

5–6 September 2026
Bern, Switzerland



Preliminary PROGRAM



Young Faculty Committee Summer School

5–6 September 2026 | Bern



Welcome Words

Date

5 – 6 September 2026

Venue

Sternen Muri
Thunstrasse 80
3074 Muri bei Bern
Switzerland

Course Directors

Anastasia Alokina
Joseph Kletzer
Sandra Rečičárová

Co-Directors

Martin Czerny
Andreas Martens

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Aortic Association and the Young Faculty Committee, we are delighted to welcome you to the YFC Summer School 2026 in Bern.

This course brings together a selected group of young physicians with a strong interest in aortic medicine, providing a unique environment for learning, collaboration, and professional development. Through a combination of expert lectures, practical training, and interactive discussions, participants will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of contemporary aortic care while developing skills that can be directly applied in clinical practice.

A particular strength of the Summer School lies in the close interaction between participants and faculty. The course is designed to encourage active engagement, exchange of ideas, and interdisciplinary collaboration across specialties involved in the treatment of aortic disease.

We wish you an inspiring, interactive, and rewarding Summer School and hope that your time in Bern will provide valuable knowledge, new perspectives, and lasting professional connections.

Kind regards,
**Aortic Association
Young Faculty Committee**



Summer School Program

Saturday, September 5th, 2026

08:30 – 08:40	Introduction	
	Welcome & Introduction – YFC	Young Faculty
08:40 – 09:20	SESSION 1: AORTIC MEDICINE	
	Understanding the Underlying Disease	Martin Czerny
	Discussion	All
09:20 – 10:40	SESSION 2: OPEN AORTIC SURGERY – Theoretical framework	
	Ascending Aorta + Arch (+ Debranching/ Neuroprotection)	Andreas Martens
	Hybrid Approach	Martin Czerny
	Thoracoabdominal Aorta + Descending	Florian Schönhoff
	Abdominal Aorta	Aleksandar Dimov
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 – 11:40	SESSION 3: ENDOVASCULAR AORTIC SURGERY – Theoretical Framework	
	Standard Access and Closure	Stoyan Kondov
	Standard Open Vascular Access and Closure	Stoyan Kondov
	Access Site Complications and how to fix them	Mario Lescan
	Toolbox of Devices for Endovascular Procedures: BEVAR/FEVAR + (T)EVAR + off the shelf Branched Devices	Mario Lescan

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11:40 – 12:40	Session 4: CASE PLANNING – What we need to know	
	CBL Like Case presentation – Endo	Mario Lescan
	Interactive CBL Like Case Guidance (Mentimeter)	Mario Lescan
	CBL Like Case Presentation – Open	Andreas Martens
	Interactive CBL Like Case Guidance (Mentimeter)	Andreas Martens
12:40 – 13:10	Lunch Break	
13:10 – 13:55	Lunch Symposium	
13:55 – 18:10	Session 5: HANDS-ON PART 1	
	Tutor Briefing – Operative Workflow & Strategy	
	Hands-on Endovascular Skills - Ultrasound-guided percutaneous femoral access and closure - Open femoral cut-down, access and surgical closure Strategy choice between percutaneous vs open access including bailout concepts - Fundamental wire and catheter handling skills - Stent-graft positioning and deployment in the aorta - Access vessel reconstruction Hands-on Open Surgery	
18:10 – 18:15	Wrap-up Day 1	
19:00 – 22:00	Networking Dinner	

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Sunday, September 6th, 2026

08:00 – 12:30	Session 6: HANDS-ON PART 2	
	Abdominal Strategy Briefing	
	Hands-on Aortic Arch Module Focus: -Infrarenal AAA exposure and proximal control -Proximal aortic anastomosis of bifurcated Y-graft -Distal limb anastomoses to iliac/femoral arteries -Condensed full-sequence rehearsal (clamp strategy, anastomosis order, de-airing, hemostasis)	
12:30 – 13:00	Lunch Break	
13:00 – 13:45	Lunch Symposium	
13:45 – 14:40	Session 7: CASE PLANNING – SIMULATION	
	Case Briefing	Mario Lescan
	Case Planning with planning simulators Simulation scenarios: • Difficult iliac anatomy • Alternative access strategies • Emergency conversion logic • Management of access complications	
14:40 – 15:25	Session 8: INTERACTIVE SESSION – MENTIMETER CASE CHALLENGE	
	Format: • Real CT-based cases • Live voting • Access strategy decisions • Complication prediction • Guideline-based management questions	
15:25 – 15:30	Closing Remarks	