



## Day 1 - Friday, September 18, 2026

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM

Registration & Breakfast

7:30 AM – 7:45 AM

Opening remarks

*Joseph Bavaria MD*

*Munir Boodhwani MD*

*Nimesh Desai MD PhD*

7:45 AM -8:00 AM

The Aortic Root Universe 2026 (v. 8.0)

*Joseph Bavaria, MD*

### **SESSION I: THE AORTIC ROOT AND VALVE: FUNDAMENTALS**

*Moderators: Nimesh Desai MD PhD and Munir Boodhwani MD*

8:00 AM - 8:10 AM

Anatomy of the Aortic Valve and Implications for Repair and Ross

*Ming Guo MD*

8:10 AM - 8:20 AM

When to operate on the proximal aorta for TAV and BAV

*Karen Kim MD*

8:20 AM - 8:35 AM

#### **Cardiology Keynote Lecture**

“Pre-operative evaluation of Regurgitant Aortic Valve: When to Offer Surgery”

*Juan Carlos Plana MD*

8:35 AM – 8:50 AM

“Intraoperative TEE assessment of the Aortic Valve and Root for Aortic Valve Repair and Ross”*Alexa Grudzinski MD MPH*



### **Technical Mini Symposium and Panel**

*Moderators: Nimesh Desai MD PhD and Munir Boodhwani MD*

8:50 AM -9:00 AM

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

*Edward Chen MD*

9:00 AM -9:10 AM

“Fundamentals of the Root Remodeling + External Annuloplasty Procedure”

*Ismail El-Hamamsy MD PhD*

9:10 AM – 9:20 AM

“Cusp Repair in Three Cusp Aortic Valves”

*Pouya Youssefi, MBBS FRCS PhD*

9:20 AM – 9:30 AM

“Cusp Repair Techniques in BAV 1.0”

*Munir Boodhwani MD*

9:30 AM – 9:40 AM

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

*Prashanth Vallabhajosyula, MD*

9:40 AM – 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 AM – 10:25 AM

Break and Visit with Industry

### **SESSION II: TECHNIQUES FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF THE AORTIC ROOT**

*Moderators: Edward Chen MD and Michael Chu MSc*

10:25 AM – 10:33 AM

“How and Why I Use a Straight Graft for Implantation”

*Jennifer Chung MD PhD*



10:33 AM – 10:41 AM

“How and Why I Use a Valsalva Graft for Reimplantation”

*Joel Price MD MPH*

10:41 AM – 10:49 AM

“How and Why I Create Neo-Sinuses for Reimplantation (T-DAVID V)”

*Thomas Gleason, MD*

10:49 AM – 10:55 AM

Panel Discussion

*Moderators: Edward Chen MD, and Michael Chu MSc*

*Panelists: Jennifer Chung MD PhD, Joel Price MD, Thomas Gleason, MD*

10:55 AM – 12:00 PM

“To The Operating Room” – Live in box Round 1

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, Alexa Grudzinski, MD MPH FRCPC*

12:00 PM – 12:25 PM

Abstract and Techniques Session I

*Moderators: Prashanth Vallabhajosyula MD, Michael Chu MD, Edward Chen MD*

12:00 PM - 12:05 PM

“Florida Sleeve Valve-Sparing Repair of a Bicuspid Aortic Valve with Severe Left Ventricular Dysfunction”

*Lee Fuentes MD MBA*

12:05 PM -12:10 PM

“Effect of Cusp Shaving and Decalcification on Outcomes Following Aortic Valve Repair

*Hugo Issa, MD*

12:10 PM – 12:15 PM

Mini-VSRR (Video)

*Konstadinos Plestis MD*

12:15 PM-12:20PM

BAV Valve Analysis

*Cecillia Chin MD*



12:25 PM – 12:30 PM

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

*Joseph Bavaria, MD*

12:30 PM – 12:55 PM

**KEYNOTE LECTURE: “Aortic Valve Preservation and Repair: The Past and The Future”**

*Ruggero DePaulis MD*

12:55 PM- 1:00 PM

Moderated Q & A with Keynote Speaker

1:00 PM – 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 PM – 1:40 PM

Fate of the distal aorta following root repair in Marfan Syndrome

*Christopher Burke MD*

1:40 PM – 1:50 PM

Cardiac MRI for Assessment and Decision Making in AR: When and Why?

