



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

## International Cardiology Symposium

*Multidisciplinary Innovation in Cardiovascular Care*

**Date: June 5, 2026 | 8:00 AM**

**Location: Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, Sarajevo, B&H Accreditation: Scientific Program (CME Accredited Session)**

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### Symposium Overview

*This symposium brings together a multidisciplinary team of experts in cardiovascular medicine to promote an integrated, team-based approach to patient care. The program spans the full spectrum of cardiovascular health from prevention and risk reduction strategies to complex interventional procedures, surgical innovations, and advanced heart failure therapies.*

*A central focus is the application of precision medicine, incorporating genetic insights, advanced imaging, and emerging technologies to individualize diagnosis and treatment. The program emphasizes collaboration across specialties to improve outcomes, streamline care pathways, and translate cutting-edge science into clinical practice.*

*This program is developed in close collaboration with the **Association of Cardiologists of Bosnia and Herzegovina**, further strengthening its academic mission and commitment to advancing clinical cardiovascular care.*

## **Participant list:**

### **Symposium Chairs**

**Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI, RPVI**

Henry Ford Health / Michigan State University, USA



**Belma Pojskić, MD, PhD, FESC**

University of Zenica / Cantonal Hospital Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina



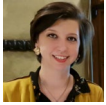
**Elvira Silajdžija, MD, PhD**

Copenhagen University Hospital, Denmark



**Lamija Ferhatbegović, MD, PhD, FESC**

University of Zenica / Cantonal Hospital Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina



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## Featured Faculty

### 1. Vedka Begovic, MD

Scripps Clinic Medical Group, California, USA



### 2. Lejla Divović-Mustafić, MD, MSc

University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



### 3. Almin Handanagić, MD

Cantonal Hospital Bihać, Bosnia and Herzegovina



### 4. Sohail Hassan, MD, MBA, FACC, FHRS

Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA



### 5. Alan Jahić, MD, PhD, FESC

ASA Hospital Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



**6. Sindhu Koshy, MD, FACC, MSCP**

Cardiovascular Consultants/Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA



**7. Katherine Kunkel, MD, MEd, FSCAI**

Piedmont Heart Institute, Atlanta, USA



**8. Thomas Lüscher, MD, FRCP, FESC**

Imperial College London / Royal Brompton & Harefield, UK / University of Zurich, Switzerland



**9. Nedim Memišević, MD**

ASA Hospital Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



**10. Irena Mitevska Peovska, MD, PhD, FESC**

University Cardiology Clinic, Skopje, North Macedonia



**11. Sanko Pandur, MD, PhD**

University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



**12. Biljana Parapid, MD, PhD, FESC**

University of Belgrade, Serbia



**13. Cristina Tita, MD**

Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA

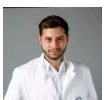


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## **Program Faculty**

**1. Fatih Ademović, MD**

University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



**2. Aladin Altić, MD**

Jacobi Medical Center, New York, USA



**3. Dino Arapović, MD**

University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



**4. Dunja Domazet, MS BME**

Abbott, Global Heart Failure Field Clinical Affairs



**5. Nikola Jovanović, MD**

Jacobi Medical Center, New York, USA



**6. Damir Kurtagić, MD**

University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



**7. Amar Milaimi, MD**

No photo

University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**8. Džejla Mahmutović, MD**

Cantonal Hospital "Dr. Safet Mujić," Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina

No photo

**9. Tarik Selimović, MD**

University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



**10. Armin Šljivo, MD**

University Clinical Center Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



**11. Adela Tatlić-Hurić, MD**

General Hospital "Prim. dr Abdulah Nakaš," Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



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## Program Highlights

Advanced Imaging & Precision Diagnostics

Cardiothoracic Surgery & Heart Failure Therapies

Genetic & Hereditary Cardiomyopathies

Women's Cardiovascular Health

Interventional & Structural Cardiology

Innovations in Cardiac Electrophysiology

Artificial Intelligence in Cardiovascular Medicine

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## Join Us in Sarajevo

A multidisciplinary platform connecting **global expertise with regional excellence** in cardiovascular care.

## PROGRAM

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## Chairs

### Chair

### Affiliation



**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 -Department of  
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 at the Faculty of Medicine,  
University of Zenica.

