



# FOCUS: Valve 2021

**3D live surgeries - workshops - wetlabs**

*Training minimally invasive valve surgery in the era of interventional valve therapies*

**12<sup>th</sup> Training Course for  
Minimally Invasive Heart Valve Surgery**

**Medical University Innsbruck**

**INNSBRUCK | AUSTRIA | DEC. 5 – 8, 2021**



[www.focusvalve.org](http://www.focusvalve.org)

Dear colleagues and friends!

Persevering still in the challenging situation of severe restrictions imposed on our daily lives and activities by the COVID-19 disease we are confident to revert to some normality in late autumn.

The postponed **12<sup>th</sup> FOCUS Valve** course will take place from December 5-8, 2021.

In contrast to the virtual meetings we have become accustomed to, at **Focus Valve** we will **resume physical presence** with all the personal encounters missed so dreadfully for a long time. Focus Valve remains a surgical course based on live surgeries and live discussions between participants and experienced operators and a 3D experience which enhances understanding of the pathology and techniques. We strongly believe that surgical experience, tips and tricks can be transferred to the attending surgeons but not to the web.

Compelling proof of the **outstanding results of surgical valve repair and replacement** is extremely important in the era of rapidly developing interventional techniques. **Minimally invasive valve surgery must become the standard of care** for the majority of patients and surgeons in a **heart valve center** must be ready to perfectly perform less traumatic procedures. Excellence in valve surgery includes the routine use of minimally invasive operations. Only these procedures must be compared to interventional techniques.

Therefore, it is more important than ever **to train surgeons in minimally invasive surgery** as well as **interventional techniques**.

**FOCUS Valve 2021** will address these issues providing a proven 4 days training course including **live surgeries transmitted in 3D** from our OR, lectures, how-to-do-it presentations, workshops, **MICS wetlabs** and **valve interventions in a beating heart model**. This makes the course the ideal teaching platform for teams dedicated to minimally invasive valve surgery. Special attention will be given to minimally invasive mitral valve repair, aortic valve replacement and ablation of atrial fibrillation. **Live surgeries performed by internationally renowned surgeons** as well as **surgeons in training** will give testimony for the appropriability of including MICS into cardiac surgical training.

**FOCUS Valve** is an **educational program** in minimally invasive valve surgery offered by the Department of Cardiac Surgery of Medical University Innsbruck including presentations and live surgeries (Module I), wetlab training (Module II), observership in our OR (Module III) and local proctoring on request (Modul IV).

**Modules II and III** are comprised also in the **MICS Training Days to be held in February 2022**

We are looking forward to welcome you again personally in Innsbruck!

Ludwig Müller, Michael Grimm  
Nikos Bonaros  
Course Directors

Daniel Höfer  
Scientific Secretary

Ottavio Alfieri, Öztekin Oto  
Patrick Perier, Jose Luis Pomar  
Co - Directors

## **HIGHLIGHTS 2021: Mitral valve prolapse and rheumatic diseases**

### **Live surgeries:**

- OR live transmissions with the most advanced 3D technology

### **Interactive workshops:**

- Echocardiography
- MICS techniques for aortic, mitral, tricuspid and atrial fibrillation

### **Wetlabs:**

- Aortic and mitral valve interventions in a porcine beating heart model

**COURSE DIRECTORS:**

Müller Ludwig, AT  
Grimm Michael, AT  
Bonaros Nikolaos, AT

**SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY:**

Höfer Daniel, AT

**FACULTY (to be completed)**

Bauer Axel, AT  
De Bonis Michele, IT  
Doenst Torsten, DE  
Doll Kai Nicolas, DE  
Dumfarth Julia, AT  
Fischlein Theodor, DE  
Freemantle Nicholas, UK  
Friedrich Guy, AT  
Gasser Simone, AT  
Girdauskas Evaldas, DE  
Gollmann-Tepeköylü Can, AT  
Grabenwöger Martin, AT  
Graber Michael, AT  
Gunn Jarmo, FI  
Hangler Herbert, AT  
Hausleiter Jörg, DE  
Hintringer Florian, AT  
Holfeld Johannes, AT

Holubec Tomas, DE  
Holzinger Christoph, AT  
Jacobs Stephan, DE  
Klautz Robert J.M., NL  
Kocher Alfred, AT  
Krapf Christoph, AT  
Krishna Kargi  
Lakew Fitsum, NL  
Lauer Günther, AT  
Liebold Andreas, DE  
Mahr Stephane, AT  
Mair Peter, AT  
Mayr Agnes, AT  
Metzler Bernhard, AT  
Nägele Felix, AT  
Obadia Jean-Francois, FR  
Özpeker Cen, AT  
Pfanmüller Bettina, DE

**CO DIRECTORS:**

Alfieri Ottavio, IT  
Oto Öztekin, TR  
Perier Patrick, DE  
Pomar Jose-Luis, ES

Pölzl Gerhard, AT  
Reichensperner Hermann, DE  
Sakic Adel, AT  
Solinas Marco, IT  
Stastny Lukas, AT  
Suwalski Piotr, PL  
Theurl Markus, AT  
Treede Hendrik, DE  
Velik-Salchner Corinna, AT  
Vohra Hunaid, UK  
Walther Thomas, DE  
Wiedemann Dominik, AT  
Wisser Wilfried, AT  
Wunderlich Nina, DE  
Yadav Rashmi, UK  
Zacharias Joseph, UK  
Zilla Peter, ZA

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

DAY 1, Sunday, December 5, 2021		main auditorium
<b>13:00 - 14:30</b>	<b>Workshop 1: Prolapse: Imaging and basic science Chair: Bauer A, Bonaros N, Doenst T</b>	
	Quantification of mitral regurgitation	Wunderlich N
	Basic science: Mitral valve prolapse	Holfeld J
	The science behind repair:	
	- Annuloplasty / ring types	De Bonis M
	- Pathophysiology of artificial chords and neochords	Yadav R
<b>14:30 - 15:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>15:00 - 16:00</b>	<b>Workshop 2: Basics of MV repair for prolapse Chair: Alfieri O, De Bonis M, Müller L</b>	
	My approach to leaflet prolapse	Perier P
	Evidence for leaflet resection	Doenst T
	Evidence for artificial chords	Walther T
<b>16:00 - 16:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>16:30 - 18:00</b>	<b>Workshop 3: Video session on repair techniques Chair: Grimm M, Vohra H, Treede H</b>	
	PML resection	NN
	Chordae loops	Holubec T
	Mitral annular disjunction: Pathophysiology and diagnosis (presentation)	Mayr A
	Functional prolapse	Klautz R
	Avoid SAM - treat SAM	Girdauskas E
	MIC mitral reoperation	Zacharias J

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

DAY 2, Monday, December 6, 2021		main auditorium
<b>08:30 - 09:00</b>	<b>Welcome</b> Introductory lecture: Biases in randomized trials MIMVS: Evolution over 20 years	Grimm M, Bonaros N Müller L Bonaros N
<b>09:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>Live surgeries transmitted from OR</b> <b>Moderation: Pomar J-L</b> <b>Panel: Girdauskas E, Fischlein T, Grabenwöger M, Kocher A, Oto Ö</b> Case presentation <b>Live case 1</b> Mini-thoracotomy (ART) aortic valve replacement Surgeons: Mahr S / Laufer G <b>Learning objectives:</b> Right anterior minithoracotomy access, exposure, cannulation, prosthesis selection (rapid deployment valves vs. standard) <b>Live case 2</b> Partial sternotomy for ascending aorta + valve replacement Surgeons: Dumfarth J / Grimm M <b>Learning objectives:</b> Minimally invasive AVR, hemisternotomy, cannulation, exposure replacement of the ascending aorta <b>Discussion of strategies: Panel</b>	Nägele F
<b>Coffee break</b> Presentations during live surgeries: <b>Valve selection between 50 and 70 years:</b> pro: Biological pro: Mechanical Summary Aortic valve prosthesis selection Why do aortic valves calcify		
<b>09:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>Wetlab: Artificial chordae implantation and valve sizing</b> <b>Tutor: Sakic A</b> (parallel during live surgeries – 2 working stations, 60 min training)	Wiedemann D Gunn J Fischlein T Gollmann-Tepeköylü C
<b>12:30 - 13:00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>	

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

DAY 2, Monday, December 6, 2021		main auditorium
13:00 - 13:45	<b>Workshop 4: Transcatheter mitral valve therapies</b> <b>Chair: Bauer A, Grimm M, Laufer G</b>	
	Transapical neo-chordae Interventional edge-to-edge repair for leaflet prolapse TMVI	Walther T Hausleiter J Treede H
13:45 - 14:15	<b>Honored guest lecture: Ebstein's anomaly</b>	<b>Perier P</b>
14:15 - 14:30	<b>Coffee break</b>	
14:30 - 18:00	<b>Live surgeries transmitted from OR</b> <b>Moderation: Pomar J-L</b> <b>Panel: Doll K N, Liebold A, Obadia J-F, Perier P, Walther T</b>	
	Case presentation	Gasser S
	<b>Live case 3</b> Totally endoscopic MV repair Surgeons: Bonaros N / Müller L / Stastny L <b>Learning objectives:</b> Team approach, cannulation, cardioplegia, port placement, valve exposure, chordae loops, annuloplasty	
	<b>Live case 4</b> The pragmatic approach: Direct vision MV repair Surgeon: Jacobs S <b>Learning objectives:</b> Essentials of mini-thoracotomy MV repair	
	<b>Discussion of strategies: Panel</b>	
	<b>Coffee break</b>	
	<i>Presentations during live surgeries: Typical failures in MIC mitral valve surgery Cannulation, myocardial protection and deairing Access, port placement, mitral/ tricuspid valve exposure Sizing and fixation of artificial chordae, ring selection and implantation</i>	Obadia J-F Vohra H Solinas M Treede H
	<b>Live-in-a-box:</b> Beating heart tricuspid annuloplasty	
14:30 - 17:30	<b>Wetlab: Artificial chordae implantation and valve sizing</b> <b>Tutor: Sakic A</b> (parallel during live surgeries - 2 working stations, 60 min training)	<b>seminar room</b>
18:00	<b>End of Day 2</b>	

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

DAY 3, Tuesday, December 7, 2021		main auditorium
<b>08:30</b>	<b>ICU report</b>	<b>Surgeon on duty</b>
	Introduction	Reichensperner H
	<b>Key note address: Industry sponsored vs. academic studies in cardiac surgery</b>	Freemantle N
	Comment	Reichensperner H
<b>09:00 - 12:30</b>	<b>Live surgeries transmitted from OR</b> <b>Moderation: Perier P</b> <b>Panel: Holfeld J, Holzinger C, Pfanmüller B, Solinas M, Suwalski P</b>	
	Case presentation	Graber M
	<b>Live case 5</b>	
	Cryoablation and left appendage occlusion concomitant with MV repair Surgeon: Doll K N	
	<b>Learning objectives:</b> Energy sources, ablation lines, LAA occlusion	
	<b>Live case 6</b>	
	Hemisternotomy MV+TV repair Surgeons: Holfeld J / Grimm M	
	<b>Learning objectives:</b> Hemisternotomy access to the mitral and tricuspid valves, MV and TV repair strategy and technique	
	<b>Discussion of strategies: Panel</b>	
	<b>Coffee break</b>	
	<i>Presentations during live surgeries:</i>	
	Atrial fibrillation ablation	Kargi K
	Tricuspid valve repair: Indications and outcomes	Pfanmüller B
	Is the endoclamp still alive?	Liebold A
<b>12:30 - 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>	

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

**DAY 3, Tuesday, December 7, 2021**

**main auditorium**

**13:30 - 14:15**

### **Workshop 5:**

#### **Underappreciated: Rheumatic mitral valve disease**

The different faces of rheumatic valve disease  
Repair techniques

Zilla P  
Oto Ö

**14:15 - 18:00**

### **Live surgeries transmitted from OR**

**Moderation: Perier P**

**Panel: Dumfarth J, Grimm M, Özpeker C, Oto Ö, Wisser W**

Case presentation

Stasny L

#### **Live case 7**

Endoscopic prosthetic mitral valve replacement  
*Surgeons: Höfer D / Müller L / Gasser S*

**Learning objectives:** Valve selection, orientation, fixation

#### **Live case 8**

Advanced endoscopic mitral valve repair  
*Surgeon: Girdauskas E*

**Learning objectives:** Advanced repair strategies

**Discussion of strategies: Panel**

### **Coffee break**

*Presentations during live surgeries:*

**Live-in-a box** presentations

MV repair for functional regurgitation

Endoscopic ablation and LAAO for stand alone AF

Ozaki aortic valve procedure

Hemisternotomy MV surgery

**Closing remarks**

**Adjourn – End of Day 3**

Lakew F  
Suwalski P  
Holfeld J  
Özpeker C  
Perier P



## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

DAY 4, Wednesday, December 8, 2021

**08:00 - 12:00**    **TEE for surgeons**    **conference room anaesthesiology**

*Tutors: Velik-Salchner C, Mair P*

**08:30 - 16:30**    **Porcine beating heart wetlab**    **seminar room I**  
**(8 groups of 4 - 5 participants)**

*Tutors: Bonaros N, Krapf C, Stastny L, Metzler B, Friedrich G, Pölzl G, Hintringer F, Theurl M*

Training of Mitraclip implantation under TEE and cardioscopy guidance, 90 min. group  
Training of balloon expandable TAVI under fluoroscopy and cardioscopy, 90 min. group  
Transapical neochordae implantation  
Beating heart transapical neochordae implantation for p2 prolapse

**09:00 - 13:00**    **MIMVS Wetlab I (morning)**    **seminar room II**

*Tutors: Hangler H, Höfer D*

Practising MIMVS. Focus on shafted instruments, videoendoscopy, knot tying

**14:00 - 18:00**    **MIMVS Wetlab II (afternoon)**    **seminar room II**

*Tutors: Hangler H, Höfer D*

Identical to MIMVS Wetlab I

## ONLINE REGISTRATION: Coming soon

### REGISTRATION FEES

**Preregistration**  
until NOV. 15, 2021

**On site registration**  
after NOV. 15, 2021

DAY 1 - 3, December 5 - 7, 2021				
<b>Focus valve training course</b>		€ 800.-		€ 950.-
DAY 4, December 8, 2021				
<b>TEE for surgeons</b> 08:00 -12:00, limited registration		€ 400.-		€ 500.-
<b>MIMVS wetlab I (morning)</b> 09:00 - 13:00 (identical to wetlab II)		€ 400.-		€ 500.-
<b>MIMVS wetlab II (afternoon)</b> 14:00 - 18:00 (identical to wetlab I)		€ 400.-		€ 500.-
<b>Porcine beating heart wetlab</b> (price per session)		€ 250.-		€ 300.-
<u>TAVI sessions</u>	8:30-10:00	10:30-12:00	13:00-14:30	15:00-16:30
<u>Mitral sessions</u>	8:30-10:00	10:30-12:00	13:00-14:30	15:00-16:30
<i>Residents and nurses are entitled to a 50% discount. Medical students can register free of charge.</i>				
<b>Combo Beating heart wetlab</b>		€ 400.-		€ 500.-

### TEAM REGISTRATION:

Bring your team colleagues to Focus Valve and save up to 50% of the Registration and Workshop fees. Just use the team code of your registration confirmation mail to receive a group discount for further registrations (up to 5 team members).

Registration fees include admittance to scientific sessions (incl. coffee and lunch breaks).

Cancellation must be done in writing to the congress secretariat before November 15, 2021. The registration fee will be refunded less € 50.- service fee.

**INNSBRUCK** | AUSTRIA  
DECEMBER 5 - 8, 2021

**SPONSORS AND PARTNERS**

(as of May 2021)

**ATRICURE**

[www.atricure.com](http://www.atricure.com)

**JOTEC - CRYOLIFE**

[www.jotec.com](http://www.jotec.com); [www.cryolife.com](http://www.cryolife.com)

**NOVOMED**

[www.novomed.at](http://www.novomed.at)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### COURSE DIRECTORS

Ludwig MÜLLER  
Michael GRIMM  
Nikolaos BONAROS

### CO DIRECTORS:

Ottavio ALFIERI  
ÖtzeKin OTO  
Patrick PERIER  
Jose Luis POMAR

### SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY

Daniel HÖFER  
Department of cardiac surgery  
Medical University, Innsbruck

### COURSE LOCATION

LKI/Universitätskliniken Innsbruck  
Chirurgie (Building no. 8)  
Main Auditorium (Großer Hörsaal)  
Entrance Innerkoflerstrasse  
6020 Innsbruck, Austria

### CONGRESS CONTACT

Medical University Innsbruck  
Department of Heart Surgery  
Anichstrasse 35  
6020 Innsbruck, Austria  
Contact Gabriele Wagner  
Phone: +43 512 504-22349  
Email: [gabriele.wagner@tirol-kliniken.at](mailto:gabriele.wagner@tirol-kliniken.at)

### CONGRESS ORGANIZER



MAW - International Exhibitions and Advertising  
Medizinische Ausstellungs- und Werbegesellschaft  
Freyung 6/3, 1010 Vienna, Austria  
Contact: Barbara Horak, David Grunseis, Anne Scholtyssek  
Phone: +43 1 536 63-34 or -62 or -83  
Fax: +43 1 536 63-16  
Email: [valve@maw.co.at](mailto:valve@maw.co.at)  
Web: [www.maw.co.at](http://www.maw.co.at)

### Information about

**ONLINE REGISTRATION**  
**HOTEL RESERVATION**  
**INVITATION LETTER FOR VISA APPLICATION**



**please visit: [www.focusvalve.org](http://www.focusvalve.org)**