



Scientific Program Directors
PROF. DR. REZA WAKILI
PROF. DR. DOBROMIR DOBREV



INVITATION

We are delighted to welcome you to the Sky AF Summit Frankfurt, an international scientific meeting dedicated to the latest advances in the understanding and treatment of atrial fibrillation (AF). The program brings together leading experts in clinical cardiology, electrophysiology, and cardiac surgery to explore new data, evolving technologies, and translational insights that are shaping the next era of AF management.

Discussions will cover the full therapeutic spectrum – from oral anticoagulation and stroke prevention to novel ablation techniques, hybrid strategies, and future directions in device-based therapy. In addition, sessions will focus on comorbidities such as heart failure, metabolic disorders, and renal dysfunction, emphasizing their impact on patient outcomes.

Through scientific exchange, live case sessions, and interactive debates, the Sky AF Summit aims to bridge evidence and experience, connecting innovative research with everyday clinical practice.

PROGRAM

08.45 am **PROF. DR. REZA WAKILI & PROF. DR. DOBROMIR DOBREV**

09.00 – 10.00 am
STROKE PREVENTION IN AF – PART I
Chair: Prof. Dr. Reza Wakili | Prof. Dr. Stefan H. Hohnloser

Oral Anticoagulation in 2026 – Real-World Perspectives on Factor Xa & XI Inhibitors
PROF. DR. MICHAEL KÖHRMANN Universitätsklinikum Essen

Role of AHREs – Who Benefits Most from Oral Anticoagulation?
PROF. DR. PAULUS KIRCHHOF Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf

Oral Anticoagulation After Successful PVI – Still Required?
PROF. DR. STEPHAN WILLEMS Herz- und Gefäßzentrum Asklepios Klinik St. Georg

Oral Anticoagulation and Cognitive Function
DR. LAURENT RIVARD Montréal Heart Institute, Canada

10.00 – 11.20 am
TRANSLATIONAL INSIGHTS INTO AF MECHANISMS
Chair: Prof. Dr. Dobromir Dobrev | Prof. Dr. Stefanie Dimmeler

From Ion Channels to Fibrosis to Inflammation
PROF. DR. STANLEY NATTEL Montréal Heart Institute, Canada

Genetics – Lessons Learned and Current Implications
PROF. DR. STEFAN KÄÄB LMU München

Role of Inflammation
PROF. DR. ANDREAS ZEIHNER Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt

Mitochondrial Imbalance
PROF. DR. NIELS VOIGT Medizinische Hochschule Hannover

TBA
DR. ANDREAS BÖHMER St. Josefs-Hospital Wiesbaden

11.20 am Coffee Break and Industry Exchange

11.50 am – 01.00 pm
STROKE PREVENTION IN AF – PART II
Chair: Prof. Dr. Jeff S. Healey | PD Dr. Ahmed Sultan

LAAO – Closing the Left Atrial Appendage in AF
PROF. DR. INGO EITEL Universitätsmedizin Rostock

OPTION Trial
DR. SEBASTIAN HABERKORN Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt

CHAMPION Trial
DR. TOM DE POTTER Cardiovascular Center Aalst, Belgium

Optimal Choice and Regimen of Anticoagulation After LAAO
PD DR. BORIS SCHMIDT Cardioangiologisches Centrum Bethanien

Outlook 2027 – LAAOS IV and What Else Is Coming and Needed
PROF. DR. JEFF S. HEALEY McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada

01.00 pm Lunch Break and Industry Exchange

01.45 pm – 03.00 pm
NOVEL DRUG THERAPIES IN AF BEYOND OAC AND PVI
Chair: Prof. Dr. Paulus Kirchhof | Prof. Dr. Dominik Linz

Role of Novel Antiarrhythmic Drugs
PROF. DR. DOBROMIR DOBREV Universitätsklinikum Duisburg-Essen

Role of Established Antiarrhythmic Drugs
PROF. DR. LARS ECKARDT Universitätsklinikum Münster

Obesity and Metabolic Syndrome
DR. VICTORIA JOHNSON Universitätsklinikum Maastricht/ANZAC

AF Therapy in HOCM and Amyloidosis
PD DR. MARIA PAPATHANASIOU Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt

Chronic Kidney Disease and AF – Role of SGLT2 Inhibitors and MRAs
PROF. DR. THOMAS SPEER Universitätsklinikum des Saarlandes

03.00 – 04.15 pm
SURGERY MEETS CARDIOLOGY IN AF TREATMENT
Chair: Prof. Dr. Thomas Walther | Prof. Dr. David M. Leistner

Epicardial PVI + LAAO – The Surgeon's View
PROF. DR. NICO DOLL Universitätsklinikum Leipzig

Endocardial PVI + LAAO – The Electrophysiologist's View
PD DR. CHRISTIAN HEEGER Universitätsklinikum Lübeck

Mitral Valve Repair Combined with PVI and LAAO
PROF. DR. THOMAS WALTHER Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt

PVI ± LAAO After mTEER
PROF. DR. DANIEL STEVEN Universitätsklinikum Bonn

LIAB: PFA-PVI + LAAO (FARAWAVE + Watchman With VersaCross)
PROF. DR. REZA WAKILI & DR. SEBASTIAN HABERKORN Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt

04.15 pm Coffee Break and Industry Exchange

04.45 – 05.45 pm
MAPPING AND ABLATION WITH PFA
Chair: Prof. Dr. Andreas Metzner | Prof. Dr. Reza Wakili

Focal PFA – For Which Arrhythmia?
DR. OMAR RANA Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt
PROF. DR. ARMIN LUIK Städtisches Klinikum Karlsruhe

PVI+ With PFA-Integrated 3D Mapping – Overview
PROF. DR. PHILIPP SOMMER Herz- und Gefäßzentrum Leipzig

LIAB: PVI+ With FARAVIEW and OPAL
DR. ANASTASIA FALAGKARI Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt

LIAB: PVI-Only With AFFERA Sphere 360
PD DR. LAURA ROTTNER Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt

05.45 – 06.45 pm
PVI IN HFrEF, HFmREF, HFpEF – OR ALL HFpAF?
Chair: Dr. Herbert Pürerfellner | Prof. Dr. Daniel Scherr | Prof. Dr. Nassir Marrouche

HFrEF
PROF. DR. CHRISTIAN SOHNS Herz- und Diabeteszentrum NRW

HFpEF
PROF. DR. ARIAN PARWANI Universitätsklinikum Münster

HOCM and Amyloidosis: Role of Single-Shot PFA-PVI
PD DR. PATRICK LUGENBIEL Universitätsklinikum Heidelberg

Role of AF Burden vs. Freedom From AF in HFpAF
PROF. DR. JASON ANDRADE University of British Columbia, Canada
PROF. DR. THOMAS LEWALTER Beta Klinik Bonn

06.45 pm Coffee Break and Industry Exchange

07.00 – 08.00 pm
CLOSING REMARKS & MEET THE EXPERTS

Summary
PROF. DR. REZA WAKILI Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt
PROF. DR. DOBROMIR DOBREV Universitätsklinikum Duisburg-Essen

MEET THE EXPERTS

08.00 pm Adjournment