

Hybrid Ablation

1. Course Factsheet

Course title	Hybrid Ablation – The Importance of a Heart Team Collaboration in Treating Complex Arrhythmias & LAAM		
Academic Institution	ERIS Institute	Partner company	TBC
Dates	15 – 17 September 2026	Duration	20 hours (In 3 days)
Venue / Modality	Brussels (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)		
Course directors	Carlo de Asmundis, Mark La Meir, Serge Boveda		
Overall learning goals			
• Understand the heart-team rationale for complex AF. • Master epicardial–endocardial hybrid workflows and LAA management tools. • Practice LAA occlusion and ablation techniques on simulators and observe live procedures. • Return ready to launch a hybrid AF/LAAM program at one’s own center.			
Certified competencies			
• Case selection, convergent workflow, epicardial access, ablation & LAA closure, complication prevention and management.			
Material provided			
• Digital manual, • OR checklist, • Access to ERIS INSTITUTE Academy			
Assessment			
• Pre assessment theory (Day 1) • Pre assessment selected procedure on simulator (Day 1) • Final assessment theory (end of Day 3) • Final assessment selected procedure on simulator (end of Day 2)			
Credits / certificate	ERIS Institute		
Faculties (6 Faculties in total, 3 Surgeons, 3 EP)	VUB/UZ Brussel Faculty: Mark La Meir, Carlo de Asmundis, Domenico Della Rocca, Luigi Pannone, Ivan Eltsov External: Filip Rega (UZ Leuven, BE), Serge Boveda (Clinique Pasteur Toulouse, FR), Claudio Capelli (UCL, London, UK).		
Course coordination	Email: ivan.eltsov@vub.be		

2. Detailed Programme

Mandatory pre-learning materials

- STS Guidelines Surgical AF
- 2024 ESC and EACTS Guidelines AF
- EJCTS 2013 Anatomical basis of hybrid mini-invasive AF ablation
- JACC 2012 Hybrid VATS AF ablation
- Europace 2023 Hybrid AF 10 years outcome
- Clamping vs non clampig box lesion
- Convergent procedure
- Hybrid AF contemporary overview
- LARIAT
- 2023 3D Mapping challenges in hybrid VATS ablation
- ABC Technique

Day 1 – Theory & Technology Basics.

Time	Session	Speaker
13:00-13:30	Introduction and pre-evaluation	Carlo de Asmundis, Mark La Meir, Serge Boveda
13:30 – 14:00	Rational, surgical/EP journey and Guidelines	Serge Boveda
14:00 – 14:30	Endo-Epi Dissociation, Anatomy (LOM, landmarks)	Filip Rega
14:30-14:45	BREAK	
15:00 – 15:30	Surgical access and ablations Tools	Mark La Meir
15:30 – 16:00	Workflow Hybrid AF ablation	Mark La Meir
16:00-16:15	BREAK	
16:15-18:00 Room 1	Group CS: Simulation session for surgeons (ABC + LAA Clip). Pre assessment	Filip Rega, Mark La Meir, Ivan Eltsov
16:15-18:00 Room 2	Group EP: Session A: Live AF case in EP-lab (stream with commentary)	Carlo de Asmundis, Serge Boveda, Domenico Della Rocca

Day 2 – Supervised Simulation (on-site, rotating groups)

The nine participants will be split into three groups. Each group spends 60 minutes at a station/Stream session, rotates, and repeats until all have completed every activity. The day will be split in two sections:

Morning: Presentations , Live cases and Virtual Reality sessions.

8:30 – 9:00	Mechanisms of Complex AF	Carlo de Asmundis
9:00 – 9:30	LAA Management and Lariat	Domenico Della Rocca
9:30 – 10:00	3D mapping and PFA systems	Ivan Eltsov
10:00-11:00	Convergent and TT-ABC live-case introduction (pre recorded case) left vs right	Mark La Meir
11:00-11:15	BREAK	
11:15-12:15	Virtual Reality Session	Claudio Capelli
12:15 – 12:30	Debrief from Morning sessions	Panel
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	

Afternoon: Simulation stations with the three groups rotation.

- Station A: ABC simulator (epicardial) – Mark La Meir, Carlo de Asmundis
 - Station B: Convergent & LAA Clip (Final **Assessment**) –Ivan Eltsov, Serge Boveda
 - Station C: Lariat Simulator, LAA VR – Claudio Capelli, Domenico Della Rocca.
- Fixed faculties: Mark La Meir, Claudio Capelli, Ivan Eltsov
 Rotating faculties – Carlo de Asmundis, Domenico Della Rocca, Serge Boveda.

Time	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Faculty lead
13:30 – 14:00	Introduction to simulation			Panel
14:00 – 15:00	Station A	Station B	Station C	Faculty rotation
15:00 – 16:00	Station B	Station C	Station A	Faculty rotation

16:00 – 17:00	Station C	Station A	Station B	Faculty rotation
17:00 - 17:30	Simulation based training and PBP			Anthony Gallagher
17:30 – 18:00	Consolidation & debrief			Panel

Day 3 – Clinical Immersion: real-life conditions & live cases observation

Participants divided in two groups (one group of 5 and one group of 4). For each of the two patients, one group attends the procedure in the Lab, while the other group observe in the retransmission room with live faculty commentary and interaction. Groups rotate so everyone experiences at least one case in the lab.

Operators: Mark La Meir, Carlo de Asmundis, Luigi Pannone/Domenico Della Rocca

Faculty Retransmission Room: Ivan Eltsov, Serge Boveda

Time	Group 1 (5)	Group 2 (4)	Faculties
08:00 – 8:30	Case introduction – Hybrid AF + clip		Mark La Meir, Luigi Pannone, Domenico Della Rocca
10:00 – 12:00	Live Case 1	Retransmission room	Operators + Faculty commentary
12:00 – 13:00	Complication management Talk		Panel
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK		
14:00 – 16:00	Retransmission room	Live Case 2	Operators + Faculty commentary
16:15 – 17:00	Debrief of both cases		Panel
17:00 – 18:00	Evaluation and closure		Panel