

# Arrhythmia Update 2026

THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY  
**19**

FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY  
**20**

## Thursday, February 19, 2026

6:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet	Foyer
<b>Plenary 1</b>		
7:00 a.m. - 7:15 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions	Planning Committee
7:15 a.m. - 7:45 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Frontier of Left Atrial Appendage Management for Stroke Prevention	Dr. Jeff Healey
7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Cardiovascular Health in Women	Dr. Roopinder Sandhu
8:15 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Advances in Anticoagulation: FXI	Dr. William McIntyre
8:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Health Break	Foyer
<b>Plenary 2</b>		
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Challenging Tricuspid Regurgitation Cases	Dr. Roopinder Sandhu
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. incl. 15 min Q&A	ECG Quiz Challenge	Dr. Yorgo Veenhuyzen
10:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.	Conclusion of Morning Agenda	
<b>Workshops 1 &amp; 2</b>		
10:40 a.m. - 11:10 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Workshop 1A   ICD Decision-Making	Dr. Blandine Mondésert
11:10 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Workshop 1B   Inherited Arrhythmias: When to Refer	Dr. Andrew Krahn
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Workshop 2A   Stroke Prevention	Dr. Christopher Cheung
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Workshop 2B   Post-PVI Device Algorithms	Dr. Yaariv Khaykin
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Health Break	Foyer
<b>Fellows' Case Challenge and Keynote Address</b>		
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Fellows' Case Challenge	Moderator: Dr. Yorgo Veenhuyzen
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Networking Reception <b>Keynote Address</b> - History of RCTs in Canadian EP	Planning Committee Dr. David Birnie
6:00 p.m.	End of Day	

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## Friday, February 20, 2026

6:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet	Foyer
<b>Plenary 3</b>		
7:00 a.m. - 7:15 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions	Planning Committee  Frontenac Ballroom
7:15 a.m. - 7:45 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Who Should Be Referred for AF Ablation?	
7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Catheter vs. Surgical Approaches to Arrhythmia Management	
8:15 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Anticoagulation Post Ablation: What's New?	
8:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Health Break	Foyer
<b>Plenary 4</b>		
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	The Importance of Risk Factor Modification in Atrial Fibrillation	Dr. Christopher Cheung  Frontenac Ballroom
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Triggered Atrial Fibrillation: Should I Be Concerned?	
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Evidence-Based Clinical Decision-Making in ICDs	
10:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.	Conclusion of Morning Agenda	
<b>Workshops 3 &amp; 4</b>		
10:40 a.m. - 11:10 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	<b>Workshop 3A</b>   Surgical Management of AF and Other Arrhythmias	Dr. Richard Whitlock  Frontenac Ballroom
11:10 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	<b>Workshop 3B</b>   Understanding ECGs	
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	<b>Workshop 4A</b>   Bundle Branch Pacing 101	
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	<b>Workshop 4B</b>   Arrhythmias in Pregnancy	
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Health Break	Foyer
<b>Plenary 5</b>		
3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Wearable Devices for AF Diagnosis	Dr. Yaariv Khaykin  Frontenac Ballroom
4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Genetics of Heart Disease: What the General Cardiologist Should Know	
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. incl. 8 min Q&A	Conduction System Pacing: Ongoing Clinical Trials	
5:00 p.m.	<b>Final Word and Farewell</b>	

## Congress Learning Objectives

1. Analyze recent advancements in electrophysiology, including innovations in ablation, anticoagulation, and conduction system pacing, and their implications for clinical practice.
2. Evaluate evidence-based approaches and evolving technologies for the prevention, diagnosis, and management of atrial and ventricular arrhythmias.
3. Apply multidisciplinary and patient-centered strategies to optimize arrhythmia care across diverse populations, including women and patients with inherited or pregnancy-related arrhythmias.
4. Enhance clinical decision-making through interpretation of ECG findings, risk assessment, and integration of emerging research and guideline updates.

