

ESPA CONGRESS



16th European Congress for Paediatric Anaesthesiology

24–26 September 2026

Madrid, Spain

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Preliminary Programme



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME SUMMARY

PANELS

Pre-Congress: **SafeTots: Implementing SafeTots in Europe – an update**
Moderators: *Tom Hansen / Gianluca Bertolizio*

*Artemis Vekrakou (Greece) / Duygu Kara (Turkey) /
Marta Somaini (Italy) / Jean-Phillipe Salaun (France)*

Panel 01: **Organ donation**
Moderator: *Marieke Voet*

Spain as a leader in transplantation: History of paediatric organ transplantation

Maria Dolores Mendez (Spain)

Controlled Asystolic Donation (CAD) program

Abigail Villena (Spain)

Goal-Directed therapy in paediatric organ transplantation: Hepatic transplantation

Paco Escribá (Spain)

Panel 02: **Sustainability in paediatric anaesthesia/ Hot topics**
Moderators: *Ignacio Malagon / Nicola Groes Clausen*

What do we know? Recap of current evidence

Patricio Gonzalez-Pizarro (Spain)

What are we missing? Institutional initiative

Francisco Reinoso Barbero (Spain)

How do we motivate change? Individual resistance against change

Alexander Fuchs (Switzerland)

Panel 03: **Safe, Smart, Same-Day: Innovations & Insights in paediatric ambulatory anaesthesia**

Moderators: *Alexander Buzath / Sameh Nour*

Mapping the field: National practice patterns in paediatric ambulatory anaesthesia

Shiu-Yi Emily Chen (United States)

Who's in and Who's out? Patient selection trends from 30+ US-based paediatric centers

Samuel M. Vanderhoek (United States)

What's new and what's next: Updates in paediatric ambulatory anaesthesia

Vasili Chernishof (United States) / Sameh Nour (United States)

The European Perspective

Alexander Buzath (Austria)

Panel 04: **State-of-the Art Research**

Moderators: *Robert Frithiof / Marike Voet*

- in Neonatology

Hemmen Sabir (Germany)

- in Paediatric Anaesthesiology

Laszlo Vutskits (Switzerland)

- in Adult Anaesthesiology: what can we learn?

Idit Matot (Israel)

Panel 05: **Learning from Excellency**

Moderators: *Nicola Groes Clausen / Alexander Fuchs*

Case presentation: 'The trachea heals, but the hypoxia does not'

Theodor Skuli Sigurdsson (Iceland)

Frontal neck access in paediatric patients – what does science say?

Nicola Disma (Italy)

Lesson(s) to be learned – Patient safety – How do we educate on rare events?

Katy Monaghan (Great Britain)

Panel 06: Focus on SafeTots: Education, Quality Improvement and Research
Moderators: Jacob Karlsson / Jean-Phillipe Salaun

Education

Tom Hansen (Norway)

Quality improvement

Karin Becke (Switzerland)

SafeTots research

Laszlo Vutskits (Switzerland)

Panel 07: Best abstracts session

Moderators: Fanny Bonhomme, Nicola Disma

Panel 08: Advances in clinical paediatric anaesthesia

Moderator: Nadia Najafi

The use of extended reality in clinical practice: is it a kind of magic?

Gianluca Bertolizio (Italy)

What's new in paediatric resuscitation?

Livia Gisbert de la Cuadra (Spain)

Modern approaches to paediatric mechanical ventilation

Johannes Spaeth (Germany)

Teaching in paediatric anaesthesia

Nicola Groes Clausen (Denmark)

Panel 09: Challenges previously known as Nightmares

Moderator: Michael Brackhahn

Central lines challenges

Robert Frithiof (Sweden)

Nager syndrome & Cleft Palate

Nadia Najafi (Belgium)

Pneumococcal sepsis – from bad to worse

Ignacio Malagon (The Netherlands)

Neonatal tracheo-oesophageal fistula – Practical aspects

of anaesthetic management

Babette Clinck (United Kingdom)

Keynote Panel Venezuelan Mitochondrial Health Alert

Moderators: Elena Méndez / Paco Escribá

Mitochondria and Anaesthesia

Antonio González (Spain)

Venezuelan Mitochondrial Variant

Eduardo Ruiz Pesini (Spain)

Anaesthetic Management Protocol

Fernando Casinello (Spain)

PBLs

PBL 01 The child with neuropsychiatric diagnosis

Artemis Vekrakou (Greece)

