



8TH NORTH AMERICAN

Aortic Valve Repair Symposium

September 18-19, 2026

A CME-accredited
Activity

THE WESTIN PHILADELPHIA



NORTH AMERICAN

AORTIC VALVE
REPAIR SYMPOSIUM

#AVRS2026



NORTH AMERICAN

AORTIC VALVE REPAIR SYMPOSIUM LLC

We are pleased to announce the 8th North American Aortic Valve Repair Symposium (AVRS) on Friday and Saturday, September 18-19, 2026, at The Westin Philadelphia, 99 South 17th Street at Liberty Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, just steps from beautiful Rittenhouse Square.

As an exhibitor, you will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with many physicians and providers in an informal setting. This high-level, engaging symposium is designed to meet the educational needs of cardiac surgeons, cardiac anesthesiologists, cardiologists, perfusionists, residents, fellows, advanced practice providers, nurses, and other members of the care team interested in aortic valve repair. Anticipated attendance is 200-250 learners and faculty. Time has been allotted throughout the two-day program for attendees to visit the exhibit hall, where all buffet meals and breaks are served. In compliance with ACCME guidelines, all exhibits will be located separately from the educational activity. All companies are invited to exhibit at our course; however, space is limited and cannot be reserved without a completed Exhibitor Agreement.

Exhibit Opportunities Include:

\$20,000 – Platinum Exhibit

- (8) AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Badges (Both Days)
- Premier Placement of Exhibit
- (2) Draped 6-foot tables
- Recognition of your company support in AVRS Promotional E-blasts
- Recognition of your company support on housekeeping slides displayed before, and during breaks from the educational program
- Premier Placement of Company Logo on AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Signage
- Verbal recognition of your support before the start of the educational program



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AORTIC VALVE REPAIR SYMPOSIUM LLC

\$15,000 – Gold Exhibit

- (6) AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Badges (Both Days)
- Preferred placement of Exhibit
- (2) Draped 6-foot tables
- Recognition of your company support in AVRS Promotional E-blasts
- Recognition of your company support on housekeeping slides displayed before and during breaks from the educational program
- Special Placement of Company Logo on AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Signage
- Verbal recognition of your support before the start of the educational program
- Company Logo on AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Signage

\$10,000 – Silver Exhibit

- (4) AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Badges (Both Days)
- Draped 6-foot table
- Recognition of your company support in AVRS Promotional E-blasts
- Recognition of your company support on housekeeping slides displayed prior to, and during breaks from the educational program
- Company Logo on AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Signage



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AORTIC VALVE REPAIR SYMPOSIUM LLC

\$5,000 Bronze Exhibit

- (2) AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Badges (Both Days)
- Draped 6-foot table
- Recognition of your company support in AVRS Promotional E-blast
- Recognition of your company support on housekeeping slides displayed before, and during breaks from the educational program
- Company Name on AVRS 2026 Exhibitor Signage

Several custom add-on packages (e.g., cell charging station, satellite symposia, attendee lounge, meal/break functions) are also available with exhibitor packages at the Gold level and above. Please contact us for more details.

Payment is due by August 15, 2026. *If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Catherine Mikelson at cat@gemsphilly.com or by phone at 610-202-2813.*

We appreciate your support of this important educational initiative.



Secure Your Exhibit Space Today!

Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your organization to an engaged audience. **Space is limited**, so reserve your spot now by completing the registration form.

What's Included in This Packet

- Course Agenda
- Exhibitor Agreement and Registration Form
- IRS W-9 Form (for seamless payment processing)

Important Logistics to Note

- **Electricity & Shipping:** Please be aware that exhibit tables do **not** include electrical power support or shipping fees.
- **Need Power?** If you require electricity, contact us via email. We will gladly connect you with our hotel contact to ensure your needs are met.