## Day 1 – February 19, 2026

Presentation Title	Presenter(s)	Learning Objectives
Frontier of Left Atrial Appendage Management for Stroke Prevention	Dr. Jeff Healey	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review recent advancements in left atrial appendage (LAA) management and closure techniques.</li> <li>2. Evaluate emerging clinical trial data comparing LAA occlusion with anticoagulation for stroke prevention.</li> <li>3. Discuss patient selection criteria and procedural considerations for contemporary LAA management.</li> </ol>
Cardiovascular Health in Women	Dr. Roopinder Sandhu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review sex-specific risk factors and presentations of cardiovascular disease in women.</li> <li>2. Discuss recent evidence on arrhythmia prevalence, management, and outcomes in women.</li> <li>3. Apply strategies to optimize cardiovascular care and treatment equity in women.</li> </ol>
Advances in Anticoagulation: FXI	Dr. William McIntyre	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the mechanism and pharmacologic profile of Factor XI inhibitors.</li> <li>2. Evaluate recent clinical trial data assessing efficacy and safety of FXI inhibition.</li> <li>3. Discuss the clinical implications of FXI inhibitors for stroke prevention and other thrombotic conditions.</li> </ol>
Challenging Tricuspid Regurgitation Cases	Dr. Roopinder Sandhu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review diagnostic and imaging strategies for assessing tricuspid regurgitation.</li> <li>2. Discuss recent advances in transcatheter and surgical treatment options.</li> <li>3. Apply clinical decision-making to complex tricuspid regurgitation cases.</li> </ol>

ECG Quiz Challenge	Dr. Yorgo Veenhuyzen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Interpret complex ECG tracings through interactive case-based challenges.</li> <li>2. Differentiate between subtle and atypical arrhythmia patterns in real-world patient scenarios.</li> <li>3. Reinforce rapid ECG interpretation and clinical reasoning skills under time-limited conditions.</li> </ol>
Workshop 1A   ICD Decision-Making	Dr. Blandine Mondésert	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review current guideline-based indications for ICD implantation.</li> <li>2. Evaluate patient-specific factors influencing ICD therapy decisions.</li> <li>3. Discuss recent data and evolving approaches in ICD selection and management.</li> </ol>
Workshop 1B   Inherited Arrhythmias: When to Refer	Dr. Andrew Krahn	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify clinical clues and red flags suggestive of inherited arrhythmia syndromes.</li> <li>2. Review appropriate timing and indications for genetic testing and specialist referral.</li> <li>3. Discuss recent guideline recommendations and multidisciplinary management approaches.</li> </ol>
Workshop 2A   Stroke Prevention	Dr. Christopher Cheung	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review current and emerging strategies for stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation.</li> <li>2. Evaluate evidence guiding anticoagulation decisions and risk-benefit assessment.</li> <li>3. Discuss new developments in non-pharmacologic stroke prevention approaches.</li> </ol>
Workshop 2B   Post-PVI Device Algorithms	Dr. Yaariv Kaykhin	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review device-based rhythm monitoring following pulmonary vein isolation.</li> <li>2. Discuss algorithm optimization to improve arrhythmia detection and reduce inappropriate therapies.</li> <li>3. Apply device data to guide individualized follow-up and rhythm management.</li> </ol>
Keynote Address - History of RCTs in Canadian EP	Dr. David Birnie	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the historical evolution of landmark randomized controlled trials in Canadian electrophysiology.</li> <li>2. Recognize the national contributions to advancing evidence-based arrhythmia management.</li> <li>3. Discuss lessons learned and implications for future clinical research in electrophysiology.</li> </ol>

