

CO-ORGANIZED BY



FONDAZIONE
MENARINI



50
YEARS OF
FONDAZIONE
MENARINI



Ospedale
di Bergamo



Sistema Socio Sanitario
Regione
Lombardia
ASST Papa Giovanni XXIII

WORKSHOP: GREY ZONES IN HFPEF PREVENTION AND DIAGNOSIS



WWW.FONDAZIONE-MENARINI.COM

23rd-24th January, 2026 | Fiesole (Italy)

Venue: AUDITORIUM FONDAZIONE MENARINI - Piazza G. Garibaldi 30, Fiesole (Florence), Italy

Workshop: Grey Zones in HFpEF Prevention and Diagnosis

RATIONALE

Heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF) represents one of the most challenging “grey zones” in cardiovascular medicine. Despite major advances in understanding its pathophysiology, the boundaries between risk, pre-HF, and overt HFpEF remain blurred. Preventive strategies are still empirical, and current diagnostic tools, ranging from guideline criteria to probability scores and non-invasive techniques, often lack sensitivity and reproducibility across heterogeneous phenotypes.

Through an open, multidisciplinary debate, the session aims to challenge current paradigms and highlight opportunities for more integrated, dynamic, and patient-centred approaches to HFpEF detection and prevention.

The Workshop is structured into two different types of symposia. One is a traditional format with frontal presentations and the other begins with a systematic review of current Guidelines, highlighting the Grey Zones in various areas that will be addressed during the Workshop. In the second type of symposium, topics will be debated using a controversy-based methodology, followed by a final discussion aimed at reaching expert opinions that can serve as valuable support for clinicians in future decision-making. The faculty will consist of the most prominent KOLs in the field of HFpEF.

The goal will be to develop a series of structured documents, such as reviews or position papers.

Workshop: Grey Zones in HFpEF Prevention and Diagnosis

IN COLLABORATION WITH



ASST Papa Giovanni XXIII
Piazza OMS 1 - 24127 Bergamo
Tel. 035.2674065
www.asst-pg23.it

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

Michele Senni
(Bergamo, IT)

CO-ORGANIZED BY



FONDAZIONE
MENARINI

Fondazione Menarini
Centro Direzionale Milanofiori
I-20089 Rozzano (Milan, Italy)
Strada 8 - Edificio N
Phone +39 02 55308110
Fax +39 02 55305739
milan@fondazione-menarini.it
www.fondazione-menarini.com

ORGANIZING AND SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

Collage S.p.A.

Via Umberto Giordano, 55
90144 Palermo, Italy
Mobile Phone: +39 334 6233864
E-mail: marzia.scaglione@collage-spa.it
Website: www.collage-spa.it

Workshop: Grey Zones in HFpEF Prevention and Diagnosis

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY

FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY 2026

08:00 a.m. - 08:15 a.m. Faculty Members Registration

08:15 a.m. - 08:30 a.m. Opening and Introduction Workshop: Where Evidence Meets Uncertainty - **M. Senni** (Bergamo, IT)

08:30 a.m. - 08:45 a.m. Institutional Greetings: Fondazione Menarini
G. Caracciolo (Florence, IT)

I SESSION

CHAIRPERSONS: **M. Fudim** (Durham, US),
M. Metra (Milan, IT) *virtual*

08:45 a.m. - 09:45 a.m. **Open Questions - Diagnostic Scores and Algorithms in HF: Useful Tools or False Certainties**

08:45 a.m. Guideline Criteria for HFpEF Diagnosis: Clarity or Constraint?
P. Jhund (Glasgow, UK) *virtual*

08:58 a.m. RCT Entry Criteria in HFpEF: Precision at the Cost of Sensitivity?
M. Guazzi (Milan, IT)

09:11 a.m. Probability Scores (HFA-PEFF, H2FPEF & ABA-HFpEF) in HFpEF: Between Helpfulness and Unreliability – **C. Tschöpe** (Berlin, GE)

