



SCMR STRESS PERFUSION COURSE

24-25 September, 2026 • Kaunas, Lithuania

DAY 1 • THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2026

8:00 – 9:00	Registration
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SESSION 1	
THE BASICS OF CMR IN THE EVALUATION OF ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE	
9:00 – 9:05	Welcome and Introductions to the CMR course Tomas Lapinskas, Vanessa Ferreira
9:05 – 9:20	Understanding ischemia: What happens in the heart during stress? Tomas Lapinskas
9:20 – 9:35	Cine for Assessment of Cardiac Structure and Function in IHD Tomaz Podlesnikar
9:35 – 09:50	LGE for Assessment of Myocardial Infarction and Viability in IHD Vanessa Ferreira
09:50 – 10:05	Stress Perfusion CMR for Assessment of Obstructive CAD Raymond Kwong
10:05 – 10:20	Interpretation of Stress Perfusion CMR for the Detection of Obstructive CAD Raymond Kwong (examples of common clinical scenarios – single territory, multivessel CAD)
10:20 – 10:45	BREAK

SESSION 2	
STRESS CMR TRIALS, LARGE REGISTRIES AND EVIDENCE IN GUIDELINES	
10:45 – 11:10	Stress CMR versus Other Modalities: Technical Differences and Pros & Cons Ellen Ostenfeld
11:10 – 11:35	Large Registries of Stress CMR – What Can We Learn from Them? Sigita Glaveckaitė
11:35 – 12:05	Stress CMR in the Evaluation of Suspected IHD: Evidence from Clinical Trials Sebastian Kelle
12:05 – 12:30	International Guidelines and Appropriateness Criteria for Stress CMR versus Other Modalities Sebastian Kelle
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH

SESSION 3	
HANDS-ON SESSION – POST-PROCESSING TOOLS AND CASES	
13:30 – 14:00	Why Tools Matter: Post-Processing of Stress CMR Studies (Sponsor's postprocessing tool demonstration)
14:00 – 14:30	Why Tools Matter: Post-Processing of Stress CMR Studies (Sponsor's postprocessing tool demonstration)
14:30 – 15:30	Case Session 1 (Split Groups): Stress Perfusion in Obstructive Coronary Artery Disease Raymond Kwong, Paulius Bučius, Amedeo Chiribiri, Audra Banišauskaitė
15:30 – 16:00	BREAK



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SESSION 4 SETTING UP A STRESS CMR SERVICE	
16:00 – 16:15	How to Make a Case to Start a Stress CMR Service at Your Hospital Raymond Kwong
16:15 – 16:30	How Cardiology and Radiology Can Jointly Deliver a Stress CMR Service Tomas Lapinskas
16:30 – 16:45	The Essential Components to Deliver a Stress CMR Service Sven Plein (the Team and the Equipment)
16:45 – 17:00	Scanner Preparation: Parameters and Pitfalls You Must Know Amedeo Chiribiri
17:00 – 17:15	Safety aspects: Understanding and Selecting Stress and Contrast Agents Lina Padervinskienė for Stress CMR
17:15 – 17:30	Safety Aspects: Patient Selection, Preparation, and Monitoring Audra Banišauskaitė
17:30 – 17:45	Stress CMR Imaging Protocols Sven Plein
17:45 – 18:00	Global Expert Panel: How to Establish a Stress CMR Service All Speakers of the Session
18:00 – 18:05	CLOSING REMARKS Tomas Lapinskas, Vanessa Ferreira
18:05 – 19:05	WELCOME RECEPTION



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DAY 2 • FRIDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2026

8:30 – 9:00	Registration
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SESSION 5 QUANTITATIVE STRESS PERFUSION CMR WITH MYOCARDIAL BLOOD FLOW MAPPING	
9:00 – 9:15	Understanding Ischemia Without Obstructive Coronary Artery Disease Paulius Bučius
9:15 – 9:30	Quantitative Perfusion (QP) CMR for Quantifying Myocardial Blood Flow (MBF) Raymond Kwong
9:30 – 9:45	QP Stress CMR for Evaluation of Coronary Microvascular Dysfunction Amedeo Chiribiri
9:45 – 10:00	Interpreting QP CMR: Pitfalls and Challenges Amedeo Chiribiri

SESSION 6 ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES	
10:00 – 10:15	Dobutamine Stress MRI Amedeo Chiribiri
10:15 – 10:30	Exercise Stress MRI Sebastian Kelle
10:30 – 11:00	BREAK

SESSION 7 CASES – STRESS CMR IN OBSTRUCTIVE CAD	
11:00 – 11:30	Case Session 2 (Split Groups): Multivessel Coronary Artery Disease Sebastian Kelle, Justina Jurevičiūtė, Ellen Ostenfeld, Sigita Glaveckaitė
11:30 – 12:00	Case Session 3 (Split Groups): Recognizing Artifacts, Non-diagnostic and Technically Difficult Cases – Raymond Kwong, Antanas Jankauskas, Sven Plein, Audra Banišauskaitė
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH

SESSION 8 CASES – QUANTITATIVE PERFUSION CMR	
13:00 – 13:30	Case Session 4 (Split Groups): QP CMR in Coronary Microvascular Dysfunction Lina Padervinskienė, Vanessa Ferreira, Paulius Bučius
13:30 – 14:30	Case Session 5 (Split Groups): Recognizing Artifacts, Non-diagnostic and Technically Difficult Cases Raymond Kwong, Antanas Jankauskas, Sven Plein, Tomaz Podlesnikar
	Refreshments available
14:30 – 15:00	FINAL REMARKS AND FAREWELL



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Audra Banišauskaitė



Radiologist, Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kauno klinikos — Lithuania

Board-certified radiologist with advanced specialisation in cardiovascular radiology, at the Department of Radiology, Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (Kauno klinikos).