PBL 02+PBL15 Neonatal resuscitation

Livia Gisbert de la Cuadra (Spain)

PBL 03+PBL09 Osteogenesis imperfecta

Divya Dixit/ Manish Purohit (United States)

PBL 04 Pyloric stenosis in an infant with TOF

Gianluca Bertolizio (Italy)

PBL 05+PBL14 Central lines

Peter Frykholm/ Robert Frithiof (Sweden)

PBL 06 Anaesthesia for Renal Transplantation – practical aspects

Marieke Voet (The Netherlands)

PBL 07 Transfusion

Fanny Bonhomme (Switzerland)

PBL 08 Rigid Bronchoscopy – things to consider for the anaesthesiologist

Mia Gisselbæk (Switzerland)

PBL 10 Haemostasis

Fanny Bonhomme (Switzerland)

- PBL 11** **Pediatric Anesthesia Journal Club**
Laszlo Vutskits (Switzerland)
-
- PBL 12** **EMA Model – Stepwise authorization of medicines for children**
Ignacio Malagon (Spain)
-
- PBL 13+PBL19** **Non-cardiac anaesthesia for the cardiac patient**
Viviane Nasr (United States)
-
- PBL 16** **Toxic leadership in paediatric anaesthesia**
Nicola Groes Clausen (Denmark) / Mia Gisselbæk (Switzerland)
-
- PBL 17** **The Very Low Birth Weight Patient – vascular access, airway management, regional anaesthesia**
Peter Frykholm (Sweden)
-
- PBL 18** **Noninvasive ventilation**
Alexander Fuchs (Switzerland)
-
- PBL 20+PBL21** **10N Clinical Implementation of the 10N's SafeTots**
-
- PBL 22** **Impact on Emergence Delirium on postoperative recovery**
Peter Brooks / Isabel Diez-Martin (United Kingdom)
-

WORKSHOPS

- WS 01+WS 11+WS 13**
Regional Anaesthesia 1/3, 2/3, 3/3
Annabelle Pearson / Babette Clinck / Catalina Stendall (United Kingdom)
-
- WS 02+WS16** **How to prepare a perfect presentation? 1/2, 2/2**
Mads Astvad (Denmark)
-
- WS 03+WS 05** **Advanced Airway Management 1/2, 2/2**
Monica Hervías / Paco Escibá / Juan Encarnación / Alejandra Gundin (Spain)
-
- WS 04+WS 10** **Differentiated ventilation strategies – insights into modern technologies 1/2, 2/2**
Johannes Spaeth / Ehrenfried Schindler (Germany)
-
- WS 06+WS 08** **Bronchoscopy vs Imaging for Foreign Bodies 1/2, 2/2**
Anne Laffargue Vetter (France) / Michael Brackhahn (Germany)
-
- WS 07+WS 09+WS 15**
Escape Room Paediatric Airway 1/3, 2/3, 3/3
Carne Pamies / Alejandra Gundin (Spain)
-
- WS 12+WS 14** **TIVA 1/2, 2/2**
Peter Brooks / Jon McCormack / Elizabeth Allison (United Kingdom)
-

SPEAKERS

Elizabeth Allison
Mads Astvad
Karin Becke
Gianluca Bertolizio
Peter Brooks
Fernando Casinello
Vasili Chernishof
Babette Clinck
Isabel Diez-Martin
Divya Dixit
Juan Encarnacion
Paco Escriba
Peter Frykholm
Alexander Fuchs
Livia Gisbert de la Cuadra
Mia Gisselbaek
Antonio González
Patricio Gonzalez-Pizarro
Alejandra Gundin
Tom Hansen
Monica Hervias
Duygu Kara Kara
Jacob Karlsson
Idit Matot

Jon McCormack
Elena Mendez
Maria Dolores Mendez
Katy Monaghan
Viviane Nasr
Sameh Nour
Carne Pamies
Annabelle Pearson
Manish Purohit
Francisco Reinoso-Barbero
Eduardo Ruiz Pesini
Hemmen Sabir
Jean Philippe Salaun
Ehrenfried Schindler
Ehrenfried Schindler
Emily Shiu-Yi Chen
Theodor Sigurdsson
Marta Somaini Somaini
Johannes Spaeth
Catalina Stendall
Samuel Vanderhoek
Artemis Vekrakou
Abigail Villena
Laszlo Vutskits

MEMBERS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Nicola Groes Clausen (President)
Michael Brackhahn (Past President)
Nadia Najafi (Honorary Secretary)
Ignacio Malagon (Treasurer)
Anne Laffargue Vetter (Member)

