

12th International Conference: Living Donor Abdominal Organ Transplantation State of the Art - Education of Young Professionals in Transplantation (YPT) in Living Donation and Transplantation

Evento residenziale accreditato ECM nazionale

DATA: 9 May 2026

SEDE: Hyatt Centric Murano Venice Riva Longa, 49, 30141 Venezia VE

RESPONSABILI SCIENTIFICI: Enrico Benedetti, Lucrezia Furian, Lorenzo Gallon, Jacques Pirenne, Giuliano Testa

Figure accreditate: Medico Chirurgo (immunologia clinica, Anatomia patologica, Anestesia e rianimazione, Chirurgia generale, Nefrologia, Oncologia, Urologi)

Partecipanti previsti: 70

RAZIONALE:

Living donor transplantation is one of the most complex and dynamic areas of contemporary transplant medicine, integrating advanced surgical techniques, multidisciplinary clinical decision-making, ethical considerations, and long-term donor and recipient outcomes. Despite major progress, significant challenges persist in donor risk assessment, ethical acceptability, immunological barriers, and the safe training of future transplant surgeons.

This scientific meeting aims to provide an updated, evidence-based, and multidisciplinary overview of living donation in kidney, liver, and intestinal transplantation. International experts will address current practices, emerging data, and unresolved controversies, with a strong focus on clinical relevance and patient safety.

Key sessions explore the balance between perception and evidence in donor risk assessment, non-directed living donation, and ethical frameworks across different healthcare systems. Structured discussions and interactive formats promote critical appraisal of diverse approaches and shared solutions.

The program places strong emphasis on surgical education, highlighting strategies for teaching complex living donor procedures and ensuring reproducibility and safety. Interactive multidisciplinary case-based sessions in kidney and liver transplantation foster peer learning and practical problem-solving in clinically challenging scenarios.

Future-oriented topics include immunogenicity and rejection prevention, regenerative strategies, xenotransplantation beyond immunology, and the creation of bioresources to support translational research. The active involvement of Young Professionals in Transplantation encourages innovation, mentorship, and forward-thinking perspectives.

The dedicated workshop on intestinal transplantation provides an advanced update on current outcomes, technical developments, and complex indications, including living donor intestinal transplantation, addressing an area of increasing clinical relevance.

Overall, the meeting aims to strengthen clinical knowledge, support evidence-based decision-making, and promote excellence in living donor transplantation through expert-led discussion and interactive learning.

Saturday, May 9, 2026

8:30am – 8:35am **Welcome**

*Rutger J. Ploeg, MD, PhD, FRCS, FEBS (Hon), University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
Giuliano Testa, MD, MBA, FACS, Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, USA*

Background and Overview

Chair: Rutger J. Ploeg, MD, PhD, FRCS, FEBS (Hon), University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

8:35am – 8:50am **Fake of Fact: Perception or Evidence in Risk Assessment to Either Accept or Decline Living Donors?**

Dorry Segev, MD, PhD, NYU Langone Health, New York, USA

8:50am – 9:20am **Non-Directed Living Donation: Pros and Cons – The European Discussion**

Pro: Frank J.M.F Dor, MD, PhD, FEBS (Hon), FRCS, Erasmus MC Transplant Institute, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Con: Bernadette Haase, BSc, MSc, Past Director Dutch National Transplant Foundation, Leiden, Netherlands

Followed by an Interactive Discussion with Participants on Ethics, Experience and Solutions Across Countries

Training of Surgical Skills in Living Donation

9:20am- 9:35am **My Bespoke Steps, How to Teach My Technique to a Fellow: The Donor Kidney**

Lloyd Ratner, MD, MPH, FACS, FICS(Hon), Columbia University, New York, USA

9:35am – 9:50am **My Bespoke Steps. How to Teach My Technique to a Fellow: The Donor Liver**

Amar Gupta, MD, FACS, FRCS, Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, USA

Interactive Plenary MDT Session: Kidney

Chair: Lucrezia Furian, MD, University Hospital of Padova, Padova, Italy

9:50am – 10:20am **CASE no.1**

FACULTY: Rainer Oberbauer, MD, PhD, Medical University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

PANEL: questions and moderation by first set of 3 YPTs

AUDIENCE interacts

10:20am – 10:50am **CASE no.2**

FACULTY: Caterina Di Bella, MD, University Hospital of Padova, Padova, Italy

PANEL: questions and moderation by second set of 3 YPTs

AUDIENCE interacts

Panel of 3 YPTs and participants will ask questions and voice opinions whilst faculty is challenged to respond and explain. Panel will prepare several aspects worthwhile discussing as not always straight forward.