How to Register –

- Please complete and return your **Exhibitor Agreement** to cat@gemsphilly.com to lock in your space. Exhibit staff must register individually by clicking on this link:

<https://aovalverepair.wufoo.com/forms/m18nmt90t4tyxn/>

Payment Options

- **ACH (Preferred):** If your organization requires specific documentation to process an ACH payment, please forward it along with your Exhibitor Application.
- **Credit Card:** Card payments are available; please contact us for more information.
- **Check:** If paying by check is necessary, please make it payable to **Global Events and Management Services, LLC**, and mail it to the attention of Catherine Mikelson at the following address:

1805 Walnut St, Ph,
Philadelphia, PA 19103



Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education

1. Exhibitor agrees to abide by ACCME Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education (Standard 5) as stated at www.accme.org.
2. Exhibitor may distribute promotional materials at their exhibit space only. Distribution of pharmaceuticals or other samples is prohibited.
3. All commercial support associated with the activity will be given with the full knowledge of the provider. No additional payments, goods, services or events will be provided to the course directors, planning committee members, faculty, joint sponsor, or any other party involved with the activity.
4. Completion of this agreement represents a commitment and payment is due and collectible by the activity date unless otherwise agreed upon by the provider. Provider reserves the right to refuse exhibit space to exhibitor in the event of nonpayment or Code of Conduct violation.
5. Provider agrees to provide exhibit space and may acknowledge exhibitor in activity announcements.
6. Provider reserves the right to assign exhibit space or relocate exhibits at its discretion. The exhibitor and the provider agree to abide by all requirements of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education Standards for Commercial Support of Continuing Medical Education.
7. No refunds will be issued for cancellations.



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AORTIC VALVE REPAIR SYMPOSIUM^{LLC}

Exhibitor Registration Form

Activity Title	8th North American Aortic Valve Repair Symposium
Location	The Westin Philadelphia 99 S. 17 th St at Liberty Place Philadelphia, PA 19103
Dates	September 18-19, 2026
Company Name (Exhibitor)(as it should appear on printed materials)	
Exhibit Levels – Please select	
• Platinum (\$20,000) • Gold (\$15,000) • Silver (\$10,000) • Bronze (\$5,000)	
Lead Company Contact Person:	
Name:	
Email:	
Phone:	
All exhibitor staff must register through a link that will be included in your exhibitor confirmation letter	

The person signing below has read the “*Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education*” guidelines below and is authorized to enter into this agreement:

Exhibitor Representative Name	Signature	Date
AVRS Representative Name	Signature	Date

6:30 – 7:30 AM

REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

7:30 – 7:45 AM

Opening Remarks

Joseph Bavaria, MD • Munir Boodhwani, MD • Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD

SESSION I

The Aortic Root and Valve: Fundamentals

MODERATORS: Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD • Munir Boodhwani, MD

8:00 – 8:10 AM

Anatomy of the Aortic Valve and Implications for Repair and Ross

Ming Guo, MD

8:10 – 8:20 AM

When to Operate on the Proximal Aorta for TAV and BAV

Karen Kim, MD

8:20 – 8:35 AM

CARDIOLOGY KEYNOTE LECTURE

Pre-operative Evaluation of Regurgitant Aortic Valve: When to Offer Surgery

Juan Carlos Plana, MD

8:35 – 8:50 AM

Intraoperative TEE assessment of the Aortic Valve and Root for Aortic Valve Repair and Ross

Adam Dryden, MD

Technical Mini Symposium and Panel

MODERATORS: Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD • Munir Boodhwani, MD

8:50 – 9:00 AM

Fundamentals of the 3-cusp Root Reimplantation Procedure: Step by Step

Edward Chen, MD

9:00 – 9:10 AM

Fundamentals of the Root Remodeling + External Annuloplasty Procedure

Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD

9:10 – 9:20 AM

Cusp Repair in Three Cusp Aortic Valves

Pouya Youssefi, MBBS, FRCS, PhD

9:20 – 9:30 AM

Cusp Repair Techniques in BAV 1.0

Munir Boodhwani, MD

9:30 – 9:40 AM

Isolated AV Repair without Root Dilation: External Annuloplasty and Cusp Repair

Prashanth Vallabhajosyula, MD

9:40 – 10:00 AM

Discussion Panel

Moderator: Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD

Panel: Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD • Pouya Youssefi, MBBS, FRCS, PhD

