

HEREDITARY CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

Course Directors:
Ruxandra Jurcut
Elena Arbelo
Iacopo Olivetto

March 20-21, 2026
Bucharest



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

HEREDITARY CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

*Course organized by the Romanian Society of Cardiology
Endorsed by the European Reference Network GUARD-Heart*

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Friday, March 20th 2026

Welcome and Introduction

09:15 – 10:30 Session 1 – Genetic testing in cardiology

Chairpersons: Connie Bezzina (Netherlands), Adela Chirita Emandi (Romania)

- ✚ Do all cardiomyopathy genes have the same importance? – [Tina Hellio](#) (Finland)
- ✚ What genes to test after a sudden cardiac death event – [Eric Schulze-Bahr](#) (Germany)
- ✚ What are the polygenic risk scores and how to use them? – [Connie Bezzina](#) (Netherlands)
- ✚ Gene panels, WES or WGS? How do they compare? – [Adela Chirita Emandi](#) (Romania)
- ✚ Discussions

10:30 – 11:45 Session 2 - Dilated and non-dilated LV cardiomyopathy

Chairpersons: Philippe Charron (France), Ruxandra Jurcut (Romania)

- ✚ Case presentation – [Laura Antohi](#) (Romania)
- ✚ “The good” – Titin cardiomyopathy – [Ruxandra Jurcut](#) (Romania)
- ✚ “The bad” – Lamin A/C cardiomyopathy under focus – [Philippe Charron](#) (France)
- ✚ “The rare” – BAG3, RBM20 - [Juan Pablo Kaski](#) (UK)
- ✚ Arrhythmic risk stratification in DCM/NDLVC – how to incorporate imaging and genetics – [Fernando Dominguez](#) (Spain)
- ✚ Discussions

11:45 – 12:00 Coffee break

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12:00 – 13:30 Session 3 – Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

Chairpersons: Bogdan A. Popescu (Romania), Iacopo Olivotto (Italy)

- ✚ How to choose and perform imaging in HCM – [Bogdan A. Popescu](#) (Romania)
- ✚ Therapeutic choices in HOCM - how to choose? – [Iacopo Olivotto](#) (Italy)
- ✚ Arrhythmic risk stratification - any news? – [Juan Ramon Gimeno](#) (Spain)
- ✚ Genetics and HCM management – [Amin Ahmad](#) (Netherlands)
- ✚ Registries in HCM – what is the added value? – [Michelle Michels](#) (Netherlands)
- ✚ Discussions

13:30 – 14:30 *Lunch*

14:30 – 15:45 Session 4 – Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy

Chairpersons: Philippe Chevalier (France), Alex Protonotarios (UK)

- ✚ Case presentation – [Alexandra Apostu](#) (Romania)
- ✚ Multimodality imaging for ARVC – [JF Rodriguez Palomares](#) (Spain)
- ✚ ARVC risk evaluation – [Philippe Chevalier](#) (France)
- ✚ Is DSP cardiomyopathy a specific entity? – [Alex Protonotarios](#) (UK)
- ✚ Discussions

15:45 – 16:15 Keynote lecture

Chairpersons: Elena Arbelo, Jacob Tfelt-Hansen

How to approach the survivors of SCD and their families – [Arthur Wilde](#) (Netherlands)

16:15 – 16:45 *Coffee break*

16:45 – 17:45 Session 1 – Cardiomyopathies you should know

Chairpersons: Giuseppe Limongelli (Italy), Sebastian Militaru (Romania)

- ✚ Noonan syndrome and other RASopathies – [Giuseppe Limongelli](#) (Italy)
- ✚ Danon cardiomyopathy – [Alessia Argiro](#) (Italy)
- ✚ Cardiac amyloidosis – [Gabriela Neculae](#) (Romania)
- ✚ Fabry cardiomyopathy – [Sebastian Militaru](#) (Romania)
- ✚ Discussions

17:45 – 18:30 Best clinical case in cardiomyopathies (5 best abstracts)

18:30 – 19:15 Best clinical case in Channelopathies & SCD (5 best abstracts)

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Saturday, March 21st 2026

09:00 – 10:15 Session 1 – Channelopathies

Chairpersons: Georgia Sarquella-Brugada (Spain), Radu Vatesescu (Romania)

- ✚ Long QT syndrome: what's new in risk stratification and therapy? — [Lia Crotti](#) (Italy)
- ✚ Beyond Type 1: Dynamic Phenotyping and Actionable Endpoints in Brugada — [Elena Arbelo](#) (Spain)
- ✚ The CPVTs We Miss — CASQ2, CALM1-3, TRDN, TECRL — [Vincent Probst](#) (France)
- ✚ Beyond the Usual Suspects — A clinician's guide to ultrarare arrhythmia syndromes — [Georgia Sarquella-Brugada](#) (Spain)

10:10 – 10:30 *Coffee break*

10:30 – 12:00 Session 2 – Sudden cardiac death in the young

Chairpersons: Jacob Tfelt-Hansen, Arthur Wilde

- ✚ Case presentation — [Mihnea Casian](#) (Romania)
- ✚ Is this an important topic? Epidemiologic overview - [Radu Vatesescu](#) (Romania)
- ✚ Pathology in SCD in the young — [Cristina Basso](#) (Italy)
- ✚ Molecular autopsy – when is it needed? – [Jacob Tfelt-Hansen](#) (Denmark)
- ✚ Finding a RyR2 variant in an (aborted) OHCA victim. What next? – [Arthur Wilde](#) (Netherlands)
- ✚ Discussion

12:00 – 12:30 Keynote lecture

Chairpersons: Alexandros Protonotarios, Iacopo Olivetto

Naxos disease – 40 years after – [Adalena Tsatsopoulou](#) (Greece)

12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch*

13:30 – 14:30 Hot topics in cardiogenetics

Chairpersons: Juan Ramon Gimeno, Alida Caforio

- ✚ Artificial intelligence for cardiomyopathies diagnosis — [Theo Pezel](#) (France)
- ✚ Transition of care in cardiogenetics — [Georgia Brugada](#) (Spain)
- ✚ Why are registries important — [Alida Caforio](#) (Italy)
- ✚ Patients associations – essential for care – [Ruth Biller](#) (Germany)

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14:30 – 15:15 Reference networks for cardiac genetic diseases

Chairpersons: Amin Ahmad, Elena Arbelo

- ✚ The Romanian national network for genetic cardiac diseases – a 10 years journey – **Ruxandra Jurcut** (Romania)
- ✚ Why are European Reference Networks important? – **Amin Ahmad** (Netherlands)

15:15 – 15:45 *Coffee break*

15:45 – 16:30 Familial hypercholesterolemia

Chairpersons: Adina Ionac, Ana Maria Balahura

- ✚ How to diagnose: from scores to genes – **Robert Adam** (Romania)
- ✚ How to treat: should we go beyond statins? – **Ana Maria Balahura** (Romania)

16:30 – 17:45 Difficult cases in inherited cardiac conditions

Chairpersons: Eliza Cinteza, Sebastian Onciul

Panel: Robert Sepp, Raluca Tomoaia, Sebastian Onciul, Dimitra Antonakaki, Ioana Sus, Cristina Radulescu, Cristiana Voicu

17:45 – 18:00 Closing remarks (Ruxandra Jurcut, Elena Arbelo, Iacopo Olivotto)