10:50am – 11:10am **Coffee and tea break**

What is Challenging in Living Donation?

Chair: *Frank J.M.F Dor, MD, PhD, FEBS (Hon), FRCS, Erasmus MC Transplant Institute, Rotterdam, Netherlands*

11:10am – 11:25am **Immunogenicity in Living Donor Recipients: How to Reduce, Prevent Rejection, Initiate Regeneration?**

Joseph Leventhal, MD, PhD, FACS, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA

11:25am – 11:40am **Xenotransplantation: Fine but What About Function and Aspects Beyond Immunology?**

Robert Montgomery, MD, DPhil, FACS, New York University, New York, USA

11:40am – 11:55am **Creating a Bioresource and Research Platform in Living Donation**

Rutger J. Ploeg, MD, PhD, FRCS, FEBS (Hon), University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

11:55am – 12:55pm **Lunch**

Interactive Plenary MDT Session: Liver

Chair: *Giuliano Testa, MD, MBA, FACS, Baylor University, Dallas, USA*

12:55pm – 1:10pm **How To Select and Prepare The Living Liver Donor: My Successful Recipe**

Giuliano Testa, MD, MBA, FACS, Baylor University, Dallas, USA

1:10pm – 1:40pm **CASE no.1**

FACULTY: *Dieter Bröring, MD, PhD, FEBS, FACS, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia*

PANEL: questions and moderation by first set of 3 YPTs

AUDIENCE interacts

1:40pm – 2:10pm **CASE no.2**

FACULTY: Presentation by a “Junior” from the YPT/ Fellows

PANEL: questions and moderation by second set of 3 YPTs

AUDIENCE interacts

Panel of 3 YPTs and participants will ask questions and voice opinions while faculty is challenged to respond and explain. Panel will prepare several aspects worthwhile discussing as not always straight forward.

2:10pm – 2:40pm **The Thinktank**

Moderators: *Bernadette Haase, MSc, Leiden, Netherlands*

Stan Benjamins, MD, PhD, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Madita Buch, MD, Edinburgh, UK

YPT views – blue sky thinking on challenges and solutions ...

3 x 3 min pitches by YPTs: audience questions; audience elects ‘best pitch’

Award for Best Pitch and Closure

Stan Benjamins, MD, PhD & Madita Buch, MD

Pre-Meeting Workshop on Intestinal Transplantation

MODERATORS: *Enrico Benedetti, MD, FACS & Jacques Pirenne, MD, Msc, PhD*

Keynote Address

2:40pm – 2:55pm

Intestinal Transplantation in 2026: Where Are We Heading?

Tom Kato (New York)

2:55pm – 3:10pm

Debate: Preemptive Intestinal Transplantation – Is It Justified?

Pro: *Emilio Canovai (Oxford)*

Contra: *Tim Vanuytsel (Leuven)*

3:10pm – 3:25pm

Intestinal Failure and Transplantation in the UK: Current Status and Challenges

Andrew Butler (Cambridge)

Technical Advances

3:25pm- 3:40pm

Intestinal and Multivisceral Organ Procurement: Techniques and Preservation Strategies

Irum Amin (Cambridge)

Complex Indications

3:40pm- 3:55pm

Liver and Multivisceral Transplantation for Portomesenteric Thrombosis: A Different Beast!

Rodrigo Vianna (Miami)

3:55pm – 4:10pm

Living Donor Intestinal Transplantation: Insights from the Largest Single-Center Cohort (China)

Guosheng Wu (Hangzhou)