Department of Cardiology, Cantonal Hospital  
Zenica

Young Ambassador within the Heart Failure

Association of the European Society of  
Cardiology

President of the Lipidology Working Group of the  
Association of Cardiologists of B&H

## **OPENING REMARKS**

**08:00– 08:10**

**Speaker & Affiliation**

**Details**



**Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC,  
FSCAI, RPVI**

Opening Remarks  
Program Introduction, CME Objectives &  
Disclosures

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## **SESSION I: Advanced Imaging**

**08:15-08:30**

### **Speaker & Affiliation**

### **Presentation**



**Lejla Divović-Mustafić, MD, MSc**  
Heart Center / Clinic for Cardiovascular  
Surgery  
Clinical Center University of Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
President, Working Group for Heart  
Transplantation, Association of  
Cardiologists of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Role of Echocardiography in  
Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery

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## **SESSION II: Cardiothoracic Surgery and Advanced Heart Failure Therapies**

**08:30– 10:45 am**

### **Speaker & Affiliation**

### **Presentation**



**Damir Kurtagić, MD**

Department of Cardiovascular Surgery  
University Clinical Center Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

From CABG to LVAD to Transplantation:  
Evolution of Advanced Heart Failure  
Care



**Fatih Ademović, MD**

Department of Cardiovascular Surgery  
University Clinical Center Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Minimally Invasive Coronary Artery  
Bypass Surgery: Outcomes and  
Contemporary Results



**Amar Milaimi, MD**

Department of Cardiovascular Surgery  
University Clinical Center Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Enhanced Recovery After Cardiac  
Surgery: ICU Outcomes and Healthcare  
Efficiency



**Tarik Selimović, MD**

Department of Cardiovascular Surgery  
University Clinical Center Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Minimally Invasive Mitral Valve Repair:  
Port-Access Techniques and Early  
Outcomes



**Dino Arapović, MD**

Department of Cardiovascular Surgery  
University Clinical Center Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Establishing a National LVAD Program:  
Infrastructure and Multidisciplinary  
Integration



**Armin Šljivo, MD**

Department of Cardiovascular Surgery  
University Clinical Center Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

First Heart Transplantation in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Clinical Experience and Outcomes



**Dunja Domazet, MS BME**

Global Director Field Clinical Affairs,  
Heart Failure, Abbott  
*remote*

Industry Perspectives: Optimization and Clinical Integration



**Cristina Tita, MD**

Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant  
Cardiology  
Henry Ford Health, Detroit, USA  
*remote*

Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Programs

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**Moderator**



**Sanko Pandur, MD, PhD**

Department of Cardiovascular  
Surgery  
Director of the Department for  
Science and Education  
University Clinical Center Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

## SESSION III: Hereditary and Genetic Cardiomyopathies

10:45-12:30

### Speaker & Affiliation

### Presentation



**Almin Handanagić, MD**

Department of Cardiology

Cantonal Hospital Bihać, Bosnia  
and Herzegovina

A Heterozygous PKP2 Mutation in a 16-Year-  
Old Patient With Arrhythmogenic Right  
Ventricular Cardiomyopathy Phenotype:  
Indication for ICD? (Clinical Case Evaluation  
– Regional Patient Pathways)



**Elvira Silajdzija, MD, PhD**

Department of Cardiology  
Copenhagen University Hospital,  
Denmark

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: Screening and  
Early Diagnosis Strategies



**Belma Pojskić, MD, PhD, FESC**

Department of Cardiology

Cantonal Hospital Zenica, Bosnia  
and Herzegovina

Transthyretin Amyloid Cardiomyopathy:  
Clinical Red Flags and Diagnostic Approach



**Lamija Ferhatbegović, MD, PhD,  
FESC**

Department of Cardiology —  
Cantonal Hospital Zenica, Bosnia  
and Herzegovina

Imaging Pathways in ATTR-CM: From  
Suspicion to Diagnosis



**Elvira Silajdzija, MD, PhD**

Department of Cardiology —  
Copenhagen University Hospital,  
Denmark

Treatment Landscape in ATTR-CM: Current  
and Emerging Therapies

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## Moderator

**Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI, RPVI**

Department of Interventional Cardiology  
Henry Ford Health System, Michigan USA

## Lunch Break

12:30-13:30

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## SESSION IV: Transforming Cardiovascular Care in Women

