

VM RETINA MEETING - SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM 2026

	Thursday, April 16
14.00	Registration
16.00 – 19.00	<p>UNMET NEEDS IN RETINA: PIONEERING SOLUTIONS FOR THE FUTURE</p> <p>In the upcoming panels, moderators will engage panelists in discussions on areas for improvement in clinical practice related to the topics.</p>
16.00 – 16.30	<p>CUTTING-EDGE VITRECTOMY Innovations in Tools, Techniques & Illumination</p> <p>Moderators: Grazia Pertile, Donald D'Amico</p> <p><i>Panel:</i> Colin McCannel, Andreas Stahl, Tommaso Rossi Daniel Velasco (Alcon), Thomas Bosshard (Örtli), Akhil Ramesh Kumar (Zeiss)</p> <p>Presentations: Daniel Velasco (Alcon), Thomas Bosshard (Örtli), Akhil Ramesh Kumar (Zeiss)</p>
16.30 – 17.00	<p>ROBOTICS IN VITREORETINAL SURGERY: ARE WE READY?</p> <p>Moderators: Fanny Nerinckx, Koorosh Faridpooya</p> <p><i>Panel:</i> Matthias Becker, Jasmina Kapetanovic, Lyndon da Cruz, Mohammad Nasser, Gerrit Naus (Zeiss), Arnaud Tellier (Acusurgical)</p> <p>Preceyes Robot (Zeiss) - Matthias Becker Luca robot (Acusurgical) - Fanny Nerinckx / Arnaud Tellier Oculotronics robot - Koorosh Faridpooya Concentric tube robots for RPE cell transplantation - Lyndon Da Cruz KSEC robot - Khalid Al Sabti</p>
17.00 – 17.30	<p>INNOVATIVE THERAPY AND DRUG DELIVERY suprachoroidal, subretinal, PDS</p> <p>Moderators: Ehab El Rayes, David Steel</p> <p><i>Panel:</i> Carl Awh, Shohista Saidkasimova, Armin Wolf Justin Creel (Genentech), Bruce Beckstein (Medone), Paulo Gaisinho Machado (Zeiss)</p>

	<p>Suprachoroidal buckles - Ehab El Rayes PDS - Carl Awh Subretinal via suprachoroidal for gene therapy - Justin Creel Suprachoroidal drug delivery - Bruce Beckstein tba - Paulo Gaisinho Machado Subretinal Gene Therapy - AbbVie</p>
17.45-18:15	<p>NEXT-GENERATION VISUALIZATION Head-Mounted Display and super widefield visualization in Retinal Surgery Moderators: Siegfried Priglinger, Mario Romano</p> <p>Panel: Rodolfo Mastropasqua, Anat Lowenstein, Lyubomyr Lytvynchuk, Silvia Tumino (Zeiss), Marc Cirlin (Beyeonics), Lars Risby (Oculus)</p> <p>Head-Mounted Display (HMD) Zeiss Visionary HMD - Silvia Tumino (Zeiss) Beyeonics One HMD - Marc Cirlin (Beyeonics) Leica HMD - tba</p> <p>Widefield visualization Oculus BIOM® 5 - Lars Risby Aclon Ngenuity 1.5 - tba B&L SeeLuma incl. iOCT - tba</p>
18.15-18:45	<p>SMART RETINA AI FACE-OFF in MEDICAL RETINA: THREE CASES, THREE ANALYSES A case-based comparison of three AI systems interpreting AMD, DME and RVO Moderators: Martin Zinkernagel, Siegfried Priglinger</p> <p>Panel: Martin Spitzer, Benedikt Schworm, Carlos Ciller (RetinAI), Corinna zur Bonsen-Thomas (RetInsight); Manuel Opitz (Deepeye), Doug Runt (Zeiss)</p> <p>DeepEye - Manuel Opitz RetinAI - Carlos Ciller RetInsight - Corinna zur Bonsen-Thomas</p>
	Discussion

