



**BHAAAS**  
Bosnian-Herzegovinian American  
ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

**17<sup>TH</sup>**  
**DAYS OF**  
**BHAAAS**  
Sarajevo  
June 4-7, 2026

# **17th Days of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian American Academy of Arts and Sciences (BHAAAS)**

## **– International Cardiology Congress**

### **Multidisciplinary Innovation in Cardiovascular Care Symposium**

#### **Symposium chair(s) and Affiliations:**

Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI, RPVI  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine  
Program Director, Cardiovascular Fellowship, Henry Ford Warren  
Medical Director, Women's Health Center, Henry Ford Rochester  
Cardiovascular Consultants – Interventional Cardiology, Henry Ford Health System

Prof. Belma Pojskić, MD, PhD, FESC  
Full Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Zenica  
Department of Cardiology, Cantonal Hospital Zenica  
President, Association of Cardiologists of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Elvira Silajdžija, MD, PhD  
Department of Cardiology  
Copenhagen University Hospital (Rigshospitalet / Herlev Hospital),  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Lamija Ferhatbegović, MD, PhD, FESC  
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Zenica  
Department of Cardiology, Cantonal Hospital Zenica  
Young Ambassador, Heart Failure Association of the ESC  
President, Lipidology Working Group, Association of Cardiologists of Bosnia and Herzegovina

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## Program - In collaboration with the Association of Cardiologists of Bosnia and Herzegovina

08:00 - 08:10	<b>Opening Remarks: Advancing Multidisciplinary Cardiovascular Care in the Era of Precision Medicine</b>	Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI, RPVI Henry Ford Health System, Michigan, USA
08:15 - 08:30	<b>Role of Echocardiography in Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery</b>	Lejla Divović-Mustafić, MD, MSc (Heart Center / Clinic for Cardiovascular Surgery, Clinical Center University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

## Cardiothoracic Surgery and Advanced Heart Failure Therapies

**Moderator: Sanko Pandur, MD, PhD – Director of the Department for Science and Education, University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

08:30 - 10:45	<b>From CABG to LVAD to Transplantation: Evolution of Advanced Heart Failure Care,</b>	Damir Kurtagić, MD – University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Minimally Invasive Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery: Outcomes and Contemporary Results</b>	Fatih Ademović, MD – University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Enhanced Recovery After Cardiac Surgery: ICU Outcomes and System Efficiency</b>	Amar Milaimi, MD – University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Minimally Invasive Mitral Valve Repair: Port-Access Techniques and Early Outcomes</b>	Tarik Selimović, MD – University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Establishing a National LVAD Program: Infrastructure and Multidisciplinary Integration</b>	Dino Arapović, MD – University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>First Heart Transplantation in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Clinical Experience and Outcomes</b>	Armin Šljivo, MD – University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Industry Perspectives: Optimization and Clinical Integration</b>	Dunja Domazet, MS BME – Abbott, USA
	<b>Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Programs</b>	Cristina Tita, MD – Henry Ford Health, Detroit, USA

## Cardiomyopathy: From Diagnosis to Targeted Therapy

Moderator: Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI, RPVI, Henry Ford Health System, Michigan, USA

10:45 - 12:30	<b>Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy: Risk Stratification and ICD Decision-Making</b>	Almin Handanagić MD - Cantonal Hospital Bihać, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: Screening and Early Diagnosis Strategies</b>	Elvira Silajdzija, MD, PhD - Copenhagen University Hospital, Denmark
	<b>Transthyretin Amyloid Cardiomyopathy: Clinical Red Flags and Diagnostic Pathways</b>	Belma Pojskić, MD, PhD, FESC - Cantonal Hospital Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Imaging in ATTR-CM: From Suspicion to Definitive Diagnosis</b>	Lamija Ferhatbegović, MD, PhD, FESC - Cantonal Hospital Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	<b>Treatment Landscape in ATTR-CM: Current and Emerging Therapies</b>	Elvira Silajdzija, MD, PhD - Copenhagen University Hospital, Denmark
	<b>Acoramidis in Transthyretin Amyloid Cardiomyopathy (ATTR-CM): Clinical Outcomes and Disease Modification - sponsored by Bayer</b>	Lamija Ferhatbegović, MD, PhD, FESC - Cantonal Hospital Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina
12:30 - 13:30	<b>Lunch</b>	

## Transforming Women's Cardiovascular Health

13:30 - 14:30	<b>Heart Centers and Programs for Women: Bare Necessity for Bare Inequalities</b>	Biljana Parapid, MD, PhD, FESC - University of Belgrade, Serbia
	<b>Obesity and Cardiovascular Disease: Risk Factor Control and Contemporary Management</b>	Irena Mitevska Peovska, MD, PhD, FESC - University Cardiology Clinic, Skopje North Macedonia
	<b>Hypertension in Pregnancy: Long-Term Cardiovascular Implications</b>	Vedka Begovic, MD - Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA
	<b>Cardiovascular Disease in Menopause: Risk Stratification and Management</b>	Sindhu Koshy, MD, FACC, MSCP - Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA

## Interventional and Structural Cardiology

14:30 - 15:45

### **STEMI Systems of Care in Bosnia and Herzegovina: From Guidelines to Practice**

Alan Jahić, MD, PhD, FESC - ASA Hospital, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **Complex PCI and Intravascular Lithotripsy in Calcified Coronary Disease**

Katherine Kunkel, MD, FSCAI - Piedmont Heart Institute, Atlanta, USA

### **The Evolution of TAVI: Global Evidence and Local Realities in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Nedim Memišević, MD - ASA Hospital, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **Multivalve Transcatheter Interventions in High-Risk Patients**

Aladin Altić, MD - Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, USA

### **Advanced Pulmonary Embolism Therapies: Multidisciplinary Management Approach**

Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI, RPVI - Henry Ford Health System, Michigan, USA

## Innovation in Cardiovascular Medicine

15:45 - 16:30

### **Emerging Therapies in Electrophysiology: New Frontiers in Rhythm Management**

Sohail Hassan, MD, MBA, FACC, FHRS - Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA

### **Renal Denervation: Current Evidence and Clinical Applications**

Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI, RPVI - Henry Ford Health System, Michigan, USA

### **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Cardiovascular Medicine**

Prof. Thomas Lüscher, MD, FRCP, FESC - Royal Brompton & Harefield Hospitals, London, UK / University of Zurich, Switzerland

## Complex Cardiac Cases and Emerging Clinical Insights

16:30 - 17:00

### **Cardiac Critical Care Models in Modern Intensive Care Medicine, Jacobi Medical Center**

Nikola Jovanović, MD - Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, USA

### **Takotsubo Syndrome Mimicking STEMI: A Complex Diagnostic Challenge**

Adela Tatlić-Hurić, MD - General Hospital "Prim. dr Abdulah Nakaš", Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **Inflammatory Myopericardial Syndromes: Diagnostic and Therapeutic Approach**

Džejla Mahmutović, MD / Nađa Šarić, MD - Cantonal Hospital "Dr. Safet Mujić", Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina