**Preliminary Programme**

**ESSO Hands on Course On Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy and Gastrectomy**

**In partnership with University Medical Center Utrecht**

Utrecht (NL), 30th to 31st October 2025

**Chairs**

Richard van Hillegersberg, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, NL

Jelle Ruurda, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, NL

**Co-Chairs**

Ronald Bleys, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, NL

Domenico D’Ugo, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, IT

**Faculty members (TBC)**

Andres Navarrete, Clínica Alemana de Santiago, Santiago, Chile

Edward Cheong, Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital Foundation Trust, Norwich, UK

Franco Roviello, Università di Siena, Siena, IT  
Jessie Elliot, St. James Hospital, Dublin, IR

Marc Van Det, ZGT Hospital, Almelo, NL

Miguel Cuesta, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, NL

Misha Luyer, Catharina Ziekenhuis Eindhoven, Eindhoven, NL   
Peter Grimminger, Universitätsmedizin der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Mainz, DE

Pieter van der Sluis, Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam, NL

Shaun Preston, The Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust Hospital, Guildford, United

Kingdom

**Program**

**Thursday 30th October: Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy (MIG)**

08:30 – 08:40 Opening & Introduction of the Live RAMIE Surgery Case

*J. Ruurda*

08:40 – 09:00 Introduction to the Surgical Anatomy of the Stomach

*R. Bleys*

09:00 – 09:15 Laparoscopic versus Open Gastrectomy

*D. D’Ugo*

09:15 – 09:35 Lymphadenectomy in MIG

*F. Roviello*

09:35 – 09:50 Anastomotic Techniques in MIG

*M. Luyer*

09:50 – 10:15 General Discussion + Live RAMIE Surgery

*10:15 – 10:35 Coffee Break*

10:35 – 10:50 MIG and RAMIG: Step by Step

*A.Navarrete*

10:50 – 11:05 Robot-assisted Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy: Tips, Tricks, & Pitfalls

*J. Ruurda*

11:05 – 11:10 Introduction to Hands-on Practical Training Session

*R. van Jaarsveld*

11:10 – 11:30 General Discussion + Live RAMIE Surgery

*11:30 – 12:15 Lunch*

12:15 – 12:30 Transfer to the Department of Anatomy

12:30 – 17:00 Hands-on Practical Training

*van Boxel, Cheong, Cuesta, D’Ugo, Gisbertz, Navarrete, Grimminger, van Hillegersberg, Luyer, Roviello, Ruurda, van der Sluis*

12:30 – 14:30 Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy: Dissection

*14:30 – 15:00 Coffee break*

15:00 – 17:00 Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy: Reconstruction

**Friday 31st October 2025: Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy (MIE)**

08:30 – 08:35 Opening

*R. van Hillegersberg*

08:35 – 08:55 Introduction to the Surgical Anatomy of the Esophagus

*R. Bleys*

08:55 – 09:10 Lymphadenectomy during MIE: The More the Better?

*S. Gisbertz*

09:10 – 09:25 The Current Status of MIE and RAMIE

*R. van Hillegersberg*

09:25 – 09:40 How to Set Up a MIE Programme

*S. Preston*

09:40 – 10:00 General Discussion + Live RAMIE Surgery

*10:00 – 10:20 Coffee Break*

10:20 – 10:35 Enhanced Recovery after Esophagectomy

*E. Cheong*

10:35 – 10:50 Anastomotic Techniques for (Robot-assisted) MIE *G. Van Boxel*

10:50 – 11:05 Robot-assisted Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy (RAMIE): Step by Step, Tips, Tricks and Pitfalls

*P. Grimminger*

11:05 – 11:20 Introduction to Hands-on Practical Training Session

*Gino Kuiper*

11:20 – 11:45 General Discussion + Live RAMIE Surgery

*11:45 – 12:15 Lunch*

*12:15 – 12:30 Transfer to the Department of Anatomy*

12:30 – 17:00 Hands-on Practical Training

*van Boxel, Cheong, Cuesta, D’Ugo, Gisbertz, Grimminger, Navarrete, van Hillegersberg, Luyer, Roviello, Ruurda, van der Sluis*

12:30 – 14:30 Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy: 1st Hands-on Session

*14:30 – 15:00 Coffee break*

15:00 – 17:00 Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy: 2nd Hands on Session