



Tenth European Society of Human Genetics Training Course on Cardiogenetics



May 9-12, 2026
Antwerp, Belgium
Auditorium Kinsbergen (route 12)
Antwerp University Hospital (UZA)

*This course aims at delivering up-to-date knowledge on cardiogenetics to cardiologists, genetic counselors, clinical and molecular geneticists in training or certified.
It creates the best opportunity for interaction and discussion with experts from all over Europe.
The faculty combines experts from many fields of cardiogenetics known for their didactic skills.
Participants are encouraged to present a clinical or genetic case in a Poster format for on-site discussion.*

Directors of the course:

Bill Newman (United Kingdom) and Bart Loeys, Johan Saenen (Belgium)

PROGRAM

Day 1 program: Saturday, May 9, 2026

THEME: *BASICS IN CARIOGENETICS*

15:15 – 15:30	Course Introduction Bill Newman & Bart Loeys
15:30 – 16:00	A clinical geneticists' approach to inherited cardiac disorders Bart Loeys
16:00 – 16:30	Introduction to the Mystery Case Johan Saenen
16:30 – 17:00	REFRESHMENT BREAK
17:00 – 19:00	Genetic basics for Cardiologists Maaïke Alaerts Cardiology concepts for Geneticists Johan Saenen
19:00	SANDWICH dinner

Day 2 program: Sunday, May 10, 2026

THEME: *STRUCTURAL HEART and AORTIC DISORDERS*

- 09:00 – 09:30 **Counselling considerations in inherited cardiac disorders** Saartje van Pottelberg
09:30 – 10:00 **A patient perspective on cardiogenetics** Axel Verstrael
10:00 – 11:00 **Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy** Rhys Beynon

11:00 – 11:30 *COFFEE BREAK*

- 11.30 – 12:30 **Dilated and neuromuscular cardiomyopathy** Peter van Tintelen
12:30 – 13:00 **Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy** Pieter Koopman

13:00 – 14:00 *LUNCH*

- 14:00 – 15:00 **Aortopathies** Bart Loeys
15:00 – 16:00 **Pathology of inherited cardiac disorders** Joe Westaby
16:00 – 16:45 **Mystery Case – follow-up** Johan Saenen

16:45 – 17:15 *COFFEE BREAK*

- 17:15 – 18:45 **Imaging workshop – echocardiography/Cardiac MRI**
Tevfik Ismail -> cardiologist
Nicole Sturkenboom -> genetics
18:45 – 20:00 **Case presentation I - Bart Loeys/Bill Newman/Johan Saenen**

20:00 *WALKING DINNER in UZA*

Day 3 program: Monday, May 11, 2026

THEME: *PRIMARY ELECTRICAL DISORDERS*

- 08:30 – 09:30 **Basic concepts in Ion channel disease** Johan Saenen
09:30 – 10:00 **Catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia** Pieter Koopman

10:00 – 10:30 *COFFEE BREAK*

- 10:30 – 12:00 **Electrophysiology workshop – ECG/Ex ECG/Ajmalin/Adrenalin testing**
Pieter Koopman -> genetics
Johan Saenen -> cardiologist
12:00 – 13:00 **Case presentation II - Bart Loeys/ Bill Newman/Johan Saenen**

13:00 – 14:00 *LUNCH*

- 14:00 – 14:30 **Next generation sequencing – different approaches** Bart Loeys & Bill Newman
14:30 – 15:00 **Molecular autopsy** Bill Newman

15:00 – 16:30 **Workshop/Quiz NGS interpretation**
Lut Van Laer – Suzan Lambin -> cardiology
Maaïke Alaerts -> genetics

16:30 – 17:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

17:00 – 18:00 **Keynote lecture - Past, present and future perspectives in Long QT Syndrome and sudden cardiac death management - Peter Schwartz**

18:00 – 18:30 **Mystery Case – conclusion Johan Saenen**

18:45 **Bus transfer to Hof Van Liere**

19:30 **COURSE DINNER AT Hof Van Liere (faculty club)**

Day 4 program: Tuesday, May 12, 2026

THEME: CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

08:30 – 09:30 **Heart embryology** Marco De Ruiter

09:30 – 10:00 **Genetics of Congenital Heart Disease** Bert Callewaert

10:00 – 10:30 **iPSC approaches to understand inherited cardiac disorders** Maaïke Alaerts

10:30 – 11:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:00 – 11:45 **Management of inherited cardiac disorders in competitive and leisure athletes** Hein Heidbuchel

11:45 – 12:30 **Syndromic/metabolic inherited cardiac disorders** Marije Meuwissen

12:30 – 13:15 **Polygenic risk scores for inherited cardiac disease** Sean Zheng

13:15 – 14:00 **LUNCH**

14:00 – 15:00 **Case presentation III – Bill Newman/Bart Loeys/Johan Saenen**

15:00 **END OF COURSE** Bart Loeys/Johan Saenen