



I - GERD

# I-GERD 2026

EFS post graduate course – 2026



INNOVATION THROUGH TRADITION

## The Role of Past Knowledge for Successful Innovations in GERD treatment

MAY 21-22, 2026



I.R.C.C.S. Ospedale  
Galeazzi - Sant'Ambrogio

Gruppo San Donato

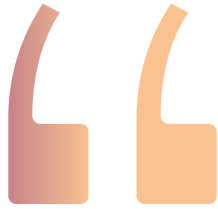
**EFS**

European Foregut Society



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO

## INTRODUCTION



Prof Davide Bona



Prof Luigi Bonavina

The surgical management of hiatal hernia and gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) remains a topic of ongoing discussion, particularly regarding indications and the optimal choice of surgical technique. With increasing attention on tailored surgical approaches, this Congress aims to review current innovations in endoscopic and surgical therapies for GERD and hiatal hernia. The event will feature leading European experts providing step-by-step technical assessments of surgical procedures through live case analyses and comprehensive video presentations. The program will encompass both laparoscopic and robotic surgical techniques, highlighting essential components and technical considerations that support standardization and improved patient outcomes.

This meeting is intended for general surgeons, gastroenterologists, endoscopists, and pathophysiologists, with the aim of emphasize the critical role of multidisciplinary collaboration in the management of GERD.

A hands-on Postgraduate Course will take place on the afternoon of May 21, 2025, focusing on novel procedures such as combined Transoral Incisional Fundoplication and the intraoperative and postoperative application of devices like Endoscopic Functional Lumen Imaging Probe. A dedicated session will also address the ablative treatment of Barrett's esophagus using Radiofrequency & Cryoablation technologies.

## PRESIDENTS

Davide Bona MD FACS, Milan - I

Luigi Bonavina MD FACS (Hon), Milan - I

## FACULTY

Alberto Aiolfi, IRCCS Ospedale Galeazzi - Sant'Ambrogio, Milan - I

Francesco Azzolini, IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, Milan - I

Alberto Barchi, IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, Milan - I

Pietro Paolo Bianchi, ASST Santi Paolo e Carlo, Milan - I

Nicholas Boyle, Mayo Clinic Health Care, London - UK

Davide Bona, IRCCS Ospedale Galeazzi - Sant'Ambrogio, Milan - I

Luigi Bonavina, A.O. di Cosenza, Università della Calabria (Unical) - I

Roberto Crugnola, AD IRCCS Ospedale Galeazzi - Sant'Ambrogio, Milan - I

Giuseppe Dell'Anna, IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, Milan - I

Moustafa Elshafei, Hospital Frankfurt Dep. of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, Frankfurt - D

Giampaolo Formisano, ASST Santi Paolo e Carlo, Milan - I

Girolamo Geraci, Policlinico Paolo Giaccone - Università di Palermo - I

Peter Grimminger, University Medical Center Mainz, Mainz - D

Giampiero Manes, Osp. di Garbagnate Milanese "Guido Salvini" - ASST Rhodense, Milan - I

Emanuele Marciano, Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria Pisana - I

Pietro Mascagni, Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli, Rome - I

Sandro Passaretti, IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, Milan - I

Micaela Piccoli, Azienda Ospedaliero - Universitaria di Modena - I

Federica Pieri, IRCCS Ospedale Galeazzi - Sant'Ambrogio, Milan - I

Calin Popa, Cluj Hospital, Romania - RO

Gabriele Pozzo, Ospedale Santa Croce Moncalieri, Torino - I

Adolfo Renzi, Ospedale Buon Consiglio Fatebenefratelli, Naples - I

Riccardo Rosati, IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, Milan - I

Carmelo Scarpignato, Università degli Studi di Parma, Parma - I

Sebastian Schoppmann, University and General Hospital of Vienna, Vienna - A

Vinay Sehgal, University College London Hospital - UK

Aleksandar Simic, University Clinical Center of Serbia - SRB

Ognjan Skrobic, University Clinical Center of Serbia - SRB

Rocío Temiño López-Jurado, Centro Médico Teknon Grupo Quirónsalud, Barcelona - ES

Dimitrios Theodorou, Hippocraton General Hospital, Atene - GR

Leonardo Vincenti, IRCCS de Bellis, Castellana Grotte, Bari - I

Pierfrancesco Visaggi, Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria Pisana - I

Joerg Zehetner, Klinik Beau-Site Hirslanden, Berna - CH

MAY 21, 2026

12.00-12.45 Participant's registration

12.45-13.00 Course presentation

Room H - 13.00 - 14.30

**Theory and Lectures - Post graduate educational hands on course**

13.00-13.30 Endoscopic Functional Lumen Imaging Probe - Fundamentals and clinical applications: is it possible to optimize surgical outcomes?  
**A. Barchi, E. Marciano, S. Passaretti, S. Schoppmann**

13.30-14.00 Transoral Incisional Fundoplication - Indications, endoscopic technique and outcomes  
**F. Azzolini, G. Geraci, A. Simic, O. Skrobic, R. Temiño López-Jurado**