Munir Boodhwani, MD • Prashanth Vallabhajosyula, MD • Edward Chen, MD

10:00 – 10:25 AM

BREAK AND VISIT WITH INDUSTRY



SESSION II

Techniques for Reconstruction of the Aortic Root

MODERATORS: Edward Chen, MD • Michael Chu, MSc

- 10:25 – 10:33 AM** **How and Why I Use a Straight Graft for Implantation**
Jennifer Chung, MD, PhD
- 10:33 – 10:41 AM** **How and Why I Use a Valsalva Graft for Reimplantation**
Joel Price, MD
- 10:41 – 10:49 AM** **How and Why I Create Neo-Sinuses for Reimplantation (Stanford Approach)**
Chris Malaisrie, MD
- 10:49 – 10:55 AM** **Panel Discussion**
MODERATORS: Edward Chen, MD • Michael Chu, MSc
PANELISTS: Jennifer Chung, MD, PhD • Joel Price, MD • Chris Malaisrie, MD
- 10:55 – 12:00 PM** **TO THE OPERATING ROOM – ROUND 1: LIVE IN BOX**
Valve Assessment and Decision Making
MODERATORS: Joseph Bavaria, MD • Munir Boodhwani, MD
TECHNICAL MODERATOR: John Kelly, MD
PANELISTS: Ruggero DePaulis, MD • Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD • Maral Ouzounian, MD, PhD
Laurent DeKerchove, MD, PhD • Edward Chen, MD • Christopher Malaisrie, MD
Adam Dryden, MD
- 12:00 – 12:25 PM** **Abstract and Techniques Session I**
MODERATORS: Prashanth Vallabhajosyula, MD • Michael Chu, MD • Edward Chen, MD
- 12:25 – 12:30 PM** **Introduction of Keynote Speaker**
Joseph Bavaria, MD
- 12:30 – 12:55 PM** **KEYNOTE LECTURE**
Aortic Valve Preservation and Repair: The Past and The Future
Ruggero DePaulis, MD
- 12:55 – 1:00 PM** **Moderated Q & A with Keynote Speaker**
- 1:00 – 1:30 PM** **LUNCH, NETWORKING AND VISIT EXHIBITS**

SESSION III

New Frontiers in AV Repair and Root Surgery

MODERATORS: Prashanth Vallabhajosyula, MD • Karen Kim, MD

- 1:30 – 2:00 PM** Abstract and Techniques Session II – 4 abstracts
- 2:00 – 2:10 PM** Fate of the Distal Aorta Following Root Repair in Marfan Syndrome
Christopher Burke, MD
- 2:10 – 2:20 PM** Cardiac MRI for Assessment and Decision Making in AR: When and Why?
Andrew Peters, MD
- 2:20 – 2:30 PM** Managing the Aortic Valve in Moderately Dilated Aorta: Lessons from TITAN: SvS
Jehangir Appoo, MD
- 2:30 – 2:40 PM** AV Repair/VSRR in Type A Dissection – How I Do It and Results
Bradley Leshnower, MD
- 2:40 – 3:10 PM** **PANEL DISCUSSION**
MODERATORS Prashanth Vallabhajosyula, MD • Karen Kim, MD
PANELISTS: Christopher Burke, MD • Andrew Peters, MD
Jehangir Appoo, MD • Brad Leshnower, MD
- 3:10 – 3:30 PM** BREAK

SESSION IV

Ross Masterclass

MODERATORS: Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD • Christopher Burke, MD

