

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	05 May – 07 May 2026	Duration	20 hours (In 3 days)
Venue / Modality	Brussels (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)		
Course directors	Carlo de Asmundis, José Guerra, Serge Boveda		
Overall learning goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the heart-team rationale for complex AF. • Master epicardial–endocardial hybrid workflows and LAA management tools. • Practice techniques on simulators and observe live procedures. • Return ready to launch a hybrid AF/LAAM program at one’s own center. 		
Certified competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case selection, convergent workflow, epicardial access, ablation & LAA closure, complication prevention and management. 		
Material provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital manual, • OR checklist, • Access to ERIS INSTITUTE Academy 		
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily quiz • Final practical exam (certification model TBD) 		
Credits / certificate	ERIS Institute		
Faculties (6 Faculties in total, 3 Surgeons, 3 EP)	<p>VUB Faculty: Mark La Meir, Carlo de Asmundis, Alexandre Almorad, Domenico Della Rocca, Luigi Pannone, Ivan Eltsov</p> <p>External: Bart Van Putte (TBC)</p> <p>External NON BE: Serge Boveda, Andrew Cook.</p>		
Course coordination	Email: ivan.eltsov@vub.be		

2. Detailed Programme

Mandatory e-learning (before the in-person Course) TBD

All modules (TBD) before logging in to the live Day 1 session.

Day 1 – Theory & Technology Basics

Time	Session	Speaker
14:00 – 14:30	Rational, surgical/EP journey and Guidelines	Serge Boveda
14:30 – 15:00	Epicardial /Endocardial Dissociation: Anatomy (LOM, pericaridal reflections), disease progression.	Bart Van Putte
15:00 – 15:30	Mechanisms of Complex AF	Carlo de Asmundis
15:30 – 16:00	LAA Management and Lariat	Domenico Della Rocca
BREAK		
16:15 – 16:45	Surgical access and ablations Tools	Mark La Meir
16:45 – 17:15	3D mapping and PFA systems	Ivan Eltsov
17:15 – 17:45	Workflow convergent AF ablation	Mark La Meir

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: Live cases sessions commentary and Virtual Reality sessions.

- Session A: Live AF case in EP-lab (stream with commentary)
- Session B: Convergent and TT-ABC live-case introduction (pre recorded case) left vs right
- Session C: Virtual Reality Session

Afternoon: Simulation stations with the same three groups rotation.



- Station A: ABC simulator (epicardial) – Bart Van Putte, Carlo de Asmundis/Serge Boveda
- Station B: Convergent & LAA Clip simulator – Mark La Meir, Ivan Eltsov/Alexandre Almorad
- Station C: Lariat Simulator – Andrew Cook, Domenico Della Rocca/Ines Van Loo.
 Fixed faculties: Mark La Meir, Andrew Cook,
 Rotating faculties– Ivan Eltsov, Carlo de Asmundis, Alexandre Almorad, Domenico Della Rocca, Serge Boveda.

Time	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Faculty lead
09:00 – 10:15	Station A	Station B	Station C	Faculty rotation
10:15– 11:15	Station B	Station C	Station A	Faculty rotation
11:30 – 12:30	Station C	Station A	Station B	Faculty rotation
12:30 – 13:00	Debrief from Morning sessions			Panel
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK			
14:00 – 15:00	Station A	Station B	Station C	Faculty rotation
15:15 – 16:15	Station B	Station C	Station A	Faculty rotation
16:30 – 17:30	Station C	Station A	Station B	Faculty rotation
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 (Optional)

Faculty Retransmission Room: Alexandre Almorad, Ivan Eltsov, Serge Boveda



Time	Group 1 (5)	Group 2 (4)	Faculties
09:00 – 10:00	Case introduction – Hybrid AF + clip		Alexandre Almorad/Luigi Pannone
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

3. Participants

Total: 9 (3 groups of 3)

Selection: CV submission and final validation by the ERIS Board

Requirements

Experienced Fellow Surgeons need to have experience VATS - video assisted thoracoscopy & EP (Surgeons: ≥ 20 VATS cases · EPs: ≥ 50 complex AF ablations). Familiar with electro-anatomical mapping systems. Commitment to start a hybrid AF/LAAM service within two months.