14.00-14.30 Radiofrequency Ablation & Cryoablation in Barrett's esophagus - Treatment modalities and indications  
**G. Dell'Anna, G. Manes, V. Sehgal, P. Visaggi**

14.30-15.00 Coffee break

15.00-18.00

**Hand-on-course**

**Room G**

**Transoral Incisional Fundoplication**

Tutors:  
**F. Azzolini,  
G. Geraci  
A. Simic,  
O. Skrobic  
R. Temiño López-Jurado**

**Room H**

**Endoscopic Functional Lumen Imaging Probe**

Tutors:  
**A. Barchi  
E. Marciano  
S. Passaretti  
S. Schoppmann**

**Room I**

**Radiofrequency & Cryoablation**

Tutors:  
**G. Dell'Anna  
G. Manes  
V. Sehgal  
P. Visaggi**

MAY 22, 2026

08.00-08.45 Participant's registration

08.45-09.00 Introduction & Pre-test  
**D. Bona, L. Bonavina, R. Crugnola, S. Shoppmann**

09.00 - 11.00

**Laparoscopic Fundoplication**

Moderators: **L. Bonavina, N. Boyle, R. Rosati, A. Simic, D. Theodorus**

- Anatomy, Function and Impact of interventional procedures of ARB  
**S. Schoppmann**
- The evolution of anti-reflux surgery  
**L. Bonavina**
- Nissen & Toupet fundoplication (with mesh?) - **live surgery**

11.00-11.30 Coffee break and learn

11.30-11.45 Pharmacological management of GERD: what's new?  
**C. Scarpignato**

11.45-13.00

**Managing the hiatus**

Moderators: **D. Bona, L. Bonavina, C. Popa, G. Pozzo, A. Simic**

- Crura repair with mesh and patient tailored algorithm (PTA)  
**A. Aiolfi**
- Concomitant Transoral Incisionless Fundoplication (cTIF)  
**O. Skrobic**
- Role of gastric neuromodulation for gastroparesis  
**M. Elshafei**
- AI & machine learning: application in benign foregut diseases  
**P. Mascagni**

13.00-13.50 Lunch

MAY 22, 2026

13.50-14.00 Thromboembolism prophylaxis in benign upper GI surgery  
**F. Pieri**

14.00-15.30

**ARB positioning & restoration with outer-fundoimplant**

Moderators: **L. Bonavina, A. Renzi, S. Schoppmann, L. Vincenti**

· RS - How it works? Literature evidence and long-term follow-up

**J. Zehetner**

· RS – Robotic experience and preliminary data

**M. Elshafei**

· Laparoscopic ARB positioning & restoration with outer-fundoimplant – **live surgery**

15.30-17.30

**Robotic Fundoplication**

Moderators: **A. Aiolfi, P. Bianchi, M. Elshafei, G. Formisano**

· What is the role of robotic surgery in the training of young surgeons?

**P. Bianchi**

· What is the role of robotic surgery? Current evidence

**P. Grimminger**

· Robotic fundoplication

**D. Theodorus**

· Robotic fundoplication in emergency settings

**M. Piccoli**

17.30-18.00 Closing remarks

Auditorium

**CONGRESS VENUE**



**Venue**

IRCCS Galeazzi Hospital -  
Sant'Ambrogio

Via Cristina Belgioioso, 173,  
20157 Milan

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Language**

The official language will be English.

**Registration fee**

€ 70,00 (vat included)

Registration only course  
(21<sup>st</sup> May)

Free

Registration only congress  
(22<sup>nd</sup> May)

Online registration: <https://ems.mzevents.it/start/2560/eng>

The fee for the Course shall be paid by credit card or bank transfer through the online system. The secretariat will send the registration invoice upon receipt of payment, via e-mail. Be sure your e-mail address is filled in correctly.

**Cancellations**

– Registrations cancelled within April 15, 2026 will result in a 20% penalty  
– afterwards, registrations will result in a 100% penalty

**CME Italian accreditation**

The congress (22<sup>nd</sup> May) will be accredited through the Italian Continuing Medical Education (ECM) system.

## How to reach the venue



### Private transport

- A8 motorway | A4 motorway |
- A7 motorway | A4 motorway - East |
- A1 motorway Tangenziale Nord/Rho - Monza



### Bus

- 528 Terminal stop P. le Cimitero Maggiore
- 561 Terminal stop Rho Fieramilano (via Risorgimento)

### Metro

- M1 - Red Line
- Rho Fiera Milano stop



### Trains passing through from/to:

- Regional trains Milan Central Station, Milan - Porta Garibaldi, Novara, Varese

### Parking

Pay parking available

Via Risorgimento, 44 A (Rho-Milano), connected to the venue by free shuttle service

Operating 7 days a week from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

## CONTACT US



Organising Secretariat

MZ Events

tel. 0266802323

patrizia.sirtori@mzevents.it

anna.grossi@mzevents.it

[www.mzevents.it](http://www.mzevents.it)