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EFS 2026, Zurich

VENUE:
Kinderspital Innovation center

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 11th 2026.

12:00 – 15:00	MEDTRONIC PRE-CONGRESS LOCAL COURSE
15:00 – 18:30	LABORIE/ENTERRA PRE-CONGRESS COURSE
08.00 – 15.00	Robotic Hiatal Surgery Workshop – USZ Campus

Thursday, November 12th 2026.

07.30 – 17.00 **Registration**

8.00 - 9.00 **OPENING OF THE 6th ANNUAL EFS MEETING**

EFS Anthem	
EFS Presidents	Daniel Pohl and Christian Gutschow
EFS Chair of the Board	Sebastian Schoppmann
AFS Member	Felice Schnoll Sussmann, Steward Spechler

(EFS Lifetime Achievement Award Arnulf Hölscher)

Introductory lecture
Martin Riegler (AUT)

09.00 - 10.30 / Session 1

THE DARK SIDE OF BENIGN INTERVENTIONS

Chairs: Oliver Pech (GER), Luigi Bonavina (IT), George Lazar (HU)

09.00 - 09.15 **Pulling the Plug: Salvage Strategies for Failed Antireflux Implants**
Nick Maynard (UK)

09.15 - 09.30 **Dysphagia, Diverticula & GERD: How to handle the POEM Aftermath**
Adam Chwiesko (POL)

- 09.30 - 09.45 Failed Endoscopic GERD Procedures: Repairing the Repair
Alberto Testoni (IT)
- 09.45 - 10.00 The Heart-Sink post-surgical GERD Patient: Surviving Nemesis
Stefan Mönig (GER)
- 10.00 - 10.15 Dumping, Dysmotility & Distress: Managing Vagus Nerve Injuries
Mustafa ElShafei (GER)
- 10.15 - 10.30 The “Tears & Beers” Discussion

10.30 - 11.00 Keynote Lecture: Alex Straumann (CH) Prologue: Stephen Attwood (UK)
Olten and Hopewell: The True EoE Story

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee & Learn
SLOT Industry Symposium

11.30 - 12.45 / Session 2

RARE, DIFFICULT, OVERLOOKED & DANGEROUS

Chairs: Stephen Attwood (UK), Daniel Pohl (CH), Tania Triantafyllou (GR)

- 11.30 - 11.45 Tough to Swallow – Strategies for Benign Strictures
Stephen Attwood (UK)
- 11.45 - 12.00 Emergency Management of Non-Neoplastic Perforations
Christoph Schlag (CH)
- 12.00 - 12.15 The Short Esophagus – A Surgeon’s Ghost or Clinical Reality?
Ricardo Rosato (IT)
- 12.15 - 12.30 Dunbar, Wilkie, Gastroptosis – call your surgeon or hide your patient?
TBA
- 12.30 - 12.45 Idiopathic Gastroparesis – treat motility or sensation?
Asma Fikree (CH)
- 12.45 - 13.00 The “Hard Truth” Discussion

13.00-14.00 Lunch break
SLOT Industry Symposium

14.00 – 15.00 / Session 3

PRECISION & HIGH DEFINITION: THE VIDEO MASTERCLASS

Chairs: Sheraz Markar (LF), Aleksandar Simic (SRB), Edoardo Savarino (IT)

- 14.00 - 14.10 Anatomical EGJ Reconstruction for Hiatal Hernia and GERD: Why & How
Marcel Schneider (CH)
- 14.10 - 14.20 Folding for Function: Technical Secrets of TIF and C-TIF
Rehan Haidry (UK)
- 14.20 - 14.30 RefluxStop™ - Lessons learned
Yves Borbély (FR)
- 14.30 - 14.40 Enterra – From Implantation to Adaptation – Tips and Tricks
Jessica Leers (GER)
- 14.40 - 14.50 Endo/EsoFLIP: One-Stop Shop – Test & Treat
Daniel Pohl (CH)
- 14.50 - 15.00 The “Director’s Cut” Discussion

15.00 – 16.15 / Session 4

BARRETT'S BIOLOGY: FROM MOLECULES TO MANAGEMENT

Chairs: **Stuart Spechler (USA), Tripp Buckley (USA), Nicola Frei (NL)**

- 15.00 - 15.15 **The Crystal Ball: Can Molecular Markers predict the Future?**
Ines Gockel (GER)
- 15.15 - 15.30 **AI vs. Human Eye: Will Machines take over Surveillance?**
TBA
- 15.30 - 15.45 **To Burn or to Cut? Deciding between RFA and EMR**
Felice Schnoll Sussmann (USA)
- 15.45 - 16.00 **Closing the Valve: Does Anti-Reflux Surgery stop Progression?**
John Lipham (USA)
- 16.00 - 16.15 **The "Burn, Cut or Pray?" Discussion**

16.15 - 16.45 **Keynote Lecture: TBA**
 Prologue: Daniel Pohl (CH)
FOREGUT MOTILITY DIAGNOSTICS 2027: CHICAGO, SAN DIEGO, DALLAS, ...?

