I – General Surgery I

Chairpersons:
Victor Tomulescu (Bucharest, Romania)
Dorin Popa (Linköping, Sweden)

Speakers:
Enhancing the workflow of full robotic pancreatoduodenectomy: a counterclockwise step-by-step approach
Luca Morelli (Pisa, Italy)

Role of single port robotic surgery for colorectal cancer: technique and outcomes
Erman Aytaç (Istanbul, Turkey)

Transverse colon oncologic resection by robotic approach
Kenneth Campbell (Dundee, United Kingdom)

Robotic surgery for pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors: technical considerations and surgical strategies
Luca Morelli (Pisa, Italy)

Early experience with robotic pancreatic surgery using the da Vinci Xi surgical system in Fundeni Clinical Institute
Mihai Eftimie (Bucharest, Romania)

Robotic approach in (short) rectal stump – vaginal fistula. The moment when it can go really wrong (Black Video)
Dorin Popa (Linköping, Sweden)

Robotic-assisted repair of an incarcerated spigelian hernia with concomitant ipsilateral inguinal hernia using a novel multi-modular robotic platform: video presentation
Mihai-Daniel Hrițcu, Iyad Shanin, Nicolae Ciufu (Constanța, Romania)

Minimally invasive surgical management of bowel endometriosis: a single-center experience
Mihai Vasile, Sabrina Florea, Anda Simbotin, Vladimir Dumitrașcu (Bucharest, Romania)

Discussions

11:00 - 11:30
Coffee break and exhibition visiting

11:30 - 13:30
Session II – General Surgery II

Chairpersons:
Cătălin Copăescu (Bucharest, Romania)
Ciprian Duță (Timișoara, Romania)

Speakers:
Intraoperative navigation for the modern surgeon
Jim Khan (Portsmouth, United Kingdom)

Robotic approach for rectal prolapse
Kenneth Campbell (Dundee, United Kingdom)

Robotic resection for gastric cancer (Technical Video Presentation)
Erman Aytaç (Istanbul, Turkey)

Robotic trans-anal surgery
Cătălin Copăescu (Bucharest, Romania)

Laparoscopy vs robotics in left colon and rectal surgery. How big is the difference actually?
Dorin Popa (Linköping, Sweden)

NOSE in rectal resection: experience with laparoscopic and robotic surgery
Hadi Alhajjar (Timișoara, Romania)

Implementation of robotic liver surgery: from segmental resections to right hemiliver procurement

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Iulian Moșteanu (Bucharest, Romania)

Complex parenchymal liver resection: translating from open to robotic surgery
Florin Botea (Bucharest, Romania)

Discussions

13:30 - 14:30
Lunch break & industry-sponsored symposia

14:30 - 16:30
Session III – Gynecology

Chairpersons:
Elvira Brătilă (Bucharest, Romania)
Răzvan Ciortea (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
Paul Stanciu (London, United Kingdom)

Speakers:
Modern robotic management of deep infiltrating endometriosis: balancing complete excision and functional organ preservation
Elvira Brătilă (Bucharest, Romania)

Lymph node detection in endometrial cancer: robotic vs. laparoscopic
Mihai Băcilă (Timișoara, Romania)

From LACC to RACC at UMF Timișoara: where robotics stands in cervical cancer surgery
Laurențiu Pirtea (Timișoara, Romania)

Robotic surgery: whom, how much and when it helps in endometriosis surgery
Voicu Simedrea, Răzvan Petrică, Hadi Alhajjar (Timișoara, Romania)

Robotic surgery in complex benign gynecology: where does it add value?
Răzvan Ciortea (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Beyond robotics: why surgical judgment still defines excellence in gynecologic surgery
Cornel Petre Brătilă, Anca Manta (Bucharest, Romania)

Minimally invasive decompression of pelvic nerve entrapments: a four-year neuropelveology experience from a high-volume center
Mihai Vasile, Sabrina Florea, Anda Simbotin, Vladimir Dumitrașcu (Bucharest, Romania)

Discussions

16:30 - 17:00
Coffee break and exhibition visiting

17:00 - 19:00
Session IV – Urology

Chairpersons:
Nicolae Crișan (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
Mircea Onaca (Bucharest, Romania)

Speakers:
Robotic retroperitoneal lymph node dissection for testicular cancer: technique, outcomes and future direction
Nicolae Crișan (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Complications in robotic urologic surgery: prevention, recognition, and management
Mircea Pîrvuț (Sibiu, Romania)

Robotic radical prostatectomy – a procedure tailored to each individual case – tips and tricks after the first 1,500 cases
Mircea Onaca (Bucharest, Romania)

Comparison of urinary continence recovery in 50 consecutive cases of robot-assisted radical prostatectomy versus 50 3D laparoscopic prostatectomies: the experience of the same surgical team
Bogdan Feciche (Oradea, Romania)

Sexual function preservation after robotic radical prostatectomy: from anatomic to integrative approaches

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Silviu Constantin Latcu (Timișoara, Romania)

The future of robotic prostatectomy: technology, data and Artificial Intelligence
Răzvan Couți (Bistrița, Romania)

Robotic partial nephrectomy in a solitary kidney: balancing oncologic control and renal function preservation
Vlad Schițcu (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Discussions