

HERNIA 2026 INNOVATION NEWER CONCEPTS & PROCEDURES DAYS

VENTRAL HERNIA

DIASTASIS RECTI

FUTURE TRENDS

PREVENTION

ROBOTICS

ERAS

Faenza
October 1st - 2nd 2026

INTRODUCTION

Following the 2025 edition, which was dedicated to new concepts, technologies, and hot topics in abdominal wall surgery, the 2026 edition proposes a more integrated evolution: from technique to strategy, from the individual procedure to the patient pathway, and from defect repair to the management of the complex patient. The common thread will be *“Right patient, right setting, right technique, right team.”* The goal is to discuss not only “how” to operate, but above all when, where, with which approach, with what level of expertise, and within which organizational pathway. Main topics 2026: Diastasis recti · Ambulatory groin hernia surgery · Ventral hernia · Complex abdominal wall surgery (CAWS) · Incisional hernia prevention · Difficult scenarios and salvage strategies · Robotics · ERAS

Conference Chair:

Davide Cavaliere - Director of General Surgery Department, Faenza Hospital - AUSL Romagna

Organizing Committee:

E. Lazzarini, B. Mattioli, F. Paratore, F. Pasini, S. Pellegrini, G.L. Senatore, M. Tanzanu, C. Zumbo
General Surgery Department, Faenza Hospital - AUSL Romagna

GENERAL INFORMATION

HERNIA INNOVATION DAYS 2026 Satellite Events

1/10/2026 - Bologna, Time: 10:00-13:00 **Hands-on Course Suturing Techniques in Abdominal Wall Surgery**

1/10/2026 - Faenza, International Museum of Ceramics (MIC) Time: 14:00-16:00 **Interactive Course Outpatient Groin Hernia Surgery: Appropriateness, Safety, Sustainability, and Pathway Implementation**

HERNIA INNOVATION DAYS 2026 Newer Concepts, Procedures & Pathways in Abdominal Wall Surgery

1/10/2026 - Faenza, International Museum of Ceramics (MIC), Time: 16:30-19:00 Opening and Round Table

2/10/2026 - Faenza, VILLA ABBONDANZI, Time: 9:00-17:00 - ECM SESSIONS

LOCATIONS:

- MIC Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Viale Baccarini n. 19, Faenza (RA)
- VILLA ABBONDANZI, Via Emilia Ponente 23, Faenza

LANGUAGE: all the proceedings will take place in Italian.

ORGANIZATIONAL SECRETARIAT and ECM PROVIDER:

Comunicazione&venti - Via Punta di Ferro 2/L, 47122 Forlì (FC) - Tel. 0543 720901 - segreteria@comunicazioneventi.it

PATRONAGES / ENDORSEMENTS (Under Request):

Comune di Faenza, AUSL della Romagna, Università Alma Mater di Bologna, Campus Universitario di Ravenna-Faenza, Ordine dei Medici di Ravenna, ISHAWS, SICE, SICADS.

Satellite events

Hands-On Course “Suturing Techniques in Abdominal Wall Surgery”

BOLOGNA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2026 – 10:00/13:00

Rationale: Modern abdominal wall surgery requires advanced skills in intracorporeal suturing, management of anatomical planes, fascial release, defect closure, and midline reconstruction. The goal of this course is to provide young surgeons with practical simulator training, featuring progressive exercises, structured technical feedback, and a final competency assessment.

Training ratio: maximum 2-3 participants per tutor/station, with progressive rotation between laparoscopic suturing, robotic suturing, and advanced reconstructive scenarios.

Training output: final skill checklist, individual debriefing, and guidance for a progressive training path in minimally invasive abdominal wall surgery.

Format: laparoscopic and robotic simulators, pelvic trainers, one-to-one / small group tutoring.

Learning Objectives

- Learn the principles of intracorporeal suturing in abdominal wall surgery.
- Standardize the technical steps for fascial closure and reconstruction.
- Compare the ergonomics, potential, and limitations of laparoscopy and robotics.
- Understand how suture quality impacts outcomes, tension, bulging, and recurrence.

Registration: Open to a maximum of 12 young surgeons; registration is mandatory

PROGRAM

- 10:00** Introduction to the course: Why intracorporeal suturing has become central in modern abdominal wall surgery
- 10:15** Technical principles of laparoscopic and robotic suturing: working angles, needle management, traction/counter-traction, tension on tissues
- 10:35** Station 1 - Basic skills: needle passage, intracorporeal knots, running suture, tension management
- 11:15** Station 2 - Fascial closure and midline reconstruction: simulation of defect closure, lateral release and medialization of margins, continuous suture and reinforcing stitches
- 12:00** Station 3 - Advanced scenario: reconstruction of a complex defect, fascial/peritoneal flap, suturing in confined spaces
- 12:45** Final debriefing and take-home messages: technical evaluation, frequent errors, recommended training pathway

FACULTY

- Course Director: D. Cavaliere
- Lead technical faculty: F. Paratore
- Station tutors: F. Pasini, M. Di Pangrazio, E. Lazzarini, S. Esposito

Interactive Course “Outpatient Groin Hernia Surgery: Appropriateness, Safety, Sustainability, and Pathway Implementation”

FAENZA, International Museum of Ceramics (MIC)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2026 – 14:00/16:00

Rationale: Outpatient inguinal hernia surgery represents a concrete solution to the need to balance clinical appropriateness, patient safety, reduced hospitalization, organizational sustainability, and resource optimization. The course addresses this topic not merely as a reduction in the care setting, but as a selective, structured, and measurable pathway.