- 3:30 – 3:40 PM** **Expanded Criteria for the Ross: How to Think About It**
Christopher Burke, MD
- 3:40 – 3:50 PM** **Ross Resurgence: What is the Long Term Data?**
Jordan Bloom, MD
- 3:50 – 4:00 PM** **Decellularized vs. Non-Decellularized Pulmonary Homografts: Is There a Difference?**
Elbert Williams, MD
- 4:00 – 4:10 PM** **PANEL DISCUSSION**
MODERATORS Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD • Christopher Burke, MD
PANELISTS: Christopher Burke, MD • Jordan Bloom, MD • Elbert Williams, MD

Ross Technical Video Matinee

- 4:10 – 4:18 PM** **Full Root Technique Ross: Techniques and Tricks**
Maral Ouzounian, MD, PhD
- 4:18 – 4:26 PM** **Fully Supported Ross: How I Do it.**
Shinichi Fukuhara, MD
- 4:26 – 4:34 PM** **Technical Nuances to Prevent Late Failure of the Ross Procedure in AR**
Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD
- 4:34 – 4:42 PM** **Leaflet Repair in the Autograft: When is it feasible? What are the outcomes?"**
Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD
- 4:50 – 4:58 PM** **The Seattle Shawl**
Scott DeRoo, MD
- 4:58 – 5:10 PM** **Panel Discussion**
MODERATORS Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD • Christopher Burke, MD
Maral Ouzounian, MD, PhD • Shinichi Fukuhara, MD • Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD
Scott DeRoo, MD
- 5:10 – 5:35 PM** **ROSS CONTROVERSIES DEBATE:**
THE BEST SUPPORT FOR A DILATED AORTIC ANNULUS IN A ROSS
MODERATORS: Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD • Christopher Burke, MD
— **External Annuloplasty is the Best Option"**
Michael Chu, MD
— **Full Dacron Support is the Best Option"**
William Brinkman, MD
- 5:40 – 5:45 PM** **Closing Remarks**
Joseph Bavaria, MD • Munir Boodhwani, MD
- 5:45 – 7:00 PM** **WELCOME RECEPTION**

AGENDA

DAY 2 • SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

6:45 – 7:30 AM

BREAKFAST

7:45 – 8:00 AM

Day 2 Opening Remarks

Munir Boodhwani, MD • Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD

SESSION V

Focusing on the BAV

MODERATORS: Christopher Malaisrie, MD • Maral Ouzounian, MD, PhD

8:00 – 8:10 AM

Anatomy and Repair Oriented Classification of the BAV

Laurent de Kerchove, MD

8:10 – 8:25 AM

BAV Repair for AR with Dilated Root and Reimplantation DV: Symmetric and Asymmetric Reconstruction

Joseph Bavaria, MD

8:25 – 8:35 AM

Complex Cusp Repair in BAV

Munir Boodhwani, MD

8:35 – 8:45 AM

BAV Repair with Eternal Ring Annuloplasty: Technique and Outcomes

Pouya Youssefi, MBBS, FRCS, PhD

8:45 – 8:55 AM

Outcomes of BAV Repair: 2026 Update, Have We Arrived?

Kendall Lawrence, MD

8:55 – 9:10 AM

PANEL DISCUSSION

MODERATORS: Christopher Malaisrie, MD • Maral Ouzounian, MD, PhD

PANELISTS: Laurent de Kerchove, MD • Joseph Bavaria, MD • Munir Boodhwani, MD
Pouya Youssefi, MBBS, FRCS, PhD • Kendall Lawrence, MD

9:10 – 10:10 AM

TO THE OPERATING ROOM – ROUND 2: Case-based Complex BAV and Ross Scenarios

MODERATORS: Michael Chu, MD • Mark Peterson, MD, PhD

10:10 – 10:15 AM

Introduction to Honorary Lecturer

Munir Boodhwani, MD

10:15 – 10:40 AM

HONORARY LECTURE: How Can We Further Improve AV Repair Outcomes?