	Friday, April 17
8.00 – 12.00	<p>LIVE SURGERY</p> <p><i>Internationally renowned surgeons will showcase the intricacies of their surgical techniques during a live procedure from their operating rooms and engage in a panel discussion.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Kourous Rezaei</p>
8.00 - 10.00	Panel: Grazia Pertile, Francesco Boscia, Alistair Laidlaw, Patricia Udaondo, Aman Chandra, Mariantonia Ferrara, Martin Spitzer
10.00 – 12.00	Panel: Nur Acar, Francesco Faraldi, Heinrich Heimann, Rob Henderson, Nicole Eter, David Yorston, Ulrich Bartz-Schmidt
8.00 – 12.00	<p>Essen: Nikolaos Bechrakis</p> <p>Leuven: Peter Stalmans</p> <p>Hong Kong: Angie Fong</p> <p>Munich1: Siegfried Priglinger, Flavio Rezende</p> <p>Munich2: Vincenzo Ferrara, Siegfried Priglinger</p> <p>Ferrara: Marco Mura, tba</p> <p>Rome: Stanislao Rizzo, Tomaso Caporossi</p> <p>Sulzbach: Peter Szurman, Boris Stanzel, Karl Boden</p>
12.00 – 13:00	<p>What's new in vitreoretinal disease interface disorders?</p> <p>Moderators: David Steel, Carl Awh</p> <p>Panel: Stratos Gotzaridis, Hideyasu Oh, Marcin Stopa, Julian Klaas, Andrea Govetto, Siegfried Priglinger</p> <p>ILM-Flap: What's the evidence? - David Steel Panel Discussion</p> <p>Gas-less FTMH Surgery - my technique</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marcin Stopa 2. Stratos Gotzaridis <p><i>Panel Discussion</i></p> <p>Innovative Approaches for large, persistent macular holes after previous ILM peeling</p> <p>Macular Lift +/- Platelet Rich Plasma - Siegfried Priglinger</p> <p>Descemet Membrane - Marco Mura</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Pathophysiology and Current Treatment Options of LMHs - Julian Klaas Panel Discussion</p> <p>Macular Pucker – Timing of surgery and biomarkers - Andrea Govetto</p>

	<p>How should we surgically peel ERM and ILM? - Carl Awh Panel Discussion</p>
13.00 – 13.30	<p>FOREVER CHEMICALS AND GREEN HOUSE GASES</p> <p>Moderators: Mariantonia Ferrara, Mario Romano</p> <p>Panel: Grazia Pertile, Nik Tzoumas, Stratos Gotzaridis, Ulrich Bartz-Schmidt</p> <p>What do VR Surgeons need to know?</p> <p>EU EYE - EMA overview of the current situation and threats to current practice - Mario Romano What are the Greenhouse gas effects of fluorinated gases - Mariantonia Ferrara</p> <p>How can we reduce the amount of fluorinated gases used?</p> <p>Suprachoroidal Viscopexie - Stratos Gotzaridis Which gas is better: SF6, C2F6, C3F6? – Nik Tzoumas Do we really need to use gas? - Grazia Pertile</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p>
13.30 – 14.30	<i>Lunch</i>
14.30 – 15.20	<p>HOW DO YOU DO IT</p> <p>Moderator: Ehab El Rayes</p> <p>Panel: Carlos Mateo, Claus Eckardt, Siegfried Priglinger, Marco Mura, Stratos Gotzaridis, Donald D’Amico, Nicole Eter, Peter Szurman, Jose García Arumí</p>
15.20 – 15:50	<p>HIGH MYOPIA</p> <p>Moderator: Pepe Garcia Arumi, Patricia Udaondo Panel: Carlos <i>Mateo</i>, Şengül Özdek, Marco Mura</p> <p>Treatment of pediatric high myopia–related macular hole retinal detachment - Şengül Özdek Management of retinal detachment in high myopic eyes - Marco Mura Surgical management of high myopic macular holes - Jose García Arumí Pitfalls in the management of tractional myopic maculopathy - Carlos Mateo</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p>
15:50– 16.20	<p>NEW DEVELOPMENTS – Start Up Solutions</p> <p>What’s going to change the way we treat people?</p> <p>Moderator: Siegfried Priglinger, Lyndon Da Cruz</p>

	<p>Panel: Thomas Wolfensberger, Maurizio Mete, Max Hammer, Bence Gyoergy, Andrea Cusumano</p> <p>Modern Vitreous Replacement - Max Hammer Optogenetics - Bence Gyoergy RPE sheets - Lyndon Da Cruz Next-Generation Adaptive Optics: A New Horizon for Early Cellular Diagnosis and Advanced Retinal Therapies - Andrea Cusumano</p>
16.20 – 17:00	Coffee break
17.00 – 17.30	<p>GENE THERAPY</p> <p>Moderators: Bart Leroy, Rob Henderson</p> <p>Panel: Fanny Nerinckx, Lejla Vajzovic, Siegfried Priglinger, Ulrich Bartz-Schmidt</p> <p>Assessing Outcomes in Gene Therapy: Measures, Limits, and Failures - Bart Leroy Next-Generation Gene Therapies: What’s in Trials and What’s Coming Next - Lejla Vajzovic From Hope to Evidence: Long-Term Follow-Up in Pediatric Gene Therapy - Siegfried Priglinger Surgical Pearls and Pitfalls: What to Do and What to Avoid - Rob Henderson</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p>
17:30 – 18:00	<p>EVIDENCE BASED TIMING of Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment</p> <p>Moderators: Roxane Hillier, David Yorston</p> <p>Panel: Aman Chandra, Emilia Maggio, Julian Klaas</p> <p>How urgent are RRD - David Yorston New OCT biomarkers - Emilia Maggio When is a Mac off detachment off - Julian Klaas Temporising Vitrectomy - Aman Chandra</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p>
18.00 – 18.30	<p>TAMPONADE COMPLICATIONS - VIDEOSESSION</p> <p>Intraoperative and postoperative complications</p> <p>Moderators: Grazia Pertile, Thomas Wolfensberger</p>

	<p>Panel: Mario Romano, Nikolaos Bechrakis, Yannick Le Mer, Francesco Faraldi</p> <p>Prospective trial on Silicone Oil emulsification - Mario Romano Silicone Oil related visual loss - Grazia Pertile PFCL complications - Thomas Wolfensberger Gas complications - Francesco Faraldi Densiron Complications - Nikolaos Bechrakis</p>
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	Saturday, April 18
8.30 – 9.50	<p>NEAR LIVE SURGERY</p> <p><i>The surgeons will present extended segments of surgical videos with the aim of engaging in detailed discussions on the instrumentation and techniques employed.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Don D’Amico</p> <p>Panel: Grazia Pertile, Hideyasu Oh, Colin McCannel, Rodolfo Mastropasqua, Zhao Peiquan, Siegfried Priglinger, José García-Arumí, Carlos Mateo, Roxane Hillier, Chien Wong, Rob Henderson</p>
9.50 – 10.40	<p>Hot Seat VR Surgery - What would be your next move?</p> <p><i>Through carefully selected, step-by-step surgical video sequences, participants will be taken right into the operating room - facing real-life complications and decision points. At critical moments, the audience will be invited to answer interactive multiple-choice questions: “What would you do now?”</i></p> <p>Moderator: Nikolaos Bechrakis, Heinrich Heimann</p> <p>Panel: Lars-Olof Hattenbach, Şengül Özdek, Umberto Lorenzi, Lyubomyr Lytvynchuk</p>
10.40 – 11.10	Coffee break
11.10 – 11:30	<p>PVR PROPHYLAXIS</p> <p>Moderator: Martin Zinkernagel, Boris Stanzel</p> <p>Panel: Armin Wolf, Chien Wong, Andreas Stahl</p> <p>Vitreoschisis and its role in PVR - Koen van Overdam Role of methotrexate in PVR treatment - Boris Stanzel New proposed PVR staging scheme - Martin Zinkernagel</p>
11.30 – 12.00	RETINAL DETACHMENT: ONE CASES – DIFFERENT APPROACHES