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20

## Day 2 – February 20, 2026

Presentation Title	Presenter(s)	Learning Objectives
Who Should Be Referred for AF Ablation?	Dr. Jason Andrade	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review current indications and referral criteria for atrial fibrillation ablation.</li> <li>2. Evaluate clinical factors predicting success and patient outcomes.</li> <li>3. Discuss evidence supporting early rhythm control and ablation in AF management.</li> </ol>
Anticoagulation Post Ablation: What's New?	Dr. Charles Dussault	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review recent data on anticoagulation management following atrial fibrillation ablation.</li> <li>2. Evaluate evidence guiding continuation versus discontinuation decisions post-ablation.</li> <li>3. Discuss patient-centered approaches to balancing stroke and bleeding risks.</li> </ol>
Catheter vs. Surgical Approaches to Arrhythmia Management	Dr. Jason Andrade Dr. Richard Whitlock	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the comparative benefits and limitations of catheter-based and surgical arrhythmia therapies.</li> <li>2. Evaluate recent evidence supporting hybrid or minimally invasive techniques.</li> <li>3. Discuss multidisciplinary strategies to optimize procedural outcomes.</li> </ol>
The Importance of Risk Factor Modification in Atrial Fibrillation	Dr. Christopher Cheung	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review evidence linking modifiable risk factors to atrial fibrillation onset and recurrence.</li> <li>2. Discuss clinical outcomes associated with comprehensive risk factor management.</li> <li>3. Apply practical approaches to integrating risk factor modification into AF care.</li> </ol>
Triggered Atrial Fibrillation: Should I Be Concerned?	Dr. William McIntyre	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify common triggers and clinical patterns of triggered atrial fibrillation.</li> <li>2. Distinguish transient triggers from underlying structural or electrical disease.</li> <li>3. Review management strategies for secondary and lifestyle-related AF.</li> </ol>
Evidence-Based Clinical Decision-Making in ICDs	Dr. Jean-François Roux	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the latest clinical evidence informing ICD implantation and management.</li> <li>2. Evaluate shared decision-making tools to guide therapy discussions.</li> <li>3. Discuss practical approaches to optimizing outcomes in ICD patients.</li> </ol>

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19

FRIDAY

FEBRUARY

20

Workshop 3A   Surgical Management of AF and Other Arrhythmias	Dr. Richard Whitlock	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the rationale and techniques for hybrid surgical-catheter ablation.</li> <li>2. Discuss patient selection and procedural coordination between surgical and EP teams.</li> <li>3. Evaluate recent outcome data and ongoing studies of hybrid AF ablation.</li> </ol>
Workshop 3B   Understanding ECGs	Dr. Yorgo Veenhuyzen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review systematic approaches and diagnostic frameworks for ECG interpretation in arrhythmia evaluation.</li> <li>2. Recognize characteristic ECG features of specific supraventricular and ventricular arrhythmias.</li> <li>3. Apply structured interpretation principles to improve diagnostic accuracy and clinical confidence.</li> </ol>
Workshop 4A   Bundle Branch Pacing 101	Dr. Jamie Manlucu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the principles and techniques of conduction system pacing.</li> <li>2. Discuss patient selection and procedural considerations for bundle branch pacing.</li> <li>3. Evaluate outcomes from recent studies comparing conduction system pacing with traditional CRT.</li> </ol>
Workshop 4B   Arrhythmias in Pregnancy	Dr. Blandine Mondésert	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review physiological changes influencing arrhythmias during pregnancy.</li> <li>2. Discuss diagnostic and therapeutic strategies for arrhythmia management in pregnant patients.</li> <li>3. Evaluate multidisciplinary approaches to optimizing maternal and fetal outcomes.</li> </ol>
Wearable Devices for AF Diagnosis	Dr. Yaariv Kaykhin	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review current and emerging wearable technologies for detecting atrial fibrillation.</li> <li>2. Evaluate accuracy, limitations, and clinical integration of wearable data.</li> <li>3. Discuss future directions for digital monitoring in arrhythmia care.</li> </ol>
Genetics of Heart Disease: What the General Cardiologist Should Know	Dr. Andrew Krahn	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the genetic basis of common inherited cardiac disorders.</li> <li>2. Identify appropriate indications for genetic testing and counseling.</li> <li>3. Discuss implications of genetic findings for patient and family management.</li> </ol>
Conduction System Pacing: Ongoing Clinical Trials	Dr. Bernice Tsang	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review key ongoing and recently completed clinical trials in conduction system pacing.</li> <li>2. Evaluate emerging evidence regarding efficacy and safety outcomes.</li> <li>3. Discuss how these findings may inform future guideline recommendations.</li> </ol>