

8TH NORTH AMERICAN

Aortic Valve Repair Symposium

September 18-19, 2026

THE WESTIN PHILADELPHIA

A CME-accredited
Activity



NORTH AMERICAN

AORTIC VALVE
REPAIR SYMPOSIUM LLC

#AVRS2026

8TH NORTH AMERICAN

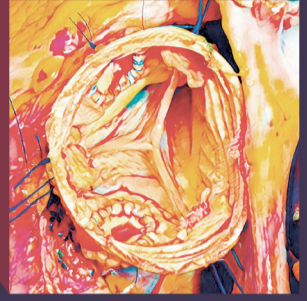
Aortic Valve Repair Symposium

September 18-19, 2026

A CME-accredited program

THE WESTIN PHILADELPHIA

99 South 17th Street at Liberty Place | Philadelphia, PA 19103



COURSE DIRECTORS

- Joseph E. Bavaria, MD
- Munir Boodhwani, MD
- Nimesh Desai, MD, PhD
- Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD, PhD
- Maral Ouzounian, MD, PhD
- Prashanth Vallabhajosyula, MD, MS
- John J. Kelly, MD

OVERVIEW

The 8th North American Aortic Valve Repair Symposium (AVRS) is a two-day conference designed to enhance learners' understanding of aortic valve repair. Experts from North America and Europe will describe repair techniques, highlight outcomes, and identify areas for improvement. The program includes videos of surgical procedures, presentation of clinical data and outcomes, panel discussion with experts in the field, as well as hands-on and interactive sessions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the activity, the participant should be able to:

- Describe aortic root anatomy and how it pertains to aortic valve repair
- Assess the suitability of the aortic root complex for aortic valve sparing techniques
- Compare and contrast the outcomes, limitations, and benefits of various valve sparing techniques
- Review techniques of bicuspid and tricuspid aortic leaflet repair
- Describe clinical and echocardiographic surveillance after aortic valve repair
- Review techniques for valve-sparing root reimplantation and remodeling in bicuspid and trileaflet valves
- Discuss the importance of, and techniques within, echocardiography to plan for aortic valve repair
- Evaluate the key echocardiographic parameters that are essential for post-repair assessment

TARGET AUDIENCE

This conference has been designed for cardiovascular surgeons, cardiologists, cardiac anesthesiologists, residents and fellows with an interest in aortic valve repair as well as other members of the care team.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT



In support of improving patient care, Penn Medicine is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

DESIGNATION OF CREDIT

PHYSICIANS: Penn Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of **15.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

NURSES: This program provides **15.25 NCPD hours**.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS: AAPA accepts certificates of participation for educational activities certified for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* from organizations accredited by ACCME or a recognized state medical society. PAs may receive a maximum of **15.25** Category 1 credits for completing this activity.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH



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NORTH AMERICAN

AORTIC VALVE
REPAIR SYMPOSIUM

LEARN MORE AT

AoValveRepairSymposium.com

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 Dilatation: 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 Leshnowar, 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 Leshnowar, 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**

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 Hemiycoub +/- 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