

12th International Conference:
Living Donor Abdominal Organ Transplantation
State of the Art
May 9-11, 2026
Murano, Italy

Organizing Committee
Enrico Benedetti, MD
Giuliano Testa, MD
Jacques Pirenne, MD
Lorenzo Gallon, MD
Lucrezia Furian, MD

Saturday, May 9, 2026

8:30am – 8:35am

Welcome

*Rutger J. Ploeg, MD, PhD, FRCS, FEBS (Hon)
University of Oxford
Oxford, United Kingdom*

*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, United Kingdom*

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

Concept and Relevance of Tolerance Induction in Living Donor Recipients

Dixon Kaufman, MD, PhD, FACS

University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA

11:40am – 11:55am

Creating a Biorepository and Research Platform in Living Donation

Rutger J. Ploeg, MD, PhD, FRCS, FEBS (Hon)

University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

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, United Kingdom

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

Intestinal Transplantation in 2026: Where Are We Heading?
Tom Kato, MD, MBA, MPA, FACS, President – CIIRTA
New York, USA

2:40pm – 2:55pm

Debate: Preemptive Intestinal Transplantation – Is It Justified?
Pro: *Emilio Canovai, MD Oxford, UK*
Contra: *Tim Vanuytsel, MD, PhD, Leuven, Belgium*

2:55pm – 3:10pm

Intestinal Failure and Transplantation in the UK: Current Status and Challenges
Andrew Butler, MD, Cambridge, UK

Technical Advances

Intestinal and Multivisceral Organ Procurement: Techniques and Preservation Strategies
Irum Amin, MD, Cambridge, UK

Complex Indications

3:40pm- 3:55pm **Liver and Multivisceral Transplantation for Portomesenteric Thrombosis: A Different Beast!**
*Rodrigo Vianna, MD, PhD, Miami Transplant Institute
Florida, USA*

3:55pm – 4:10pm **Living Donor Intestinal Transplantation: Insights from the Largest Single-Center Cohort (China)**
Guosheng Wu, MD, Hangzhou, China

Dinner **Reception Dinner**
Hotel Hyatt Centric Murano

Sunday, May 10, 2026

8:00am – 8:10am **Organizing Committee Welcome**
*Enrico Benedetti, MD, FACS
University of Illinois at Chicago
Illinois, USA*

*Giuliano Testa, MD, MBA, FACS
Baylor University Medical Center
Texas, USA*

State of the Art Lectures
Chairs: Lorenzo Gallon, MD & Lucrezia Furian, MD

8:10am – 8:30am **The US Living Donor Experience in Transplantation from 1998 to 2025**
*Rainer W. G. Gruessner, MD, PhD, MHA, MBA State University of New York
New York, USA*

8:30am - 8:50am **Kidney Xenotransplantation**
*Robert Montgomery, MD, PhD, New York University Langone Health
New York, USA*

DONOR TALKS 1
Chairs; Lorenzo Gallon, MD & Lucrezia Furian, MD

8:50am – 9:10am **What Is New in the World of Living Donor Risk**
*Dorry Segev, MD, PhD, NYU Langone Health
New York, USA*

9:10am – 9:30am **GFR and the Future: Assessing Kidney Function in Living Donor**
*Umberto Maggiore, University of Parma
Parma, Italy*

9:30am – 9:50am **Kidney and Aging**
*Doug Vaughan, MD, Northwestern University
Illinois, USA*

9:50am – 10:10am **Impact of Kidney Transplant and Living Donor Age on Recipient Biological Age**
*Giorgia Comai, MD, PhD, University of Bologna,
Bologna, Italy*