Fellowships in cardiovascular imaging at the Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital (United Kingdom) in 2019 and 2020. In 2024, awarded a fellowship by the European School of Radiology and the European Society of Cardiovascular Radiology, completed at Amsterdam University Medical Centre.

Doctoral student at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, actively engaged in cardiovascular imaging research.

Paulius Bučius



Cardiologist, Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kauno klinikos — Lithuania

Board-certified cardiologist in the Department of Cardiology at the Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (Kauno klinikos). Completed CMR training and fellowships at the German Heart Center Berlin and Zurich University Hospital.

Currently a PhD candidate at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, focusing on advanced cardiac imaging in heart failure and cardiomyopathies. He is actively engaged in both clinical and scientific work.

Amedeo Chiribiri



Professor of Cardiovascular Imaging, King's College London; Director of Cardiac MRI, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust — United Kingdom

Graduated in Medicine from the University of Turin (Italy) in 2001, with an experimental thesis on the role of coronary endothelium. Completed cardiology training in 2006, then a PhD in Experimental Medicine and Human Physiology in 2011.

Developed expertise in non-invasive cardiac imaging (echocardiography, CT, MRI) during training, including a research fellowship at the German Heart Institute in Berlin.

Joined King's College London in 2008; became Director of the Cardiac MRI Service at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust in 2013. Author or co-author of more than 80 scientific papers; his research focuses on novel CMR techniques for the non-invasive quantification of myocardial blood flow (perfusion).



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Vanessa Ferreira



SCMR President; Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, University of Oxford – United Kingdom

Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Oxford, cardiologist, and Deputy Clinical Director of the Oxford Centre for Clinical Magnetic Resonance Research (OCMR). Bachelor of Science from MIT (USA), Doctor of Medicine from the University of British Columbia (Canada), and a Doctor of Philosophy in Cardiovascular Medicine from Oxford. Current SCMR President and SCMR board member (2016–2019 and since 2023). Visiting Professor at the University of Hong Kong (2023–2027). Expertise in quantitative CMR techniques, particularly parametric mapping, and their clinical applications in ischaemic and non-ischaemic cardiovascular disease.

Sigita Glaveckaitė



Professor of Cardiology, Vilnius University; Head of the Cardiovascular Imaging Department, Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos – Lithuania

Board-certified cardiologist at the Centre of Cardiology and Angiology, Vilnius University. Specialised training in cardiovascular magnetic resonance at leading European centres: St. Bartholomew's Hospital (London), Sart Tilman Hospital (Liège), Institute of Child Health (London), Royal Brompton Hospital (London), IKEM (Prague) and Charité (Berlin). Completed her PhD thesis in 2011 on the value of cardiovascular magnetic resonance for predicting left ventricular functional recovery after revascularisation. Head of the Cardiovascular Imaging Department at Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos since 2021, Head of the Cardiovascular Disease Clinic at the Institute of Clinical Medicine since 2022, and President of the Lithuanian Heart Association.

Antanas Jankauskas



Radiologist, Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kauno klinikos – Lithuania

Head of the Cardiovascular unit at the Department of Radiology of the Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (Kauno klinikos). Earned his medical degree in 2000, Medical Doctor qualification in 2001 and Radiologist qualification in 2003, all at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Obtained a Doctoral degree (PhD) from the same university in 2009. Further specialised through internships in Munich (2005–2006) and at Charité Hospital, Berlin (2012). Passed the European Society of Cardiovascular Radiology (ESCR) Cardiac Imaging Examination in 2016. Associate Professor since 2020. Has participated as an investigator in several biomedical and clinical trials, including DISCHARGE, CARDIOVALVE and TRICUS.



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Justina Jurevičiūtė



Cardiologist, Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kauno klinikos – Lithuania

Certified cardiologist, working in the Cardiology department of the Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Since finishing her cardiology residency in 2019, has worked in the Ischaemic Heart Disease unit and is a member of the department's CMR unit. Trained in CMR at several leading European centres, including the German Heart Center Berlin and the Cardiovascular Imaging Unit at Vall d'Hebrón Hospital, Barcelona. Currently a 3rd-year PhD candidate at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences; her research analyses 4D flow changes in the ascending aorta before and after surgical and transcatheter aortic valve replacement in patients with severe aortic stenosis.

