

The 10th Joint AFNET/EHRA Consensus Conference 2025

Transforming Prevention of Heart Failure and Stroke in Frail AF Patients: Innovative Antithrombotic Therapies, AF Burden Reduction, and Optimized Workflows

5th-7th May 2025

Hotel Le Manoir de Gressy, Gressy (close to Paris), France

The 10th AFNET/EHRA consensus conference will focus on advancing the prevention of heart failure and stroke in increasingly frail patients with atrial fibrillation (AF) in light of the recently published 2024 ESC AF guidelines. The event features a comprehensive two-day program. Key sessions include discussions on new anticoagulants, revisiting AF patterns, and the impact of recent trials like LOOP and NOAH. Experts will explore topics such as arrhythmia burden on cardiovascular events, cognitive dysfunction, genetic factors like PITX2, and innovative rhythm control strategies. Breakout sessions will delve into improved risk prediction for stroke prevention, better rhythm management, the MAESTRIA project, advancements in pacing, modern AF drug therapies, and comorbidity management. The conference will culminate with plenary discussions to consolidate insights and develop consensus statements, aiming to enhance outcomes for frail patients with AF through emerging therapies and optimized workflows.

Preliminary Conference Programme

Monday, 5th May 2025

Arrival

- **7:30 PM** Welcome dinner at hotel

Tuesday, 6th May 2025

- **8:00 AM** Welcome from AFNET & EHRA (Paulus Kirchhof and Jose Merino)

Session 1: Comorbidity therapy and its effects on the atria

Time: 8:15 AM – 9:15 AM

- **Talk 1:** *Managing Comorbidities in patients with AF (diabetes, CKD, COPD) (M Rienstra)*
- **Talk 2:** *Exercise or injections: Lifestyle modifications in patients with AF. (I van Gelder)*
- **Talk 3:** *Molecular biology of atrial cardiomyopathy (D Dobrev)*
- **Talk 4:** *Positive effects of MRA and antifibrotic drugs on AF, HF, and stroke (A Goette)*
- **Talk 5:** *Positive Effects of Metabolic Drugs on AF, HF, and stroke (SGLT2i, GLP1-RA) (N Voigt)*



- **Talk 6:** *Can biomarkers quantify atrial cardiomyopathy and underlying disease processes?* (L Fabritz)

Coffee Break: 9:15 – 9:30 AM

Session 2: Antithrombotic Therapies and Stroke Prevention

Time: 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

- **Talk 7:** *Ongoing AF screening trials (SAFER, Find AF-2, NORSCREEN) and how they compare to completed, neutral trials (STROKESTOP II, LOOP, STROKESTOP)* (S Diederichsen)
- **Talk 8:** *How would a positive AF screening trial look like?* (E Svennberg)
- **Talk 9:** *Stroke Prevention in Patients without established clinical risk factors (CHADS-VA 0-1, AF without Vascular Disease, low-burden AF)* (D Kotecha)
- **Talk 10:** *Advancements in Factor XI Antagonists for Antithrombotic Therapy* (G Lip)
- **Talk 11:** *AF and Cognitive function: Challenges and next steps* (L Rivard)
- **Talk 12:** *Just cut or close the LAA: Update on ongoing LAA occluder trials* (M Rosenqvist)

Coffee Break: 10:30 – 10:45 AM

Session 3: AF burden and rhythm control interventions

Time: 10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

- **Talk 13:** *AF burden: An EHRA definition (CIED, wearables, intermittent ECGs)?* (W Doehner)
- **Talk 14:** *AF Burden Reduction in ACC/AHA/HRS Guidelines, 2024 ESC Guidelines, the 9th AFNET/EHRA Consensus and the ESC Council on Stroke & EHRA Consensus on the Definition of Atrial Fibrillation Burden* (C Blomstrom-Lundquist)
- **Talk 15:** *AF burden and its reduction. An US American perspective* (J Chyou)
- **Talk 16:** *What will we learn from CABAHFPEF DZHK27 and EASThigh-AFNET 11?* (A Rillig)
- **Talk 17:** *Early rhythm control in acute stroke: EAST-STROKE* (G Thomalla)
- **Talk 18:** *Stopping anticoagulation after successful AF ablation? OCEAN* (A Verma)
- **Talk 19:** *The 2025 EHRA practical consensus on AADs: Current and new AADs.* (J Merino)

Coffee Break: 11:45 – 12:00 AM

Session 4: Optimizing AF ablation services and selecting the right patients

Time: 12:00 AM – 1:00 PM

- **Talk 20:** *Optimizing Workflows for High-Throughput AF Ablation Services (Same-day discharge, lab usage / procedure times)* (M Chung)



- **Talk 21:** Pro-Con debate: *PFA improves and is becoming the default energy source for AF ablation (R Wakili) vs. Cryoenergy is powerful: No reason to change for now. (J Andrade)*
- **Talk 22:** *What are the training requirements for an interventional EP in the single-shot ablation era? Beyond the EHRA core curriculum and the HRS ablation document (P Sommer)*
- **Talk 23:** *AI and AF: preliminary results of the MAESTRIA Consortium (S Hatem)*
- **Talk 24:** *Predicting arrhythmia-induced cardiomyopathy and recovery of left ventricular function (R Schnabel)*
- **Talk 25:** *AF burden reduction and outcomes in EAST-AFNET 4 (U Schotten)*

[Group picture will be taken before lunch]

Lunch: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Session 5: BREAK-OUT-SESSIONS

Time: 2:00 – 7:00 PM

- **2:00 – 4:30 PM**
 - Break-out sessions (various groups)
- **5:00 – 7:00 PM**
 - Report back to plenary (figures, Tables), discussion

Dinner: 7:00 PM

Wednesday, 7th May 2025

- **8:30 – 1:00 PM**
 - Opening plenary session
 - Refinement in breakout rooms
 - Final plenary

Adjourn of Conference

Lunch: 1:00 – 2:00 PM

Writing committee

- **2:00 PM** Writing committee convenes and prepares text and figure sections
- **7:00 PM** Writing committee dinner

Venue

Hotel Le Manoir de Gressy,
Chemin des Carrosses,
77410 Gressy (close to Paris)
France

Conference organization

The Atrial Fibrillation NETwork (AFNET) and
the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA)

Scientific committee

Prof Paulus Kirchhof (AFNET; Hamburg, Germany)
Prof. Jose Merino (EHRA; Madrid, Spain)
Prof. Andreas Götte (AFNET; Paderborn, Germany)
Dr. Emma Svennberg (EHRA; Stockholm, Sweden)

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