10:10am – 10:30am

Discussion

10:30am – 10:50am

Coffee Break

DONOR TALKS 2

Chairs: Enrico Benedetti, MD, FACS & Robert Montgomery, MD

10:50am – 11:10am

Recurrent Diseases after Kidney Transplant

*Luigi Biancone, University Hospital of Torino
Torino, Italy*

11:10am – 11:30am

Non-Direct Living Donation

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

11:30am – 11:50am

Deceased Donor Initiated Chains: Long-term Results of a National Program

*Lucrezia Furian, MD, University Hospital of Padova
Padova, Italy*

11:50am – 12:10pm

**Strategies to Increase Living Donation: The Perspective of the National
Transplant Center**

*Giuseppe Feltrin, Director of the Italian UNOS
Rome, Italy*

12:10pm – 12:30pm

Discussion

12:30pm – 1:30pm

Lunch

LIVER TALKS: ONCOLOGY

Chairs: Amar Gupta, MD, FRCS(C), FACS & Ivo G. Tzvetanov, MD, FACS

1:30pm – 1:50pm

The US Progresses in LDLT for Oncology Patients

*Roberto Hernandez-Alejandro, MD, FACS, FRCSC, University of Rochester
New York, USA*

1:50pm - 2:10pm

LDLT for Intrahepatic Cholangiocellular Carcinoma

*Abhinav Humar, MD, Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute, University of
Pittsburgh
Pennsylvania, USA*

2:10pm – 2:30pm

Is It All Good? The Real Story about LT for Oncology

*Silvio Nadalin, MD, FEBS, University of Tuebingen
Tübingen, Germany*

2:30pm – 2:50pm

Do We Need LDLT for Oncology Patients?

*Shimul Shah, MD, MHCM, University of Cincinnati
Ohio, USA*

2:50pm – 3:10pm

Discussion

3:10pm – 3:30pm **Coffee Break**

3:30pm – 4:30pm **EXPERT PANEL: HEPATOLOGY OPINION**

Moderators: Testa/ Shimul Shah

Panel: Sumeet Asrani, MD, Patrizia Burra, MD, PhD & Nazia Selzner, MD, PhD

In View of the Increased Number of DCD Grafts Where Does the Preference of the Hepatologist Fall Between DCD and LD Liver Transplant?

Is It Still Correct to Assume That the Hepatology Hesitation to Offer Living Donor Liver Transplant Is Due to Donor Safety?

Is It Clinically/ Ethically Appropriate to Offer/Suggest (also) Living Donor Liver Transplant to Any Patients in Need of a Liver Transplant?

4:30pm – 5:00pm **Discussion**

5:00pm **Adjourn**

Dinner **Gala Dinner**
Hotel Monaco & Grand Canal

Monday, May 11, 2026

8:00am - 8:20am	<u>State of the Art Lecture</u> Curing Kidney Disease: from CKD to Transplant <i>Prabir Roy-Chaudhury, MD, PhD, FASN, President of the American Society of Nephrology North Carolina, USA</i>
8:20am – 8:40am	<u>IMMUNOSUPPRESSION 1</u> <i>Chairs: Enrico Benedetti, MD, FACS & Lorenzo Gallon, MD</i>
8:40am – 9:00am	Blind Men and the Elephant: The Challenge of Identifying and Validating Biomarkers of Transplantation Tolerance <i>Joseph Leventhal, MD, PhD, FACS, Northwestern University Illinois, USA</i>
9:00am – 9:20am	Noninvasive Biomarkers to Monitor Rejection and Immune Quiescence <i>Enver Akalin, MD, FAST, FASN, Montefiore-Einstein Center for Transplantation New York, USA</i>
9:20am – 9:40am	Toward Liquid Biopsy in Kidney Transplantation <i>Jamil Azzi, MD, PhD, FAST, Harvard Medical School Massachusetts, USA</i>
9:40am – 9:40am	Pre and Posttransplant Risk Assessment and IS Management <i>Massimo Mangiola, PhD, New York University New York, USA</i>
9:40am – 10:00am	Discussion
10:00am – 10:20am	Coffee Break
10:20am – 10:40am	<u>LIVER PANEL</u> <i>Chairs: Giuliano Testa MD, MBA, FACS & Silvio Nadalin, FEBS</i> Maintaining Quality in a Small-Mid Size LDLT Program <i>Nicolas Goldaracena, MD, University of Toronto Ontario, Canada</i>
10:40am – 11:00am	3-D Reconstruction in LD Hepatectomy Planning <i>Deniz Balci, MD, Bahcesehir University Istanbul, Turkey</i>
11:00am – 11:20am	The Challenges of Teaching Robotic Transplantation <i>Amar Gupta, MD, FRCS(C), FACS, Baylor University Medical Center Texas, USA</i>
11:20am – 11:40am	Technical Challenges in LDLT for Oncology Patients <i>Tarunjeet Klair, MD, UT Health San Antonio Texas, USA</i>