*Andrew Peters MD*

1:50 PM – 2:00 PM

Managing the Aortic Valve in Moderately Dilated Aorta: Lessons from TITAN: SvS

*Jehangir Appoo MD*

2:00 PM – 2:10 PM

“AV Repair/VSRR in Type A Dissection – How I do it and results”

*Bradley Leshnowar, MD*

2:10 PM – 2:40 PM

Panel Discussion

*Moderators: Prashanth Vallabhajosyula MD, Karen Kim MD*

*Panelists: Christopher Burke MD, Andrew Peters MD, Jehangir Appoo MD, Brad Leshnowar MD*



## **2:40 PM – 3:10 PM**

### **Abstract and Techniques Session II**

#### **2:40 PM – 2:45 PM**

“Lifetime Management of Aortic Stenosis and Aortopathy: from AVR to Ross Procedure”

*Andres Jimenez*

#### **2:45 PM-2:50 PM**

“Use of the Konno Procedure in a Complex Rheumatic Heart Disease Patient”

*Catherine Eccleston MD*

#### **2:50 PM – 2:55 PM**

“Significance of Mild Aortic Insufficiency after the Ross Procedure”

*William Sham BS*

#### **2:55 PM – 3:00 PM**

“The Spokane Scaffold”

*William Sham BS*

#### **3:00 PM – 3:05 PM**

*Abstract: TBD*

#### **3:10 PM – 3:30 PM**

Break

### **SESSION IV: “ROSS MASTERCLASS”**

*Moderators: Ismail El-Hamamsy MD PhD, Christopher Burke MD and William Brinkman MD*

#### **3:30 PM – 3:40 PM**

“Expanded Criteria for the Ross: How to Think About It”

*Christopher Burke MD*

#### **3:40 PM – 3:50 PM**

“Ross Resurgence: What is the Long-Term Data?”

*Jordan Bloom MD*

#### **3:50 PM – 4:00 PM**

“Decellularized vs. Non-Decellularized Pulmonary Homografts: Is There a Difference?”

*Elbert Williams MD*



4:00 PM – 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 PM – 4:18 PM

“Full Root Technique Ross: Techniques and Tricks

*Maral Ouzounian MD PhD*

4:18 PM – 4:26 PM

“Fully Supported Ross: How I Do it.”

*Shinichi Fukuhara MD*

4:26 PM – 4:34 PM

“Technical Nuances to Prevent Late Failure of the Ross Procedure in AR”

*Nimesh Desai MD PhD*

4:34 PM – 4:42 PM

“Leaflet Repair in the Autograft: When is it feasible? What are the outcomes?”

*Ismail El-Hamamsy MD PhD*

4:50 PM – 4:58 PM

The Seattle Shawl

*Scott DeRoo MD*

4:58 PM – 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 PM – 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 PM – 5:45 PM

Closing Remarks

*Joseph Bavaria MD*

*Munir Boodhwani MD*

5:45 PM – 7:00 PM

Welcome Reception



## Day 2 – Saturday, September 19, 2026

6:45 AM – 7:30 AM

*Breakfast*

7:40 AM – 7:55 AM

“Why we are here!: Discussion with patients who have undergone Advanced Root Procedures”

*Joshua Grimm MD and Todd Crawford MD*

7:55 AM – 8:00 AM

Day 2 Opening Remarks

*Munir Boodhwani MD*

*Nimesh Desai MD PhD*

### **SESSION V: FOCUSING IN ON THE BAV**

*Moderators: Maral Ouzounian MD PhD, Thomas Gleason MD, Joseph Bavaria MD*

8:00 AM – 8:10 AM

Anatomy and Repair-Oriented Classification of the BAV

*Laurent de Kerchove MD*

8:10 AM – 8:25 AM

“BAV Repair for AR with dilated root and reimplantation DV: Symmetric and Asymmetric Reconstruction”