Training ratio: (....)

Training output: Setting appropriateness, selection criteria, organizational pathway, technique, local/locoregional anesthesia, economic sustainability, quality indicators

Format: Interactive course with case discussions, checklists, and operational pathways.

Learning Objectives

- Define clinical, anesthesiological, and social selection criteria.
- Distinguish between outpatient, day surgery, and inpatient hospital admission.
- Standardize the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative pathway.
- Analyze organizational and economic impacts.
- Identify quality and safety indicators for the pathway

Registration: Open to a maximum of 20 chirurghi, anestesisti, infermieri di sala/operatori di percorso, coordinatori organizzativi; registration is mandatory

PROGRAM

- 14:00** Introduction - Why speak about outpatient groin hernia today: clinical rationale and setting appropriateness
- 14:10** The organizational pathway - From the first visit to discharge: patient selection, pre-hospitalization, operating room, recovery, follow-up
- 14:30** Surgical technique and local/locoregional anesthesia - Standardization, safety, analgesia, sedation, intraoperative management
- 14:40** Organizational and economic implications - Volumes, dedicated operating blocks, turnover, indicators, sustainability of the model, minimum criteria to implement a safe and replicable program
- 15:10** Nursing care and roles within the pathway

15:30 **Q&A - Who can undergo outpatient surgery? Who must be excluded? When to convert the setting?**

15:50 **Take-home messages**

FACULTY

- Course Chairs: D. Cavaliere, G. Giraudo
- Organizational Management: M. Tanzanu
- Surgical Technique and Anesthesia: S. Pellegrini, E. Bigi
- Sustainability: R. Respigo
- Nursing and Outpatient Pathway: M.C. Prudentino

HERNIA INNOVATION DAYS 2026

Newer Concepts, Procedures & Pathways in Abdominal Wall Surgery

**FAENZA, International Museum of Ceramics (MIC),
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2026 – OPENING AND ROUND TABLE**

16:30/17:00 CONGRESS INAUGURATION

Welcome address by Authorities: Municipality of Faenza, AUSL Romagna, patronizing Scientific Societies.

Introduction to the Congress Theme: From innovation to implementation: the next step in abdominal wall surgery.

Lecture: Healing through art. Virtual tour of the artistic heritage of AUSL Romagna.

17:00/19:00 OPENING ROUND TABLE Diastasis recti: beyond the technique: Care pathways, patient selection, centralization of expertise, and patient-perceived value

Diastasis recti is one of the most discussed topics in contemporary abdominal wall surgery. After a phase dominated by the proliferation of techniques, the real leap in quality is represented by the construction of appropriate, multidisciplinary, and measurable pathways: correct diagnosis, surgical indication, patient selection, the role of prehabilitation, rehabilitation, management of expectations, and integration with plastic surgery. The round table is proposed as a launch point for a potential multidisciplinary consensus on Core Outcome Sets and functional criteria for the evaluation and treatment of diastasis recti.

17:00 **Setting the scene - Diastasis recti in 2026: what we have understood and what remains controversial**

17:15 **The surgical pathway: indications, selection, and minimum standards**

17:30 **Prehabilitation and rehabilitation - The role of physiotherapy before and after surgery: when, how, and for whom?**

17:45 **The patient's perspective: expectations, quality of life, communication - Diastasi Donna Association**

18:00 **The role of the plastic surgeon in selection and therapeutic strategy - Abdominoplasty, aesthetic quality of results, combined interventions**

18:15 **Discussion and live polling - Core Outcome Set and Functional Criteria for the Assessment and Treatment of Rectus Diastasis: Do We Need a Consensus?**

18:45 **EXPERT PANEL Consensus launch statement & take-home messages - Proposal for the constitution of the writing group, definition of areas of consensus, Delphi methodology, and possible outputs 2026-2027**

19:00 End of the session and Welcome Cocktail (MIC)

20:15 Faculty Dinner (MIC)

**FAENZA, International Museum of Ceramics (MIC),
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026 – ECM SESSION**

8:30 Opening and registration

SESSION 1 (09:00-11:10)

Ventral Hernias W1-W2: Comparing Techniques and Approaches

From defect closure to abdominal wall reconstruction

09:00 How to choose the right plane: intraperitoneal, preperitoneal, retromuscular, subcutaneous

09:15 Ventral TAPP / rvTAPP, PeTEPP: indications, limits and standardization

09:30 eTEP / robotic Rives: when an extended retromuscular plane is needed

09:45 TARUP / TARM: minimally invasive retromuscular reconstruction

10:00 LIRA / r-LIRA: fascial release and midline reconstruction

10:15 TESAR: the endoscopic subcutaneous sublay pathway

10:30 THT: use of staplers in endo-laparoscopic reconstruction of the midline

10:45 Final Discussion: which technique for which defect?

