

Heart Failure Care 2026 – “From Bench to Beat”

Wednesday, 11 March 2026
University Hospital Zurich – Main Auditorium

09:00 – 09:45 | Welcome Coffee & Tech Playground (Foyer)

Interactive showcase by ETH, UZH, and industry partners.
Kick off the symposium with coffee, networking, and meet start-ups and research groups presenting the latest in cardiac technology and innovation.

Background film “From Bench to Beat.”

Morning Session | Innovation & Regeneration (09:45 – 12:15)

From cellular engineering to functional hearts – exploring how science turns into recovery.

Time	Program
09:45 – 09:55	Opening Remarks Prof. Omer Dzemali & Organizing Committee <i>Setting the tone for the day: where research meets reality.</i>
09:55 – 10:20	Heart Failure 2026: Mapping the Modern Epidemic Dr. med. Andreas Flammer <i>Current trends, challenges, and the global burden of advanced heart failure.</i>
10:20 – 10:45	From Genome to Heartbeat: Rewriting the Human Pump PD Dr. Robert Katzschmann <i>Genetic engineering and biomanufacturer eshaping the future of the failing heart.</i>
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee Break & Networking
11:15 – 11:40	Organs on Demand: The Age of Bioprinting and Xenotransplants Christoph Knossala <i>From long-term perfusion vaults to cross-species organ design – how close are we?</i>
11:40 – 12:05	Life Between Beats: The Evolution of Organ Care Systems PD Dr. Franz Immer <i>Keeping donated hearts alive longer: engineering, ethics, and evidence.</i>
12:05 – 13:00	Lunch & Industry Showcase <i>Explore industry breakthroughs and network with innovators.</i>

Afternoon Session | Data, AI & Mechanical Support Systems (13:00 – 16:45)

When data, devices, and decision-making merge to redefine advanced heart care.

Time	Program
13:00 – 13:25	Ghost in the Chest: How AI is Writing the Guidelines Dr. Milan Milojevic <i>How artificial intelligence is reshaping clinical reasoning and future guidelines.</i>
13:25 – 13:50	Big Data, Big Heart: Insights from Euromax Dr. Edgar Daeter <i>Leveraging continental data to drive outcomes and redefine best practice.</i>
13:50 – 14:15	Beyond Blood Flow: The Rise of Smart Mechanical Support Prof. Roberto Lorusso <i>Integrating sensors, AI, and robotics into next-generation MCS systems.</i>
14:15 – 14:45	Coffee Break & Networking
14:45 – 15:10	Timing the Transition: From Temporary to Durable MCS Dr. Igor Tudorache <i>Clinical reasoning in timing the transition from bridge to destination therapy.</i>
15:10 – 15:35	Ethics on the Edge: Who Owns the Beating Future? Prof. Frank Ruschitzka <i>Balancing human dignity and digital dominance in cardiac innovation.</i>
15:35 – 15:45	Closing Remarks PD Dr. Patrick Mayers <i>Reflections on the future of heart failure care.</i>
15:45 – 16:45	Reception & Networking <i>A toast to innovation and collaboration.</i>