

# HEREDITARY CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

Course Directors:  
**Ruxandra Jurcut**  
**Elena Arbelo**  
**Iacopo Olivotto**

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*

**March 20-21, 2026**

**Course directors: Ruxandra Jurcut, Elena Arbelo, Iacopo Olivotto**

**Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2026**

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#### 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:** Alexandros Protonotarios, Iacopo Olivotto

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

## 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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## 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: Elena Arbelo, Jacob Tfelt-Hansen**

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

## 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)

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- ✚ Patients associations – essential for care – [Ruth Biller](#) (Germany)

**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](#))