13:30 – 14:30

### Speaker & Affiliation

### Presentation



**Biljana Parapid, MD, PhD, FESC**

Assistant Professor, Department of  
Internal Medicine – Cardiology  
School of Medicine, University of  
Belgrade

Honorary W. Proctor Harvey Teaching  
Professor  
Georgetown University School of  
Medicine

Founding Chair, ACC Women in  
Cardiology (WIC) International Working  
Group  
Leadership Council Member, ACC  
Women in Cardiology Section (2018–  
2021)

Heart Centers and Programs for  
Women: Bare Necessity for Bare  
Inequalities

Médecin-Conseil, Embassy of France in  
Belgrade



**Irena Mitevska Peovska, MD, PhD,  
FESC**

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine  
and Cardiology; President, National  
Society of Cardiology of North Macedonia;  
University Cardiology Clinic, Medical  
Faculty, Clinical Center “Mother Teresa”,  
Skopje, North Macedonia

Obesity and Cardiovascular Disease:  
Risk Factor Control and  
Contemporary Management



**Vedka Begovic, MD**

Department of Internal Medicine, Clinical  
Professor of Medicine, Scripps Clinic  
Medical Group, California, USA

Hypertension in Pregnancy: Long-  
Term Cardiovascular Implications



**Sindhu Koshy, MD, FACC, MSCP**

Cardiovascular Consultants

Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA

Cardiovascular Disease in  
Menopause: Risk Stratification and  
Management

*remote*

## **SESSION V: Interventional and Structural Cardiology**

**14:30 – 15:45**

### **Speaker & Affiliation**

### **Presentation**



**Alan Jahić, MD, PhD, FESC**

Senior Cardiologist, Department of Cardiology  
and Interventional Cardiology

ASA Hospital, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

President, Working Group for Invasive  
Cardiology, Association of Cardiologists of Bosnia  
and Herzegovina

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



**Katherine Kunkel, MD, MEd, FSCAI**

Department of Interventional Cardiology

Piedmont Heart Institute, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Complex PCI and Intravascular  
Lithotripsy in Calcified  
Coronary Disease (*Remote*)

*remote*



**Nedim Memišević, MD**

Chief, Department of Cardiology and  
Interventional Cardiology

ASA Hospital, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

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



**Aladin Altić, MD**

Department of Internal Medicine

Jacobi Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of  
Medicine, New York, USA

*remote*

Multivalve Transcatheter  
Interventions in High-Risk  
Patient (*Remote*)



**Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI, RPVI**

Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA

Advanced Pulmonary  
Embolism Therapies:  
Multidisciplinary Team-Based  
Management

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## SESSION VI: Innovation in Cardiovascular Medicine

15:45-16:30

### Speaker & Affiliation

### Presentation



**Sohail Hassan, MD, MBA, FACC,  
FHRS**

Electrophysiology Center, Henry Ford  
Health, Michigan, USA

*remote*

Emerging Therapies in  
Electrophysiology: New Frontiers in  
Rhythm Management

**Jelena Arnautović, DO, FACC, FSCAI,  
RPVI**

Department of Interventional Cardiology,  
Henry Ford Health, Michigan, USA

Renal Denervation: Current Evidence  
and Clinical Applications



**Prof. Thomas Lüscher, MD, FRCP,  
FESC**

Director of Research, Education &  
Development, Royal Brompton &  
Harefield Hospitals, London; Professor  
of Cardiology, Imperial College London;  
and Part-time Chairman, Center for

Artificial Intelligence and Machine  
Learning in Cardiovascular Medicine

Molecular Cardiology, University of  
Zurich

## SESSION VII: Special Presentations

### Complex Cases and Emerging Cardiovascular Insights

16:30 – 17:00

Speaker & Affiliation	Presentation
 <p><b>Nikola Jovanović, MD</b> Jacobi Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, USA  <i>remote</i></p>	Cardiac Critical Care Models
 <p><b>Adela Tatlić-Hurić, MD</b> General Hospital “Prim. dr Abdulah Nakaš,” Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina</p>	Takotsubo Syndrome Mimicking STEMI: Diagnostic Challenge
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Džejlja Mahmutović, MD / Nađa Šarić, MD</b>	Inflammatory Myopericardial Syndrome: Diagnosis and Treatment

Cantonal Hospital "Dr. Safet Mujić," Mostar,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina