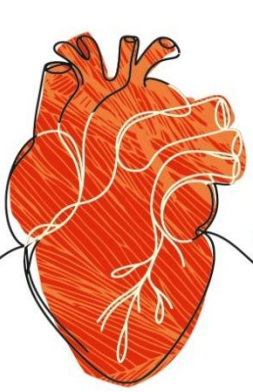
MASTER COURSE IN HEART FAILURE

Sofia BULGARIA

19 – 21 November 2026

Grand Hotel Millennium





Event endorsed by ESC European Society of Cardiology

Directors:
Vassil Traykov, Sofia / Mariya Tokmakova, Plovdiv
Thomas F. Lüscher, MD, FRCP, FESC, London

Day 1, November 19th, 2026

Congress Lobby, fl. 2

09:00 **Registration and Welcome Coffee**

Grand Hall Millennium, fl. 2

10:00-12:00 **Opening Session: Heart Failure: From Cinderella to Center Stage**
Chairs: Thomas F. Lüscher, London/Zurich, Mariya Tokmakova, Plovdiv and Vassil Traykov, Sofia

10:00	Welcome by Course Directors	Thomas F. Lüscher, London/Zurich Mariya Tokmakova, Plovdiv Vassil Traykov, Sofia
10:10	Learning outcomes	Thomas F. Lüscher, London/Zurich
10:20	Cardiovascular disease – the new epidemic in Bulgaria	Kiril Karamfilov, Sofia
10:40	What is in the new 2026 ESC HF Guidelines Updates?	Ovidiu Chioncel, Bucharest
11:00	The 2026 ESC Cardiovascular Disease and CKD	Christoph Wanner, Oxford/Würzburg
11:20	Atrial fibrillation according to the 2024 ESC Guidelines	Vassil Traykov, Sofia
11:40	*Panel discussion: Reality and future perspectives of HF care in Bulgaria*	

Congress Lobby, fl. 2

12:00-12:45 **Buffet lunch**

12:45-14:00 **Case-based Interactive Learning – Imaging of HF**
(Participants are divided into three groups based on a specific mark on their badges. They are requested to stay in their designated rooms for the three days of interactive learning, as mentors will rotate each day.)

Advanced Echocardiography in HF	Denisa Muraru, Milan
Cardiac MRI	Yasmin Rustamova, Baku
CRT optimization	Cecilia Linde, Stockholm

14:00-16:00 **Session 2: Assessing and Diagnosing Heart Failure**
Chairs: Yoto Yotov, Varna, Cecilia.Linde, Stockholm

14:00	The spectrum of HF and what it means for practice	Thomas F. Lüscher, London
14:20	Assessing heart failure in clinical practice	Ovidiu Chioncel, Bucharest
14:40	Lifestyle interventions: key issues of diet and exercise	Ivan Gruev, Sofia
15:00	Echocardiography in HF: LVEF, Valves & pulmonary circulation	Denisa Muraru, Milan
15:20	Multimodality imaging in heart failure	Aju Pazhenkottil, Zurich
15:40	*Panel discussion*	

16:00-16:30 **Coffee Break**

16:30-18:10 **Session 3: Comorbidities**
Chairs: Petar Seferovic, Belgrade, Assen Goudev, Sofia

16:30	Diabetes and heart failure: effects of SGLT-2i	Petar Seferovic, Belgrade
16:50	Atrial fibrillation: Cause, consequence and cure of heart failure	Vassil Traykov, Sofia
17:10	CKD and cardiovascular risk	Mariya Tokmakova, Plovdiv
17:30	Frailty and HF	Konstantin Gospodinov, Pleven
17:50	*Panel discussion*	

Congress Lobby, fl. 2
18:10 **Welcome Reception, Get Together**

Day 2, November 20th, 2026

Grand Hall Millennium, fl. 2
09:00-11:00 **Session 4: Pharmacotherapy**
Chair: Ivan Gruev, Sofia

09:00	Obesity and HF: effects of GLP-1 agonists	Gianluigi Savarese, Stockholm
09:20	Starting drugs in HF: which ones, how fast an in what order?	Thomas F. Lüscher, London
09:40	Five secret tips in the successful treatment of heart failure	Petar Seferovic, Belgrade
10:00	Contemporary Management of Heart Failure with HFpEF	Assen Goudev, Sofia
10:20	Revival of old drugs in HF: Digitalis and Diuretics	Udo Bavendiek, Hannover
10:40	*Panel discussion*	

11:00-11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30-13:10 **Session 5: Devices**
Chairs: Vassil Velchev, Sofia, Kiril Karamfilov, Sofia

11:30	Remote monitoring and digital health	Stephan Rosenkranz, Cologne
11:50	Patient selection for CRT	Cecilia Linde, Stockholm
12:10	Patient selection for ICD	Vassil Traykov, Sofia
12:30	Revascularisation in heart failure	Valery Gelev, Sofia
12:50	*Panel discussion*	

Congress Lobby, fl. 2
13:10-14:00 **Buffet lunch**

14:00-15:15 **Case-based Interactive Learning**
(Participants are divided into three groups based on a specific mark on their badges. They are requested to stay in their designated rooms for the three days of interactive learning, as mentors will rotate each day.)

	Advanced Echocardiography in HF	Denisa Muraru, Milan
	Cardiac MRI	Yasmin Rustamova, Baku
	CRT optimization	Cecilia Linde, Stockholm

15:15-15:45 **Coffee Break**

Grand Hall Millennium, fl. 2
15:45-17:25 **Session 6: Acute and Advanced Heart Failure**
Chairs: Ovidiu Chioncel, Bucharest Ivo Petrov, Sofia

15:45	Advanced HF: definition and management	Marija Polovina, Belgrade
16:05	Managing acute HF	Yoto Yotov, Varna
16:25	LVADs as bridge to transplant or destination therapy	Felix Schönrath, Berlin
16:45	Heart transplantation: indications, timing and patient follow-up	Felix Schönrath, Berlin
17:05	*Panel discussion*	

Day 3, November 21st, 2026

Grand Hall Millennium, fl. 2

09:00-10:40 Session 7: Cardiomyopathies and Valvular Heart disease
Chairs: Valery Gelev, Sofia, Mariana Gospodinova, Sofia

09:00	What do the 2025 ESC Guidelines on Valvular heart disease say?	Fabien Praz, Bern
09:20	When is the right time for SAVR or TAVR?	Ivo Petrov, Sofia
09:40	Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy: clinical predictors and outcome	Perry Elliott, London
10:00	Cardiac amyloidosis	Mariya Tokmakova, Plovdiv
10:20	*Panel discussion*	

10:40-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:30 Case-based Interactive Learning
(Participants are divided into three groups based on a specific mark on their badges. They are requested to stay in their designated rooms for the three days of interactive learning, as mentors will rotate each day.)

Advanced Echocardiography in HF	Denisa Muraru, Milan
Cardiac MRI	Yasmin Rustamova, Baku
CRT optimization	Vassil Velchev, Sofia

12:30-13:00 Closing Session
Wrap-up and Adjourn

Congress Lobby, fl.2

13:00 Buffet lunch

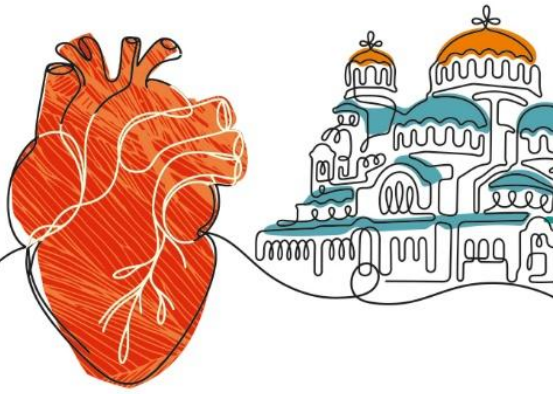
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