11:10 Coffee break

SESSION 2 (11:20-13:30)

Complexity in Abdominal Wall Surgery

Groin, ventral and incisional hernias: when standard repair is not enough

11:20 Defining complexity in abdominal wall surgery: anatomy, patient, setting, expertise

11:35 Complex groin hernia: scrotal, recurrence, previous pelvic surgery, visceral risk

11:50 TAPP vs TEP in complex cases: pros & cons

12:05 Reducing surgical impact in high-risk patients: minimally invasive technique and neuraxial anesthesia

- 12:20 Emergency abdominal wall surgery: timing, contamination, choice of mesh
- 12:35 Abdominal wall defects in transplantation
- 12:50 Complex incisional hernia: loss of domain, obesity, multiple recurrences, lateral defects
- 13:05 Final Discussion: technical complexity or system/organizational complexity?

- 13:30 Light Lunch

SESSION 3 (14:30-16:45)

Incisional Hernia Prevention and Management of Difficult Scenarios

Prevention, complications and salvage strategies in abdominal wall surgery

- 14:30 Prevention of incisional hernia: laparotomy closure, small bites, audit
- 14:45 Prophylactic mesh: indications, location, high-risk patients
- 15:00 Parastomal hernia: prevention, treatment and recurrence management
- 15:15 VAC therapy / NPWT: prevention and treatment of wound complications
- 15:30 Mesh infection and mesectomy: when to salvage and when to remove
- 15:45 ERAS & prehab in abdominal wall surgery
- 16:00 Abdominal wall disaster: large defects, big decisions, salvage strategies
- 16:15 Final Discussion: prevent, treat or salvage?

- 16:40 Closing remarks
- 17:10 End of Congress

CME / ECM ACCREDITATION (2/10/26):

Provider ID: 3937

Accredited Professions & Disciplines: Medical Doctor (General Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Physiatry, Sports Medicine, Gynecology), Nurse, Physiotherapist.

Available Places: 100

Number of Credits: 7

Evaluation: Online test available on www.fad-comunicazioneventi.it for 72 hours starting from October 3, 2026. 90% attendance and 75% correct answers required.

REGISTRATION: Participation is free. Online registration is compulsory before 20/9/2026 via www.comunicazioneventi.it

INVITED FACULTY

Dr. Ferdinando Agresta, Vittorio Veneto
Alampi B. D.
Dr. Jacopo Andreuccetti, Brescia
Dr. Leonardo Bergossi, Cesena
Berta R.
Dr. Camillo Leonardo Bertoglio, Milano
Biolchini
Dr. Stefano Bonilauri, Reggio Emilia
Prof. Umberto Bracale, Napoli
Prof. Giampiero Campanelli, Milano
Dr.ssa Sara Capoccia Giovannini, Genova
Dr. Alessandro Carrara, Trento
Dr. Davide Cavaliere, Faenza
Prof. Giuseppe Cavallaro, Latina
Confalonieri M.
Prof. Antonio Crucitti, Roma
Dr. Diego Cuccurullo, Napoli
Dr.ssa Daniela Di Pietrantonio, Forlì
Prof. Giorgio Ercolani, Forlì
Dr. Nicola Fabbri, Ravenna
Dr. Enrico Faccani, Ravenna
Faillace G.
Felicioni E.
Dr. Federico Fiori, Milano
Dr. Giampaolo Formisano, Milano
Dr. Gianluca Garulli, Rimini
Dr.ssa Silvia Gennari, Rimini
Dr. Giorgio Giraudo, Cuneo
Prof. Francesco Gossetti, Roma
Dr. Vincenzo Maria Greco, Budrio
Guerra F.
Dr. Angelo Iossa, Latina
Dr. Pierluigi Ipponi, Firenze

Lauro E
Dr. Enrico Lazzarini, Faenza
Dr. Andrea Lucchi, Riccione
Magistro C.
Dr.ssa Sonia Muzzarelli, Forlì-Cesena, Ravenna e Rimini
Nicastro V.
Palini G.
Dr. Alessandro Palladino, Cesena
Prof. Fabrizio Panaro, Alessandria
Dr. Filippo Paratore, Faenza
Dr. Francesco Pasini, Faenza
Dr.ssa Francesca Pecchini, Modena
Dr.ssa Sara Pellegrini, Faenza
Dr. Roberto Peltrini, Napoli
Dr.ssa Barbara Perenze, Forlì
Dr.ssa Micaela Piccoli, Modena
Dr. Alberto Ruffato, Lugo
Sagnelli C.
Dr. Alberto Sartori, Montebelluna
Sgarzani R.
Dr. Leonardo Solaini, Forlì
Dr. Giorgio Soliani, Ferrara
Prof. Cesare Stabilini, Genova
Dr. Rocco Stano, Ferrara
Tartaglia E.
Dr. Marta Tanzanu, Faenza
Dr. Pasquina Tomaiuolo, Roma
Dr. Vincenzo Trapani, Modena
Vettoretto N.
Dr.ssa Giulia Vitali, Riccione
Dr. Federico Zanzi, Lugo