Fanny Bonhomme (Member)
Marieke Voet (Member)
Alexander Buzath (Member)
Nicola Disma (Member)
Robert Frithiof (Member)

PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2026

MAIN HALL

09:15–10:15 **SafeTots PreCourse: Implementing SafeTots in Europe – an update**
Moderators: *Tom Hansen / Gianluca Bertolizio*
Artemis Vekrakou (Greece) / Duygu Kara (Turkey) /
Marta Somaini (Italy) / Jean-Phillipe Salaun (France)

WORKSHOP ROOM 1

09:15–10:45 **WORKSHOP 01: Regional Anaesthesia 1/3**
Annabelle Pearson / Babette Clinck / Catalina Stendall
(United Kingdom)

WORKSHOP ROOM 2

09:15–10:45 **WORKSHOP 02: How to prepare a perfect presentation? 2/2**
Mads Astvad (Denmark)

MAIN HALL

10:45–11:00 **Official opening & Welcome**
Nicola Groes Clausen (Denmark)

11:00–12:30 **PANEL 1: Organ Donation**
Moderators: *Marieke Voet*

15–20 min **Spain as a Leader in Transplantation: History of Paediatric Organ Transplantation**
M Dolores Mendez (Spain)

15–20 min **Controlled Asystolic Donation (CAD) Program**
Abigail Villena (Spain)

15–20 min **Goal-Directed Therapy in Paediatric Organ Transplantation: Hepatic Transplantation**
Paco Escribá (Spain)

12:30–13:30 **LUNCH BREAK & EXHIBITION/ LUNCH SYMPOSIUM**

PBL ROOM 1

13:30–14:30 **PBL 01: The child with neuropsychiatric diagnosis (G)**
Artemis Vekrakou (Greece)

PBL ROOM 2

13:30–14:30 **PBL 02: Neonatal resuscitation (G)**
Livia Gisbert de la Cuadra (Spain)

POSTER AREA

13:30–14:30 **POSTER WALKS I**

MAIN HALL

14:30–16:00 **PANEL 2: Sustainability in Paediatric Anaesthesia/ Hot topics**
Moderators: Ignacio Malagon / Nicola Groes Clausen

15–20 min **What do we know? Recap of current evidence**
Patricio Gonzalez-Pizarro (Spain)

15–20 min **What are we missing? Institutional initiative**
Francisco Reinoso Barbero (Spain)

15–20 min **How do we motivate change? Individual resistance against change**
Alexander Fuchs (Switzerland)

WORKSHOP ROOM 1

14:30–16:00 **WORKSHOP 03: Advanced Airway Management 1/2**
Monica Hervías / Paco Escribá / Juan Encarnación / Alejandra Gundín (Spain)

WORKSHOP ROOM 2

14:30–16:00 **WORKSHOP 04: Differentiated ventilation strategies – insights into modern technologies 2/2**
Johannes Spaeth / Ehrenfried Schindler (Germany)

PBL ROOM 1

15:00–16:00 **PBL 03: Osteogenesis imperfecta (G)**
Divya Dixit / Manish Purohit (United States)

PBL ROOM 2

15:00–16:00 **PBL 04: Pyloric stenosis in an infant with TOF (A)**
Gianluca Bertolizio (Canada)

16:00–16:30 **COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITION**

MAIN HALL

16:30–18:00 **PANEL 3: Safe, Smart, Same-Day: Innovations & Insights in Paediatric Ambulatory Anaesthesia**
Moderators: Alexander Buzath / Sameh Nour

15–20 min **Mapping the Field: National Practice Patterns in Paediatric Ambulatory Anaesthesia**
Shiu-Yi Emily Chen (United States)

15–20 min **Who's in and Who's Out? Patient Selection Trends from 30+ US-based Paediatric Centers**
Samuel M. Vanderhoek (United States)

15–20 mins **What's New and What's Next: Updates in Paediatric Ambulatory Anaesthesia**
Vasili Chernishof / Sameh Nour (United States)

15–20 mins **The European Perspective**
Alexander Buzath (Austria)

PBL ROOM 1

16:30–17:30 **PBL 05: Central lines (G)**
Peter Frykholm / Robert Frithiof (Sweden)

PBL ROOM 2

16:30–17:30 **PBL 06: Anaesthesia for Renal Transplantation – practical aspects (A)**
Marieke Voet (The Netherlands)