*Joseph Bavaria, MD*

8:25 AM – 8:35 AM

Complex Cusp Repair in BAV

*Munir Boodhwani MD*

8:35 AM – 8:45 AM

BAV Repair with Eternal Ring Annuloplasty: Technique and Outcomes

*Pouya Youssefi MBBS FRCS PhD*

8:45 AM – 8:55 AM

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

*Kendall Lawrence MD*



8:55 AM – 9:10 AM

Panel Discussion

*Moderators: Maral Ouzounian MD PhD, Thomas Gleason MD,*

*Panelists: Laurent de Kerchove MD, Joseph Bavaria MD,*

*Munir Boodhwani MD, Pouya Youssefi MBBS FRCS PhD, Kendall Lawrence MD*

9:10 AM – 10:10 AM

*To the Operating Room: Round 2 – Case-based Complex BAV and Ross Scenarios*

*Moderators: Michael Chu MD and Mark Peterson MD PhD*

*Technical Moderator: John Kelly MD*

*Panelists: Ruggero DePaulis MD, Laurent de Kerchove MD, Ismail El-Hamamsy MD PhD, Jordan Bloom MD*

10:10 AM – 10:15 AM

*Introduction to Honorary Lecturer*

*Munir Boodhwani MD*

10:15 AM – 10:40 AM

***Honorary Lecture: “How Can We Further Improve AV Repair Outcomes?”***

*Laurent de Kerchove MD*

10:40 AM – 11:10 AM

Break

## **SESSION VI: ADVANCED AORTIC ROOT/VSRR SCENARIOS**

*Moderators: Michael Chu MD, Mark Peterson MD PhD*

11:10 AM – 11:20 AM

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

*Chad Hughes, MD*

11:20 AM – 11:30 AM

*“True Redo Root Surgery: Pitfalls and Techniques*

*Mark Peterson MD PhD*

11:30 AM – 11:40 AM

*“The Bordeaux VSRR Technique” - Virtual*

*Thomas Modine MD*

11:40 AM – 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 PM – 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 PM – 12:35 PM

Debate: The Very Asymmetric BAV: Repair or Ross?

*Moderators: Michael Chu MD and Mark Peterson MD PhD*

“Push for Repair!”

*Joseph Bavaria MD*

“Just Ross It!”

*Nimesh Desai MD PhD*

12:35 PM- 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, Jared Feinman MD*

1:00 PM- 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 and Wilson Szeto MD*

1:20 PM -1:25 PM

“Arch Abstract: Long term durability and perioperative outcomes of circulatory arrest vs.



distal cross clamping in proximal aortic repair”

*Anna Gussner*

1:25 PM – 1:35 PM

“Traditional Frozen Elephant Trunk: When and How I Use It.”

*Fernando Fleischman MD*

1:35 PM – 1:45 PM

“Hybrid Stent Graft System:: When and How I Use It”

*Michael Moon MD*

1:45 PM – 1:55 PM

“Fenestrated Frozen Elephant Trunk: When and How I Use It.”

*Francois Dagenais MD*

1:55 PM – 2:05 PM

“Uncovered Arch Stent” is the Preferred Option for Extended Repair in Type A Dissection”

*Wilson Szeto MD*

2:05 PM – 2:15 PM

“Zone 2 with Branched Arch Graft is the preferred approach for Acute Type A Dissection.”

*John Kelly MD*

2:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Panel Discussion “Do We Need a Randomized Trial of Optimal Extended Arch Strategy in Type A Dissection”

*Panelists: Fernando Fleischman MD, Michael Moon MD, Wilson Szeto MD, Francois Dagenais MD*

2:30 PM – 2:35 PM

Closing Remarks

*Joseph Bavaria MD, Munir Boodhwani MD, Nimesh Desai MD*