



**THE 9TH JOINT CONSENSUS CONFERENCE  
OF THE GERMAN ATRIAL FIBRILLATION NETWORK (AFNET)  
AND THE EUROPEAN HEART RHYTHM ASSOCIATION (EHRA)**

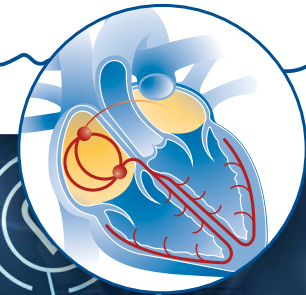


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**LONGER AND BETTER LIVES FOR PATIENTS  
WITH ATRIAL FIBRILLATION  
11<sup>TH</sup>-13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



ATRIAL  
FIBRILLATION  
NETWORK

AFNET



**EHRA**

European Society of Cardiology



**MAESTRIA**

MAESTRIA has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 965286.

## MONDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

### Arrival

19:30 Welcome dinner at hotel

## TUESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

7:50 Welcome from AFNET & EHRA

### SCREENING TO INITIATE ANTICOAGULATION

Chair: Paulus Kirchhof (Hamburg, DE),  
Helmut Pürerfellner (Linz, AT)

8:00 **New anticoagulants**

| Valeria Caso (Perugia, IT)

8:10 **AF patterns revisited**

| Michiel Rienstra (Groningen, NL)

8:20 **Impact of recent screening and AHRE trials (LOOP)?**

| Søren Zøga Diederichsen (Copenhagen, DK)

8:30 **Anticoagulation with Edoxaban in Patients with Atrial High-Rate Episodes (NOAH)**

| Tobias Tönnis (Hamburg, DE)

8:40 **Effect of arrhythmia burden on cardiovascular events**

| Jason Andrade (Vancouver, CA)

8:50 **AF surgery and the role of the AF Heart team in 2023**

| Nicolas Doll (Stuttgart, DE)

9:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

### BETTER RHYTHM MANAGEMENT BETTER RHYTHM CONTROL: ATTAINING SINUS RHYTHM TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES

Chair: Isabelle van Gelder (Groningen, NL),  
Gerhard Hindricks (Leipzig, DE)

9:20 **Cognitive dysfunction: Comorbidity, outcome, or both?**

| Karl Georg Häusler (Würzburg, DE)

9:30 **PITX2 and AF**

| Leif Hove-Madsen (Barcelona, ES)

9:40 **Attaining sinus rhythm mediates the effects of early rhythm control** | Lars Eckardt (Münster, DE)

9:50 **Different ways of rhythm control lead to outcome reduction: EAST and beyond** | André Ng (Leicester, UK)

10:00 **Linear lesions – past or future?**

| Reza Wakili (Frankfurt, DE)

10:10 **When is the right time to switch from rhythm control to ablate and pace?** | Kevin Vernooij (Maastricht, NL)

10:20 **PANEL DISCUSSION / COFFEE BREAK**

### COMORBIDITIES, ATRIAL CARDIOMYOPATHY, AND INTEGRATED AF CARE

Chair: Stylianos Tzeis (Athens, GR),  
Jose Merino (Madrid, ES)

10:50 **Role of NOAC therapy in patients with AF on hemodialysis** | Andreas Goette (Paderborn, DE)

- 11:00 **CASTLE Htx**  
| Christian Sohns (Bad Oeynhausen, DE)
- 11:10 **Atrial mitochondrial dysfunction in AF?**  
| Friederike Cuello (Hamburg, DE)
- 11:20 **Born with atrial fibrillation? Strong and weak genetic effects driving AF** | Stefan Kääb (Munich, DE)
- 11:30 **Move to keep the rhythm: Exercise, weight loss, and improved rhythm control**  
| Prash Sanders (Adelaide, AUS)

11:40 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

**NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND TREATMENTS**

Chair: Andreas Goette (Paderborn, DE),  
Tom de Potter (Aalst, BE)

- 12:00 **How does exclusion of the atrial appendage modify stroke risk?** | Jeff Healey (Hamilton, CA)
- 12:10 **AF surgery and the role of the AF Heart team in 2023**  
| Nicolas Doll (Stuttgart, DE)
- 12:20 **Role of leadless pacers and conduction system pacing in patients with AF** | Wolfgang Dichtl (Innsbruck, AT)
- 12:30 **RF, cryo, pulsed field ablation – what is the future of PVI?** | Andreas Metzner (Hamburg, DE)
- 12:40 **Circulating biomolecules for risk prediction and therapy selection** | Ziad Hijazi (Uppsala, SE)
- 12:50 **New antiarrhythmic drugs** | John Camm (London, UK)

13:00 **DISCUSSION, FOLLOWED BY LUNCH**

**BREAK-OUT-SESSION 1**

- 14:00 **Machine learning and AI for early detection of stroke and AF – the MAESTRIA project**



**MAESTRIA**

**BREAK-OUT-SESSION 2**

- 14:00 **Better rhythm management to improve outcomes**

**BREAK-OUT-SESSION 3**

- 14:00 **Improved risk prediction for stroke prevention: AF burden, cardiomyopathy, biomolecules**

**BREAK-OUT-SESSION 4**

- 14:00 **Pacing in AF**

**BREAK-OUT-SESSION 5**

- 14:00 **Modern AF drug therapy: heart failure, new antiarrhythmic drugs, genetics, new mechanisms**

**BREAK-OUT-SESSION 6**

- 14:00 **Comorbidity management to prevent AF**
- 17:00 **Wittenberg plenary**

18:30 **DEPARTURE TO HOT JAZZ CLUB**

Invitation to celebrate 20 years of AFNET

**WEDNESDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

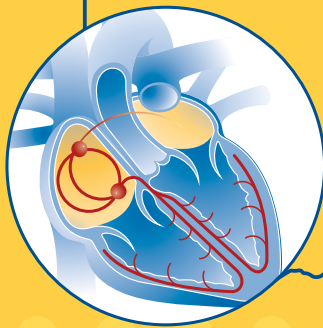
- 8:30 **Plenary discussion**
- 10:30 **Refinement in breakout groups**
- 12:00 **Final plenary**

13:00 **LUNCH/ADJOURN OF CONFERENCE**

**WRITING COMMITTEE ONLY**

- 14:00 **Meeting of the Writing Committee**

19:30 **DINNER (FOR THE WRITING COMMITTEE)**



## **INFORMATION**

### **Venue**

Factory Hotel Münster  
An der Germania Brauerei 5  
48159 Münster (Westf.)  
Germany

### **Conference organization**

The Atrial Fibrillation NETWORK (AFNET),  
the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA)

### **Scientific committee**

Prof. Isabelle van Gelder (EHRA)  
Prof. Andreas Götte (AFNET)  
Prof. Paulus Kirchhof (AFNET)  
Prof. Helmut Pürerfellner (EHRA)

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