WORKSHOP ROOM 1

16:30–18:00 **WORKSHOP 05: Advanced Airway Management 2/2**
Monica Hervías / Paco Escribá / Juan Encarnación / Alejandra Gundín (Spain)

WORKSHOP ROOM 2

16:30–18:00 **WORKSHOP 06: Bronchoscopy vs Imaging for Foreign Bodies 1/2**
Anne Laffargue Vetter (France) / Michael Brackhahn (Germany)

EXHIBITION AREA

18:15–19:15 **KeyNote Panel: Venezuelan Mitochondrial Health Alert**
Moderators: Elena Méndez / Paco Escribá (Spain)

15–20 min **Mitochondria and Anaesthesia**
Antonio González (Spain)

15–20 min **Venezuelan Mitochondrial Variant**
Eduardo Ruiz Pesini (Spain)

15–20 mins **Anaesthetic Management Protocol**
Fernando Casinello (Spain)

18:00–19:00 **Opening ceremony**

FRIDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2026

PBL ROOM 1

08:15–09:15 **PBL 07: Transfusion (G)**
Fanny Bonhomme (Switzerland)

PBL ROOM 2

08:15–09:15 **PBL 08: Rigid Bronchoscopy – things to consider for the anaesthesiologist (A)**
Mia Gisselbæk (Switzerland)

MAIN HALL

09:00–10:30 **PANEL 4: State-of-the Art Research**
Moderators: Robert Frithiof / Marike Voet

15–20 min **- in Neonatology**
Hemen Sabir (Germany)

15–20 min **- in Paediatric Anaesthesiology**
Laszlo Vutskits (Switzerland)

15–20 min **- in Adult Anaesthesiology: what can we learn?**
Idit Matot (Israel)

WORKSHOP ROOM 1

09:00–10:30 **WORKSHOP 07: Escape Room Paediatric Airway 1/3**
Carme Pamies / Alejandra Gundin (Spain)

WORKSHOP ROOM 2

09:00–10:30 **WORKSHOP 08: Bronchoscopy vs Imaging for Foreign Bodies 2/2**
Anne Laffargue Vetter (France) / Michael Brackhahn (Germany)

PBL ROOM 1

09:30–10:30 **PBL 09: Osteogenesis imperfecta (A)**
Divya Dixit & Manish Purohit (United States)

PBL ROOM 2

09:30–10:30 **PBL 10: Haemostasis (A)**
Fanny Bonhomme (Switzerland)

10:30–11:00 **COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITION**

MAIN HALL

11:00–12:30 **PANEL 5: Learning from Excellency**
Moderators: Nicola Groes Clausen / Alexander Fuchs

15–20 min **Case presentation: 'The trachea heals, but the hypoxia does not'**
Theodor Skuli Sigurdsson (Iceland)

15–20 min **Frontal Neck access in paediatric patients – hvad does science say?**
Nicola Disma (Italy)

15–20 min **Lesson(s) to be learned – Patient safety – How do we educate on rare events?**
Katy Monaghan (Great Britain)

PBL ROOM 1

11:00–12:00 **PBL 11: Pediatric Anesthesia Journal Club (G)**
Laszlo Vutskits (Switzerland)

PBL ROOM 2

11:00–12:00 **PBL 12: EMA Model – Stepwise authorization of medicines for children (G)**
Ignacio Malagon (Spain)

WORKSHOP ROOM 1

11:00–12:30 **WORKSHOP 09: Escape Room Paediatric Airway 2/3**
Carme Pamies / Alejandra Gundin (Spain)

WORKSHOP ROOM 2

11:00–12:30 **WORKSHOP 10: Differentiated ventilation strategies – insights into modern technologies 2/2**
Johannes Spaeth / Ehrenfried Schindler (Germany)

12:30–13:30 **LUNCH BREAK & EXHIBITION/ LUNCH SYMPOSIUM**

PBL ROOM 1

13:30–14:30 **PBL 13: Non-cardiac anaesthesia for the cardiac patient (A)**
Viviane Nasr (United States)

PBL ROOM 2

13:30–14:30 **PBL 14: Central lines (A)**
Peter Frykholm / Robert Frithiof (Sweden)

POSTER AREA

13:30–14:30 **POSTER WALKS II**

MAIN HALL

14:30–16:00 **PANEL 6: Focus on Safetots: Education, Quality Improvement and Research**
Moderators: Jacob Karlsson / Jean-Phillipe Salaun

15–20 min **Education**
Tom Hansen (Norway)

15–20 min **Quality Improvement**
Karin Becke (Switzerland)

15–20 min **SafeTots Research**
Laszlo Vutskits (Switzerland)

WORKSHOP ROOM 1

14:30–16:00 **WORKSHOP 11: Regional Anaesthesia 2/3**
Annabelle Pearson / Babette Clinck / Catalina Stendall (United Kingdom)

WORKSHOP ROOM 2

14:30–16:00 **WORKSHOP 12: TIVA (G) 1/2**
Peter Brooks / Jon McCormack / Elizabeth Allison (United Kingdom)

PBL ROOM 1

15:00–16:00 **PBL 15: Neonatal resuscitation (G)**
Livia Gisbert de la Cuadra (Spain)

PBL ROOM 2

15:00–16:00 **PBL 16: Toxic leadership in paediatric anaesthesia (G)**
Nicola Groes Clausen (Denmark) / Mia Gisselbæk (Switzerland)

16:00–16:30 **COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITION**

MAIN HALL

16:30–18:00 **PANEL 7: Best abstract session**
Moderators: Fanny Bonhomme / Nicola Disma

PBL ROOM 1

16:30–17:30 **PBL 17: The Very Low Birth Weight Patient – vascular access, airway management, regional anaesthesia (A)**
Peter Frykholm (Sweden)

PBL ROOM 2

16:30–17:30 **PBL 18: Noninvasive ventilation (G)**
Alexander Fuchs (Switzerland)

WORKSHOP ROOM 1

16:30–18:00 **WORKSHOP 13: Regional Anaesthesia 3/3**
Annabelle Pearson / Babette Clinck / Catalina Stendall (United Kingdom)

WORKSHOP ROOM 2

16:30–18:00 **WORKSHOP 14: TIVA (A) 2/2**
Peter Brooks / Jon McCormack / Elizabeth Allison (United Kingdom)

MAIN HALL

18:15–19:00 **KeyNote Lecture**

20:00–23:00 **Conference dinner**

SATURDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2026

MAIN HALL

09:00–10:30 **PANEL 8: Advances in Clinical Paediatric Anaesthesia**
Moderators: Nadia Najafi

15–20 min **The use of extended reality in clinical practice: is it a kind of magic?**
Gianluca Bertolizio (Canada)

15–20 min **What's new in paediatric resuscitation?**
Livia Gisbert de la Cuadra (Spain)

15–20 min **Modern approaches to paediatric mechanical ventilation**
Johannes Spaeth (Germany)

15–20 min **Teaching in Paediatric Anaesthesia**
Nicola Groes Clausen (Denmark)

PBL ROOM 1

09:00–10:00 **PBL 19: Non-cardiac anaesthesia for the cardiac patient (A)**
Viviane Nasr (United States)

PBL ROOM 2

09:00–10:00 **PBL 20: 10N Clinical Implementation of the 10N's (G)**
SafeTots

WORKSHOP ROOM 1

09:00–10:30 **WORKSHOP 15: Escape Room Paediatric Airway 3/3**
Carne Pamies / Alejandra Gundin (Spain)

WORKSHOP ROOM 2

09:00–10:30 **WORKSHOP 16: How to prepare a perfect presentation? 2/2**
Mads Astvad (Denmark)

10:30–11:00 **COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITION**

MAIN HALL

- 11:00–12:30** **PANEL 9: Challenges previously known as Nightmares**
Moderators: Michael Brackhahn
- 15–20 min **Central lines challenges**
Robert Frithiof (Sweden)
- 15–20 min **Nager syndrome & Cleft Palate**
Nadia Najafi (Belgium)
- 15–20 min **Pneumococcal sepsis – from bad to worse**
Ignacio Malagon (Spain)
- 15–20 min **Neonatal Tracheo-Oesophageal Fistula – Practical aspects of anaesthetic management**
Babette Clinck (United Kingdom)

PBL ROOM 1

- 11:00–12:00** **PBL 21: 10N Clinical Implementation of the 10N's (G)**
SafeTots

PBL ROOM 2

- 11:00–12:00** **PBL 22: Impact on Emergence Delirium on postoperative recovery (G)**
Peter Brooks/ Isabel Diez-Martin (United Kingdom)

MAIN HALL

- 12:35** **Best abstract award**
Moderators: Fanny Bonhomme (Switzerland)
- 12:45** **Closing remarks**
Moderators: Nicola G. Clausen (Denmark)