17.00 - 18.00 / Session 5

EXTRAESOPHAGEAL GERD, UPPER ESOPHAGEAL DISORDERS

Chairs: **Jörg Bohlender (CH), Dimitri Theodorou (GR), Michael Smith (USA)**

- 17.00 - 17.10 **LPR Unmasked: Cutting through the Diagnostic Fog**
Rami Sweis (UK)
- 17.10 - 17.20 **LPR is a Surgical Disease!**
Nick Boyle (UK)
- 17.20 - 17.30 **No. It's the Head (or the Nerves), Stupid!**
TBA
- 17.30 - 17.40 **RCPD – help me, I cannot burp!**
TBA
- 17.40 - 17.50 **Globus sensation – to ablate or not**
Jason Dunn (UK)
- 17.50 - 18.00 **The "Brain, Belch and Burn" Discussion**

End of Day 1

Friday, November 13th 2026

08.00 – 09.00

BEST PAPERS and Coffee

Chairs: **Reza Azari (AUT), Arnulf Hölscher (GER), Joy FEKA (AUT)**

09.00 - 10.00 / Session 6

THE ROBOTIC FRONTIER: BEYOND THE HYPE

Chairs: **Lana Fourier (CH), Christian Gutschow (CH), Peter Grimminger (GER)**

- 09.00 - 09.15 **The Billion Swiss Francs Question: Does the Robot actually improve Benign Outcomes?**
Beat Müller (CH)
- 09.15 - 09.30 **Through Looking Glass: Does 3D-Vision & Wristed Dexterity make us better surgeons?**
Mickael Chevallay (CH)
- 09.30 - 09.45 **Sixth Sense vs. Third Eye: What is the benefit of Intraoperative Imaging & ICG?**
TBA
- 09.45 - 10.00 **Ergonomics vs. Economics: Is the Surgeon's Longevity worth the Investment?**
Jose Oberholzer (CH)
- 10.00 - 10.15 **Training the Next Generation: Is the Laparoscopic Surgeon becoming a Museum Piece?**
Dagmar Kollmann (AUT)
- 10.15 - 10.30 **The "Joystick Junkies" Discussion**

10.30 - 10.45 **TOPIC: Our Journal - FOREGUT**

Phil Katz (USA), Sebastian Schoppmann (AUT)

10.45 - 11.00 **Keynote Lecture: Calin Popa (RO) Prologue: Sebastian Schoppmann**
BEYOND "SEE ONE, DO ONE": REDEFINING EXCELLENCE IN FOREGUT TRAINING

11.00 - 11.30 **Coffee & Learn**
Industry Symposium

11.30 – 13.00 / Session 7

THE HEAVY WEIGHT DEBATE: OBESITY & THE HIATUS

Chairs: **Ralph Peterli (CH), Jan Pierre Marmuse (FR), Catalin Copaescu (RO)**

- 11.30 - 11.45 **The Sleeve Paradox: When Weight Loss creates a Reflux Monster**
Ralph Peterli (CH)
Stella Mantzari, (CH)
- 11.45 - 12.00 **Bypass: The Ultimate Anti-Reflux Operation or Overkill?**
Daniel Gero (CH)
- 12.00 - 12.15 **To Fix or Not to Fix? The Dilemma of the "Innocent" Hiatal Hernia in Bariatrics**
Ognjan Skrobic (SRB)
- 12.15 - 12.30 **Revisional Nightmares: Converting Failed Antireflux Surgery to Bariatric Procedures**
Gerhard Prager (CH)

- 12.30 - 12.45 Renaissance of the Hill procedure in Post-Bariatric HH: Fixing GERD
Enes Efendic (SE)
- 12.45 - 13.00 The "Belly vs. Valve" Showdown
Dr Javier Osorio Aguilar (ESP)
- 13.00-13.15 Discussion

13.15 – 14.00 Lunch break
Industry Symposium

14.00 – 15.15 / Session 8

NUMBERS & NERVES: DECODING FUNCTION

Chairs: Radu Tutuian (RO), Asma Fikree (CH)

- 14.00 - 14.15 The Manometry Lies: What to do when Tracings and Patients disagree?
Mark Fox (CH)
- 14.15 - 14.30 The Motility No-Man's Land: Navigating the Fog of IEM
Radu Tutuian (RO)
- 14.30 - 14.45 Brain-Gut Axis: When not to call your surgeon
Johannes Lenglinger (CH)
- 15.00 - 15.15 The PPI Funeral: Will P-CABs take over the Throne?
Jeanine Wakim (CH)
- 15.15 - 15.30 "Treat the Patient, not the Plot" Discussion

15.30 - 16.00 Keynote Lecture: Lee Swanstrom (USA) Prologue: Christian Gutschow
HOW DOES AI CHANGE FOREGUT PRACTICE NOW

16.00 – 17.00 / Session 9

THE GREAT HIATOPLASTY SHOWDOWN

Chairs: John Lipham (USA), Davide Bona (IT), Salvador Morales-Conde (ESP)

- 16.00 - 16.15 Point: Mesh is Mandatory – Why we need Reinforcement
Alberto Aiolfi (IT)
- 16.15 - 16.30 Counterpoint: Mesh is a Time-Bomb – The Case for Pure Tissue Repair
Reginald Bell (USA)
- 16.30 - 16.45 The Middle Ground: Pledgets, Biologics and "The Tailored Hiatus"
Ivo Bröders (NL)
- 16.45 - 17.00 The Material Science Evolution: Can Bio-absorbable Scaffolds Solve the Dilemma?
Caroline Gronnier (FR)
- 17.00 - 17.20 Live Audience Voting & "Hard Truth" Final Summary

17.20 - 18.00 / Closing Remarks & Awards

This was EFS Zurich 2026
This will be EFS 2027 Budapest
Farewell

Daniel Pohl / Christian Gutschow
George Lazar, HU

