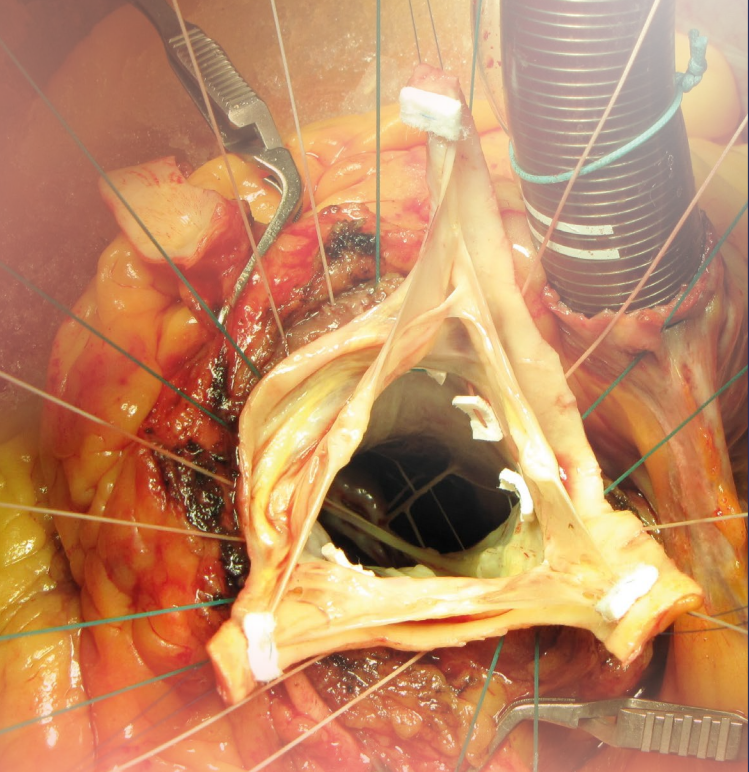




24th – 25th September 2026

Ross and Root 2026

The Aortic Root Symposium

An interdisciplinary forum focused on contemporary surgical strategies for diseases of the aortic valve, aortic root, and ascending aorta.

herzchirurgie.meduniwien.ac.at/ross-root

DEPARTMENT OF CARDIAC AND THORACIC AORTIC SURGERY



Dear Colleagues,

It is our pleasure to invite you to the 2026 Meeting on Ross and Root Surgery, a two-day interdisciplinary course on contemporary management of diseases affecting the aortic valve, aortic root, and ascending thoracic aorta.

International experts in cardiac surgery, cardiology, cardiovascular imaging, and cardiac anesthesia will lead state-of-the-art lectures, case-based discussions, and focused technical sessions. Topics will include aortic valve repair and reconstruction, valve-sparing root replacement using the David procedure, the Ross operation, composite root replacement, ascending aortic and arch surgery, and Personalized External Aortic Root Support (PEARS). The program will also address patient selection, advanced imaging, lifetime management strategies, shared decision-making, and individualized treatment.

Day two will feature an extensive hands-on wet lab, allowing participants to practice aortic valve repair, valve-sparing root replacement, and the Ross procedure under expert guidance.

We welcome established surgeons and trainees to exchange experience, refine technical skills, and help advance the future of aortic surgery.

We look forward to welcoming you to this highly interactive meeting.

Scientific Committee
Marek Ehrlich, Alfred Kocher, Julia Dumfarth, Paul Werner, Daniel Zimpfer
Department of Cardiac and Thoracic Aortic Surgery, MedUni Vienna/University Hospital Vienna

Thursday, 24th September 2026

Hotel Regina, Rooseveltplatz 15, 1090 Vienna

8.45 – 9.00 am

Welcome and Registration

Daniel Zimpfer, Bruno Podesser

9.00 – 10.45 am

Session 1

Aortic Root: Indications and Imaging

Panel: Daniel Zimpfer, Raphael Rosenhek, Malakh Shrestha

Aortic Root Disease in Practice:

The Echocardiographic Perspective

Raphael Rosenhek

Multimodality Imaging before Aortic Root

Surgery: The Role of CTA and MRI

Dietrich Beitzke

The Aortic Root Revisited:

What's New in the Guidelines?

Julia Dumfarth

Intraoperative Imaging in Aortic Root Disease

Eva Base

10.45 – 11.15 am

Coffee Break

11.15 am – 1.00 pm

Session 2

Aortic Valve Reconstruction

Panel: Marek Ehrlich, Julia Dumfarth, Edda Tschernko

The David Procedure in Focus:

A Universal Solution?

Julia Dumfarth

Live-in-a-Box: Tirone David Procedure

Malakh Shrestha

Tailored Repair Strategies:

When Root Replacement is not required

(incl. Live-in-a-Box)

Laurent De Kerchove

When Repair Reaches its Limits: The Modified Bentall Procedure as a Standard Solution

Marek Ehrlich

1.00 – 2.00 pm

Lunch Break

2.00 – 3.30 pm

Session 3

The Ross Procedure

Panel: Stephan Ensminger, Alfred Kocher, Peter Murin

The Ross Procedure: Long-Term Results and

Contemporary Perspectives

Paul Werner

Live-in-a-Box: Classic Ross Procedure

Ismail El-Hamamsy

Protecting the Autograft: Reinforcement and PEARS

Techniques in Practice and Live-in-a-box:

Ross-PEARS Procedure

Alfred Kocher

The Ross Procedure in Congenital Heart Disease: Indications and Outcomes

Peter Murin

3.30 – 4.00 pm

Coffee Break

4.00 – 5.30 pm
Session 4
After the Index Procedure: Follow-Up, Reintervention and Alternate Options for the Root
Panel: Iuliana Coti, Lore Schrutka, Paul Werner

After the Surgery: Optimizing Outcomes Following Aortic Root Interventions
Sabine Greil, Lore Schrutka

Reinterventions after Ross: Preserving the Autograft
Daniel Zimpfer

Managing the RVPa Conduit after the Ross
Matthias Beichl, Erhan Urganci

Modern Prosthetic Valve Replacement: Choosing between Surgery and Transcatheter Approaches
Iuliana Coti

The Alfred Kocher Technique – Our Default Approach for the Small Aortic Root (Incl. Live-in-a-Box)
Alfred Kocher

5.30 pm
Wrap-Up and Adjourn

Friday, 25th September 2026
Center for Biomedical Research and Translational Surgery, Spitalgasse 23, 1090 Vienna

8.45 – 9.00 am
Welcome
Bruno Podesser

9.00 am – 12.00 pm
Wetlabs (Rotations)

Alfred Kocher Root Workshop
Alfred Kocher, Iuliana Coti, Severin Längle

Ross Procedure Workshop
Peter Murin, Paul Werner

Classic Root Enlargement Workshop
Rainald Seitelberger, Bruno Podesser

David Procedure Workshop
Julia Dumfarth, Alexandra Andreeva

12.00 pm
Closing and Adjourn

Speaker

Alexandra Andreeva*

Eva Base, Department of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine, MedUni Vienna/ University Hospital Vienna

Matthias Beichl, Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, MedUni Vienna/University Hospital Vienna

Dietrich Beitzke, Department of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology, MedUni Vienna/University Hospital Vienna

Iuliana Coti*

Laurent De Kerchove, Department of Cardiac Surgery, Université catholique de Louvain

Julia Dumfarth*

Marek Ehrlich*

Ismail El-Hamamsy, Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Stephan Ensminger, Department of Cardiac and Thoracic Vascular Surgery, Medical University Lübeck

Sabine Greil, Department of Pediatric Cardiology, MedUni Vienna/University Hospital Vienna

Alfred Kocher*

Severin Längle*

Peter Murin*

Bruno Podesser, Center for Biomedical Research and Translational Surgery, MedUni Vienna

Raphael Rosenhek, Department of Cardiology, Rudolfinerhaus Vienna

Lore Schrutka, Department of Medicine II, MedUni Vienna/University Hospital Vienna

Rainald Seitelberger, Center for Biomedical Research and Translational Surgery, MedUni Vienna

Malakh Shrestha, Department of Cardiac Surgery, Medical University Lausitz

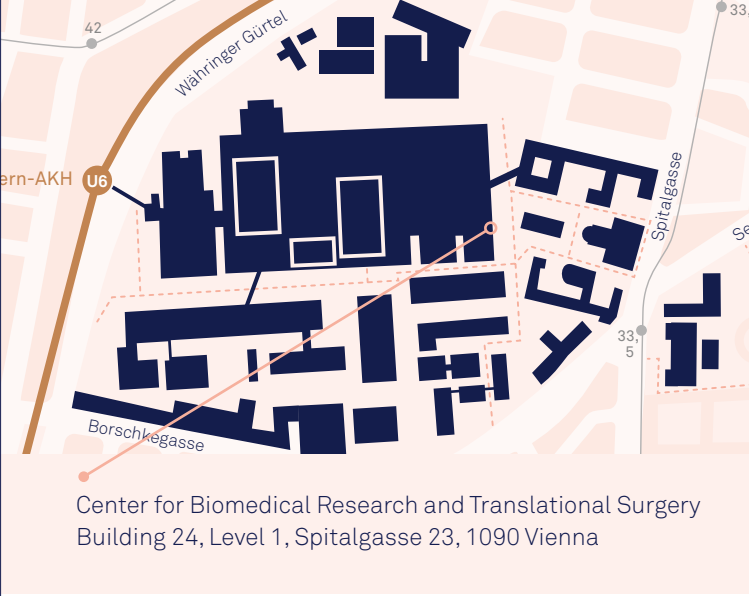
Erhan Urganci*

Paul Werner*

Daniel Zimpfer*

* Department of Cardiac and Thoracic Aortic Surgery, MedUni Vienna/University Hospital Vienna

In cooperation
• Department of Cardiac and Thoracic Aortic Surgery, MedUni Vienna/University Hospital Vienna
• Center for Biomedical Research and Translational Surgery, MedUni Vienna



Registration:
events-herzchirurgie@meduniwien.ac.at



The symposium will take place on 24th of September 2026 at Hotel Regina, Rooseveltplatz 15, 1090 Vienna.

The Wetlab-Course on 25th of September 2026, will be held at the Center for Biomedical Research and Translational Surgery at MedUni Vienna, AKH-Building 24, next to CeMM (Research Center for Molecular Medicine) Währinger Gürtel 18-20, 1090 Vienna

The course fee for the Wetlab-Course amount to 200 Euro and is due upon participant registration.

Please find the exact bank details for your registration:
IBAN: AT362011140410070700
BIC: GIBAATWW
Payment reference: K073200003 and your name