



ESSO Hands on Course On Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy and Gastrectomy

In partnership with University Medical Center Utrecht

Utrecht (NL), 5th to 6th March 2026

Chairs

Richard van Hillegersberg, University Medical Center Utrecht, NL

Jelle Ruurda, University Medical Center Utrecht, NL

Co-Chairs

Ronald Bleys, University Medical Center Utrecht, NL

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

Faculty members

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

Miguel Cuesta, SP

Lana Fourie, Kantonsspital Luzern, CH

Misha Luyer, Catharina Ziekenhuis, Eindhoven, NL

Marco Milone, University of Naples Federico II, IT

Alejandro Nieponice, Fundación Favaloro, Buenos Aires, ARG

Franco Roviello, Università di Siena, IT

Gijs van Boxel, Portsmouth Hospital, UK

Marc Van Det, ZGT Hospital, Almelo, NL

Pieter van der Sluis, Erasmus Medisch Centrum, Rotterdam, NL

Program

Thursday 5 March – Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy (MIG)

08:30 – 08:40	Opening & Introduction of the live RAMIE surgery case <i>R. van Hillegersberg</i>
08:40 – 09:00	Introduction to the Surgical Anatomy of the Stomach <i>R. Bleys</i>
09:00 – 09:15	Laparoscopic versus Open Gastrectomy <i>D. D'Ugo</i>
09:15 – 09:35	Lymphadenectomy in MIG <i>F. Roviello</i>
09:35 – 09:50	Anastomotic techniques in MIG <i>M. Luyer</i>
09:50 – 10:15	General discussion+ Live RAMIE surgery
<i>10:15 – 10:35</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:35 – 10:50	MIG and RAMIE: step by step <i>L. Fourie</i>
10:50 – 11:05	Robot-assisted Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy (RAMIG): Tips, Tricks, & Pitfalls <i>R. van Hillegersberg</i>
11:05 – 11:10	Introduction to hands on practical training session <i>G. Kuiper</i>
11:10 – 11:30	General discussion+ Live RAMIE surgery
<i>11:30 – 12:15</i>	<i>Lunch</i>

12:15 – 12:30	Transfer to the Department of Anatomy
12:30 – 17:00	Hands-on practical training
12:30 – 14:30	Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy: dissection
<i>14:30 – 15:00</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:00 – 17:00	Minimally Invasive Gastrectomy: reconstruction

Friday 6 March 2025 – Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy (MIE)

08:30 – 08:35	Opening <i>J. Ruurda</i>
08:35 – 08:55	Introduction to the Surgical Anatomy of the Esophagus <i>R. Bleys</i>
08:55 – 09:10	Lymphadenectomy during MIE: the more the better? <i>G. van Boxel</i>
09:10 – 09:25	The current status of MIE and RAMIE P. van der Sluis
09:25 – 09:40	How to set up a MIE program M. Milone
09:40 – 10:00	General discussion + live MIEG surgery
<i>10:00 – 10:20</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:20 – 10:35	Enhanced Recovery after Esophagectomy <i>E. Cheong</i>

10:35 – 10:50	Anastomotic techniques for (robot-assisted) MIE <i>M. Van Det</i>
10:50 – 11:05	Robot-assisted Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy (RAMIE): step by step, tips, tricks and pitfalls <i>A. Nieponice</i>
11:05 – 11:20	Introduction to hands on practical training session <i>F. Lammes</i>
11:20 – 11:45	General discussion
<i>11:45 – 12:15</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
<i>12:15 – 12:30</i>	<i>Transfer to the Department of Anatomy</i>
12:30 – 17:00	Hands-on practical training
12:30 – 14:30	Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy: 1st hands-on session
<i>14:30 – 15:00</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:00 – 17:00	Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy: 2nd hands on session