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EFS 2026, Zurich

VENUE:
Kinderspital Innovation center

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 11th 2026.

08.00 – 15.00 Robotic Hiatal Surgery Workshop
University Hospital Zurich Campus

Live Surgery

Moderator: prof. dr Christian A. Guttschow, CH

11.00 – 15.00 EFS - EndoFLIP Treatment Pathway Course 2026
"From Diagnostics to Precision Fundoplication – Creating the Future Patient
Treatment Pathway with Intraoperative EndoFLIP"

Faculty : Prof. Sebastian Schoppmann – Vienna, AUT

Prof. Daniel Pohl - Zurich, CH

Course Objectives

- Present the scientific evidence for EndoFLIP in antireflux surgery
- Understand the different perspectives of surgery and gastroenterology
- Discuss a Swiss consensus on the integration of EndoFLIP into the perioperative management of GERD patients
- Develop concrete recommendations for Swiss centers

11:00 – 11:10 Welcome & Why a Future Patient Treatment Pathway for Intraoperative
EndoFLIP Usage is Needed

11:10 – 11:35 Session 1: EndoFLIP – Beyond Motility Testing
Lecture: "What EndoFLIP Adds Beyond HRM and pH Monitoring"

Speaker: Prof. dr Daniel Pohl

Content

- Pathophysiology of the EGJ
- Distensibility versus pressure measurement
- Strengths and limitations of HRM
- EndoFLIP as an adjunct to conventional diagnostics
- Preoperative patient selection

- Interactive Discussion
- Cases from Swiss Practice
- Take-home Messages
 - When is EndoFLIP truly helpful?
 - Which patients should undergo preoperative EndoFLIP evaluation?

11:35 – 12:05 Session 2: EndoFLIP During Fundoplication – The Vienna Experience

Are there universal target values?

Lecture: "Tailoring Fundoplication with Real-Time Physiology"

Speaker: Prof. dr Sebastian Schoppmann

Content

- Development of the intraoperative EndoFLIP concept
- Fundoplication under physiological guidance
- Nissen vs. Toupet
- Optimal target values
- Prevention of overcorrection
- Impact on dysphagia rates

Video Demonstration

- Standardized hiatal dissection
- Measurement time points
- Interpretation of measurements
- Adjustment of the wrap based on EndoFLIP findings

Discussion What is "too tight"?
Are there universal targeted values?

12:05 – 12:20 Coffee Break & Expert Networking

12:20 – 13:00 Session 3: Multidisciplinary Case Conference

Moderated Case Discussions

Panel Sebastian Schoppmann, Daniel Pohl, Swiss Surgeon, Swiss Gastroenterologist

Case 1 GERD + Normal Motility

Question: Does this patient need EndoFLIP?

Case 2 Ineffective Esophageal Motility

Question: Toupet or Nissen with EndoFLIP guidance?

Case 3 Borderline EGJ Obstruction

Question: Can EndoFLIP change the surgical strategy?

Case 4 Persistent Dysphagia after Fundoplication

Question: What is the role of EndoFLIP in revision surgery?

- Audience Voting
- Live voting for each case

**13:00 – 13:40 Session 4: Creating the Future Patient Treatment Pathway for
Intraoperative EndoFLIP Usage**

Round Table "Should Intraoperative EndoFLIP Become Standard in Swiss Antireflux
Surgery?"

Moderated Topics

Topic 1

- Preoperative Diagnostics
- Who should receive EndoFLIP?
- Only specialized centers or broader implementation?

Topic 2

- Intraoperative Use
- Mandatory or optional?
- Quality control of fundoplication?

Topic 3 Outcomes

- Dysphagia
- Reflux control
- Revision surgery

Topic 4 Health Economics

- Cost-benefit assessment
- Impact on reoperation rates

13:40 – 14:00

Treatment Pathway Statement & Closing

Summary by : Daniel Pohl, Sebastian Schoppmann

Deliverables

Swiss EndoFLIP Initiative

- Gastroenterology
- Visceral Surgery
- Functional Diagnostics
- University and Cantonal Hospitals

Closing Statement

"From Anatomy to Physiology: Towards Precision Antireflux Surgery"

15.00-18.30

Motility EFS Fellows Course

Supported by Laborie and Enterra

Kinderspital Innovation center Zurich

Moderators: *Prof. dr Sebastian Schoppmann, AUT*
Prof. dr Daniel Pohl, CH

Modern Management of Gastroparesis

Format: Interactive, case-based, multidisciplinary – surgical demo and programmer at each table or a set for every couple attendees based on setup

Audience: Surgical & GI fellows (European practice focus)

Gastroparesis Today: Pathophysiology & Clinical Phenotypes

- Key mechanisms (neuromuscular dysfunction, pyloric contribution)
- Relevant etiologies in European practice
- Linking phenotype to treatment strategy

Diagnosis & Medical Management: A Practical Approach

- Diagnostic workup (GES and alternatives used in Europe)
- Medical therapy overview (prokinetics, symptom management, nutrition)
- When to escalate beyond medical therapy

Interventional Options: Choosing the Right Approach

- G-POEM vs laparoscopic pyloroplasty
- Role of Enterra Therapy in current practice
- Patient selection and decision-making framework

Enterra Programming Basics: What Fellows Should Know

- Core principles of gastric electrical stimulation
- Initial programming settings (high-level overview)
- How and why therapy is **titrated over time**
- Symptom-driven adjustments (nausea vs vomiting patterns)

- Practical workflow: who manages programming in real-world practice

Goal: demystify programming without being hands-on

Interactive Case Discussion

Cases may include:

- Refractory diabetic gastroparesis
- Post-surgical delayed gastric emptying
- Idiopathic nausea-predominant disease
- Prior intervention failure

Focus:

- Treatment selection
 - When to use Enterra vs pyloric therapies
 - When to adjust programming vs change strategy
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Procedure Videos & Technical Pearls

- G-POEM key steps
 - Laparoscopic pyloroplasty tips
 - Enterra implantation overview
 - Pitfalls and complication avoidance
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Take-Home Messages & Q&A

- Simplified management algorithm
- Key practice pearls for Europe
- Rapid audience Q&A

Thursday, November 12th 2026.

07.30 – 17.00 Registration

8.00 - 9.00 OPENING OF THE 6th ANNUAL EFS MEETING

EFS Anthem

EFS Presidents

EFS Chair of the Board

AFS Member

Daniel Pohl and Christian Gutschow

Sebastian Schoppmann

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, Gastroparesis – call your surgeon or hide your patient? Joachim Labenz (GER)
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: John Lipham (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? Alanna Ebigbo (GER)
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: TBC (USA) Prologue: Daniel Pohl (CH) FOREGUT MOTILITY DIAGNOSTICS 2027: CHICAGO, SAN DIEGO, DALLAS, ...?
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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 (CH)
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 (CH)
- 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

- 12.45 - 13.00 Enes Efendic (SE)
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