	<p>How would you do it? Moderator: Roxane Hillier, Shohista Saidkasimova</p> <p>Panel: Nicole Eter, Grazia Pertile, Lejla Vajzovic, Fanny Nerinckx</p>
12:00-12:30	<p>Scleral-Fixated IOLs Made Safer: Tips and Tricks for Carlevale and Yamane Techniques</p> <p>Learning from Experts' Failures: A Video-Based Session on Avoiding Complications</p> <p>Moderators: Shohista Saidkasimova, Fabio Patelli</p> <p>Panel: José García-Arumí, Fanis Pavlidis, Francesco Boscia, Peter Szurman</p> <p>Carlevale IOL - Pepe Garcia Arumi, Francesco Boscia, Fabio Patelli Yamane 25g Technique - Fanis Pavlidis Yamane - Shohista Saidkasimova, Peter Szurman Sutured IOL – Martin Zinkernagel</p> <p>IOL Dislocation: Anterior vs Full Vitrectomy? Panel Discussion</p>
12.30 – 13.00	<p>Amnion in VR Surgery</p> <p>Moderators: Stanislao Rizzo, Grazia Pertile</p> <p>Panel: Umberto Lorenzi, Carlos Mateo, Marco Mura, Tomaso Caporossi</p> <p>Introduction – Grazia Pertile My technique for introducing and unfolding the amniotic membrane – Stanislao Rizzo Discussion</p> <p>Macular Hole - Tomaso Caporossi Macular Hole – Carlos Mateo Discussion</p> <p>RD/PVR - Umberto Lorenzi Post Trauma – Grazia Pertile Discussion</p>
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00– 14:20	<p>WHAT TO DO IN HYPOTONY</p> <p>Moderator: Grazia Pertile, Stratos Gotzaridis</p>

	<p>Panel: Peter Szurman, Louisa Wickham</p> <p>Suturing ciliary body - Grazia Pertile Air in the anterior chamber - Stratos Gotzaridis Permanent tamponades - Peter Szurman Visco-Tamponades - Louisa Wickham</p>
14.20– 14:50	<p>TUMORS</p> <p>Moderators: Jens F. Killgaard, Nikolaos Bechrakis,</p> <p>Panel: Rumana Hussain, Siegfried Priglinger, Mario Romano, Marcin Stopa, Paul Foerster</p> <p>Endoresection: When and how to do it - Case presentation Paneldiscussion Toxic tumor Syndrom - when does it occur, how do we avoid it</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p>
14.50 – 15.50	<p>What should we know about DR and Diabetic Vitrectomy and News</p> <p>Moderators: Alistair Laidlaw, Nicolas Feltgen</p> <p>Suprachoroidal Surabgene Lomparovec, GLP-1 receptor agonist, novel glucose-lowering medication - Lejla Vajzovic Angiofibrotic Switch: Pathology of PDR, role of anti-VEGF - Focke Ziemssen Benefits and Tricks in Tamponades - Felicitas Bucher Thresholds and Timing for intervention - Alistair Laidlaw</p> <p>Surgical Pearls of PDR Surgery - Videos with Panel Discussion Moderator: Louisa Wickham <i>Panel:</i> Alistair Laidlaw, Marco Mura, Francesco Boscia, Patricia Udaonda, Andreas Stahl</p>
15.50 – 16.20	<p>WHAT I HAVE CHANGED / STOPPED DOING in my PRACTICE DURING the LAST 2 YEARS</p> <p><i>Progress in surgery consists of small or significant changes, sometimes requiring the courage to abandon familiar approaches and introduce new techniques aimed at achieving better outcomes.</i></p> <p>Moderators: Carlos Mateo, Grazia Pertile Panel: Diego Ruiz Casas, Fabio Patelli, Pepe Garcia Arumi, Claus Eckardt</p>
16.20-17.20	<p>Retinaws - VITREORETINAL NIGHTMARES</p>

	<p><i>The moderator will lead the panelists in discussing significant events that occurred during vitreoretinal surgery procedures.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Kourous Rezaei</p> <p>Panel: Nur Acar, Roxane Hillier, Siegfried Priglinger, Stanislao Rizzo, Shohista Saidkasimova, Peter Stalmans, Daniele Tognetto</p>
	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>FINALE</p>