11:40am – 12:00pm	Discussion
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Lunch
<u>TECHNICAL TALKS</u>	
<i>Chairs: Giuliano Testa MD, MBA, FACS & Enrico Benedetti, MD, FACS</i>	
1:00pm - 1:20pm	Transvaginal Insertion of Kidney and Robotic Transplantation <i>Pranjal R. Modi, M.S, DNB, Smt. G. R. Doshi and Smt. K. M. Mehta Institute of Kidney Diseases and Research Center Gujarat, India</i>
1:20pm - 1:40pm	Robotic Right: When Possible and How <i>Mohamed Rela, MS, FRCS, DSc, Rela University Chennai, India</i>
1:40pm - 2:00pm	Robotic Left: When Possible and How <i>Dieter Bröering, MD, PhD, FEBS, FACS, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre Riyadh, Saudi Arabia</i>
2:00pm - 2:20pm	Transforming Access: Single Port Robotic Innovation in Kidney Transplantation <i>Mohamed Eltenamy, MD, Cleveland Clinic Cleveland, Ohio</i>
2.20pm – 3:20pm	PANEL ON ROBOTICS & TRANSPLANT Are There Limits to the Expansion of Robotics in Transplant <i>Chairs: Enrico Benedetti, MD, FACS & Giuliano Testa, MD, MBA, FACS</i> Panelists: <i>Abhinav Humar, MD Dieter Bröering, MD, PhD, FEBS, FACS Ivo G. Tzvetanov, MD, FACS Mohamed Rela, MS, FRCS, DSc Silvio Nadalin, MD, FEBS</i>
3:20pm – 3:40pm	Coffee Break
<u>IMMUNOSUPPRESSION 2</u>	
<i>Chairs: Lloyd Ratner, MD, MPH, FACS, FICS(Hon) & Lucrezia Furian, MD</i>	
3:40pm – 4:00pm	Desensitization with BiTEs (bi-specific T-cell engagers) <i>Rainer Oberbauer, MD, PhD, Medical University of Vienna Vienna, Austria</i>
4:00pm – 4:20pm	Novel Anti-Plasma Cells Antibodies for Desensitization <i>Flavio Vincenti, MD, University of California San Francisco California, USA</i>

4:20pm – 4:40pm	Mechanistic Strategies to Overcome B-cell Alloimmunity in Highly Sensitized Kidney Transplant Candidates <i>Kevin Israel Matamoros Alcivar, Cleveland Clinic Ohio, USA</i>
4:40pm – 5:00pm	5-year Outcomes of the Phase 3 Study of Tolerance Induction in HLA-Matched Kidney Transplant Recipients <i>Dixon Kaufman, MD, PhD, FACS, University of Wisconsin-Madison Wisconsin, USA</i>
5:00pm – 5:20pm	ABOi Landscape and Looking for an Efficient Therapy Approach <i>Ignacio Revuelta, MD, Hospital Clinic de Barcelona Barcelona, Spain</i>
5:20pm – 5:40pm	Discussion
5:40pm	Adjourn
Dinner	<u>Cocktail Dinner</u> <i>The Glass Cathedral</i>