Laurent de Kerchove, MD

10:40 – 11:10 AM

BREAK

SESSION VI

Advanced Aortic Root/VSRR Scenarios

MODERATORS: Michael Chu, MD, Mark Peterson, MD, PhD

11:10 – 11:20 AM

BAV Repair with Hemiyacoub +/- Annuloplasty: Techniques and Outcomes

Chad Hughes, MD

11:20 – 11:30 AM

True Redo Root Surgery: Pitfalls and Techniques

Mark Peterson, MD, PhD

11:30 – 11:40 AM

The Bordeaux VSRR Technique

Thomas Modine, MD



11:40 – 11:50 AM	Managing Limited Cusp Calcification Hugo Issa, MD
11:50 AM – 12:00 PM	3-cusp Eccentric AR with Root Aneurysm: VSRR and Repair Techniques for Success and Decision-making Munir Boodhwani, MD
12:00 – 12:10 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION MODERATORS: Michael Chu, MD • Mark Peterson, MD, PhD PANELISTS: Chad Hughes, MD • Mark Peterson, MD, PhD • Thomas Modine, MD Hugo Issa, MD • Munir Boodhwani, MD
12:10 – 12:35 PM	DEBATE: THE VERY ASYMMETRIC BAV: REPAIR OR ROSS? MODERATORS: Michael Chu, MD • Mark Peterson, MD, PhD — Push for Repair! Joseph Bavaria, MD — Just Ross It! Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD
12:35 – 1:00 PM	Assessing the Repaired Valve: Retain, Re-Repair or Replace Moderated Case-Based Panel Discussion MODERATORS: Michael Chu, MD • Mark Peterson, MD, PhD PRESENTERS: Scott DeRoo, MD • Jordan Bloom, MD • Ming Guo, MD • Christopher Mehta PANELISTS: Laurent de Kerchove, MD • Ruggero DePaulis, MD • Maral Ouzounian, MD, PhD Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD • Edward Chen, MD • Christopher Malaisrie, MD • Jared Feinman, MD
1:00 – 1:20 PM	BREAK AND PICK UP LUNCH

SESSION VII

Working Lunch Symposium: Beyond The Ascending Aorta, “The Elephant In The Room”

MODERATORS: Chad Hughes, MD • Wilson Szeto, MD

1:20 – 1:30 PM	Traditional Frozen Elephant Trunk: When and How I Use It Fernando Fleischman, MD
1:30 – 1:40 PM	Hybrid Stent Graft System: When and How I Use It Michael Moon, MD
1:40 – 1:50 PM	Fenestrated Frozen Elephant Trunk: When and How I Use It Francois Dagenais, MD
1:50 – 2:00 PM	Uncovered Arch Stent is the Preferred Option for Extended Repair in Type A Dissection Wilson Szeto, MD
2:00 – 2:10 PM	Zone 2 with Branched Arch Graft is the Preferred Approach for Acute Type A Dissection. John Kelly, MD
2:10 – 2:25 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION Do We Need a Randomized Trial of Optimal Extend Arch Strategy in Type A Dissection? PANELISTS: Fernando Fleischman, MD • Michael Moon, MD Wilson Szeto, MD • Francois Dagenais, MD
2:25 – 2:30 PM	Closing Remarks Joseph Bavaria MD • Munir Boodhwani MD • Nimesh Desai MD

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Give form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.

Before you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

1 Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.)

GLOBAL EVENTS AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES LLC

2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above.

3a Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes.

- ☒ Individual/sole proprietor ☐ C corporation ☐ S corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate
- ☐ LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) _____
- Note:** Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.
- ☐ Other (see instructions) _____

4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):

Exempt payee code (if any) _____

Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) _____

(Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.)

3b If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions ☐

5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions.

1805 WALNUT ST, PH

6 City, state, and ZIP code

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

7 List account number(s) here (optional)

Requester's name and address (optional)

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. See also *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number

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or

Employer identification number

8	3	-	2	7	5	2	4	4	0
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Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and, generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign
Here

Signature of
U.S. person

Catherine S. Shickelson

Date

1/5/26

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they