Sebastian Kelle



Professor of Cardiology, Deutsches Herzzentrum der Charité, Berlin – Germany

Cardiologist and professor of cardiac MRI at the Deutsches Herzzentrum der Charité in Berlin since 2017. Expert in cardiac MRI sequence development, clinical research in humans and large animal studies.

Trained in internal medicine and cardiology at the German Heart Center Berlin and Charité University Medicine Berlin, then spent two years as a research fellow at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, USA). Founded his own research group in Berlin in 2010, and the Cardiac MRI-CORE-LAB in 2014.

Currently leads the Cardiovascular Imaging Unit at the Deutsches Herzzentrum der Charité and serves as Course Director of the CMR-Academy. Deputy Chair of the SCMR's International Outreach Committee and Past-Chair of its Advocacy Committee.



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Raymond Kwong



Professor of Medicine, Director of Cardiac Magnetic, Resonance Imaging, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, USA.

Dr. Raymond Kwong is the Director of Cardiac Magnetic Resonance (CMR) Imaging at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Kwong completed his medical training at the University of Toronto, Canada, in 1992, then a residency in Internal Medicine at the University of British Columbia, and a fellowship in cardiovascular diseases at George Washington University Medical Center in Washington, DC. He then pursued a 2-year fellowship in clinical CMR imaging at the Laboratory of Cardiac Energetics at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. In 2001, Dr. Kwong joined the Cardiovascular Division of BWH faculty focusing on clinical applications of CMR for patient care. Dr. Kwong's research focuses on noninvasive myocardial tissue characterization and its clinical impact, spanning ischemic and non-ischemic cardiomyopathies. He has participated in committee positions within the American College of Cardiology, the American Heart Association, and the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (SCMR) and as a permanent study member of NIH study sections. Dr. Kwong has served on the Editorial Boards of Circulation, Circulation Cardiovascular Imaging, Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC), JACC Imaging, and the Journal for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (JCMR). Dr. Kwong has authored more than 270 original peer-reviewed papers, review articles, or book chapters, most of which focused on the technical advancement or clinical applications of cardiac magnetic resonance imaging. Dr. Kwong's current research focused on CMR's clinical utility and prognostic implication to patients with coronary artery disease and various cardiomyopathies. Under his supervision, the CMR laboratory is the imaging core laboratory for several NIH and industry-funded international clinical trials of novel cardiac therapies.

Tomas Lapinskas



President, Lithuanian Society of Cardiology; Head of the CMR unit, Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kauno klinikos

Board-certified cardiologist in the Department of Cardiology at the Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (Kauno klinikos). Trained in cardiovascular imaging at Ghent (Belgium), Rotterdam (Netherlands) and the German Heart Center Berlin (2010-2012). Defended his PhD thesis in 2017 on cardiovascular magnetic resonance feature tracking for assessing myocardial mechanics, and earned European CMR Level 3 certification the same year.

Director for Public Health, Research and Education on the executive board of Kauno klinikos since 2018. Appointed head of the CMR unit at Kauno klinikos in 2022, and President of the Lithuanian Society of Cardiology since 2023.



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Ellen Ostfeld



Associate Professor, Skåne University Hospital, Lund University — Lund, Sweden

PhD, associate professor and principal investigator in the areas of pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) and systemic sclerosis (SSc), using echocardiography, cardiovascular magnetic resonance (CMR) and cardiac CT, at the Department of Clinical Sciences (Clinical Physiology), Lund University.

Honorary consultant in the Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) unit at the Royal Brompton Hospital, London, United Kingdom.

Clinically, works as a cardiologist and senior consultant in cardiac imaging at the Department of Medical Imaging and Physiology, Skåne University Hospital, Lund, Sweden.

Lina Padervinskienė



Head of the Emergency Radiology Unit, Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kauno klinikos — Lithuania

Board-certified radiologist in the Department of Radiology at the Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (Kauno klinikos). Clinical fellowships in cardiovascular imaging in Bologna (Italy), London (United Kingdom), Amsterdam (Netherlands), and Turku (Finland, 2022).

Defended her PhD thesis in 2020 on the prognostic value of biventricular function, mechanics and pulmonary artery changes in precapillary pulmonary hypertension, assessed by cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging.

A committed educator, regularly mentors medical students, interns, residents and fellows.

Sven Plein



Professor of Cardiology, Director of the Advanced Imaging Centre, University of Leeds; Consultant Cardiologist, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust — United Kingdom

Sven Plein is a Professor of Cardiology and British Heart Foundation Professor of Cardiovascular Imaging at the University of Leeds and an honorary Consultant Cardiologist contract at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust in Leeds. He is a past President of the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance and Vice President of the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging (EACVI) of the European Society of Cardiology.



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Tomaz Podlesnikar



Assistant Professor, University of Maribor; Cardiologist, University Medical Centre Maribor and University Medical Centre Ljubljana – Slovenia

Graduated in medicine from the University of Ljubljana in 2007; became an internal medicine specialist in 2014, then a cardiology and vascular medicine specialist (magna cum laude) in 2018.

Works as a cardiologist in the Department of Cardiac Surgery at University Medical Centre Maribor and the Department of Cardiology at University Medical Centre Ljubljana.