



ST4.1: Core Cardiac Surgery Course

Ashorne Hill, Leamington Spa
18th – 19th November 2025

Programme

Course Directors

Mr Rajdeep Bilkhu

Consultant Cardiac Surgeon
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London

Mr Antonio Bivona

Consultant Cardiac Surgeon
Basildon Hospital, Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust

Mr Shafi Mussa

Consultant Congenital Cardiac Surgeon
University Hospitals of Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust

THANK YOU TO OUR INDUSTRY PARTNERS

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Faculty List

Cardiothoracic Surgery Faculty	
Rajdeep Bilkhu	Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London
Antonio Bivona	Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Basildon Hospital, Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust
Duncan Steele	Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Liverpool Heart & Chest Hospital
Gopal Soppa	Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Liverpool Heart & Chest Hospital
Alexia Farrugia	Consultant Cardiothoracic Radiologist Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust
Laura Alvaro-Gracia	Consultant Cardiac Anaesthetist Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
Mitul Patel	Consultant Cardiac Anaesthetist St Thomas's Hospital, London
Congenital Cardiac Surgery Faculty	
Mr Shafi Mussa	Consultant Congenital Cardiac Surgeon University Hospitals of Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Mr Imran Saeed	Consultant Congenital Cardiac Surgeon University Hospitals Leicester

Day 1

Tuesday 18 th November 2025		
08:30 – 08:50	Registration and coffee	
08:50 – 09:00	Welcome and Introduction	Mr Antonio Bivona/Mr Raj Bilkhu
09:00 – 09:30	Trans-esophageal echocardiography	Dr Mitul Patel
09:30 – 10:00	Cardiac CT and MRI	Dr Alexia Farrugia
10:00 – 10:30	Perioperative management of the cardiac surgical patient: ERACS	Dr Laura Alvaro-Gracia
10:30 – 10:50	Coffee	
10:50 – 11:20	Principles of redo surgery	Mr Duncan Steele
11:20 – 11:40	Cardiac tumors	Mr Antonio Bivona
11:40 – 12:30	Surgical treatment of AF: including practical	ATRICURE & Mr Gopal Soppa
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 14:30	Principles of Mitral valve surgery - with Wetlab: access, assessment, repair, replacement	Mr Gopal Soppa + all faculty
14:30 – 15:30	Principles of tricuspid valve surgery - with Wetlab	Mr Raj Bilkhu + all faculty
15:30 – 16:30	Principles of endocarditis surgery - with Wetlab	Mr Antonio Bivona + all faculty
16:30 – 17:00	Questions & Answers & close	All faculty

Day 2

Wednesday, 20 th November 2024		
08:00 – 09:00	Congenital Heart disease day Introduction to surgery for congenital heart disease, fetal circulation, transitional physiology, shunts, principles of morphology, palliation vs complete repair	Mr Shafi Mussa
09:00 – 09:45	Surgery for Simple lesions: PDA, Coarctation, ASDs, VSDs	Mr Imran Saeed
09:30 – 10:30	Surgery for more complex lesions: Tetralogy, AV canal and TGA	Mr Imran Saeed
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break	
10:45 – 11:30	Single ventricle and Fontan	Mr Shafi Mussa
11:30 – 12:00	Why and how to become a Congenital Cardiac Surgeon	Mr Shafi Mussa
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch	
12:45 – 13:15	Operative techniques in preparation of Wet Lab: Aortic root enlargement Bentall aortic root replacement: Coronary buttons harvesting, graft implantation, coronary reimplantation, graft to distal aortic anastomosis	Mr Imran Saeed Mr Shafi Mussa
13:15–16:15	Congenital cardiac surgery Wet Lab – Bentall Aortic Root Replacement and Aortic root Enlargement	Mr Imran Saeed Mr Shafi Mussa
16:15–16:30	Questions, summary, close of course	