09:24 a.m. - 09:45 a.m. Discussion

09:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. *Coffee Break*

II SESSION

CHAIRPERSON: **C. Tschöpe** (Berlin, GE),
C. Miller (Manchester, UK)

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. **Open questions - Strength and weakness of non-invasive techniques**

10:00 a.m. Blood Biomarkers in HFpEF: Simple Clues or Complex Confounders? - **A. Iacovoni** (Bergamo, IT)

10:13 a.m. Echocardiography: The Cornerstone with Cracks
L. Dizdarevic-Hudic (Tuzla, BA)

10:26 a.m. Exercise Echocardiography: Unmasking HFpEF or Creating Grey Zones? - **C. Baratto** (Bergamo, IT)

10:39 a.m. Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing: Objective Data, Challenging Integration and Complex Interpretation
S. Caravita (Bergamo, IT)

10:52 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Discussion

Workshop: Grey Zones in HFpEF Prevention and Diagnosis

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY

FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY 2026

III SESSION

CHAIRPERSONS: **M. Senni**(Bergamo, IT), **R. Zakeri** (London, UK)

11:15 a.m. - 12:40 p.m. **Black & White - Breaking the LVEF Paradigm: Stroke Volume and the Future of HFpEF Diagnosis**

11:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Overview - **M. Metra** (Milan, IT) *virtual*

11:30 a.m. - 11:35 a.m. Uncertainties - **M. Fudim** (Durham, US)
Voting

11:36 a.m. - 11:51 a.m. Black - **C. Miller** (Manchester, UK)

11:51 a.m. - 12:06 p.m. White - **C. Tschöpe** (Berlin, GE)
Voting

12:07 p.m. - 12:40 p.m. Discussion - Voting Interviewer: **M. Fudim** (Durham, US)

12:40 p.m. - 01:15 p.m. *Lunch*

IV SESSION

CHAIRPERSONS: **M. Fudim** (Durham, US), **A. Iacovoni** (Bergamo, IT)

01:15 p.m. - 02:30 p.m. **Open questions - Detecting the Invisible: Screening for Asymptomatic LV Diastolic Dysfunction**

01:15 p.m. The Hidden Epidemiology of Early Heart Failure
P. Jhund (Glasgow, UK) *virtual*

01:28 p.m. Searching for the Silent Heart: Screening Strategies
S. Caravita (Bergamo, IT)

01:41 p.m. Therapies for Preventing HFpEF: Treating the Disease Before It Exists? - **V. Melenovsky** (Prague, CZ)

01:54 p.m. Cost-Effectiveness of Screening for HFpEF: Smart Investment or Waste of Resources? - **S. Caravita** (Bergamo, IT)

02:07 p.m. - 02:30 p.m. Discussion

Workshop: Grey Zones in HFpEF Prevention and Diagnosis

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY

FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY 2026

V SESSION

CHAIRPERSON: **M. Senni** (Bergamo, IT)

02:30 p.m. - 04:00 p.m. **Black & White - HFpEF Prevention: Do the AHA/ACC Stages Still Make Sense?**

02:30 p.m. - 02:45 p.m. Overview - **A. Iacovoni** (Bergamo, IT)

02:45 p.m. - 03:50 p.m. Uncertainties - **M. Petrie** (Glasgow, UK)
Voting

02:51 p.m. - 03:06 p.m. Black - **V. Van Empel** (Maastricht, NL)

03:06 p.m. - 03:21 p.m. White - **M. Fudim** (Durham, US)
Voting

03:22 p.m. - 04:00 p.m. Discussion - Voting Interviewer - **M. Petrie** (Glasgow, UK)

VI SESSION

CHAIRPERSONS: **V. Van Empel** (Maastricht, NL)

M. Fudim (Durham, US)

04:00 p.m. - 05:15 p.m. **Open questions - How to prevent HEpEF: pathophysiological approaches? (I PART)**

04:00 p.m. Obesity: The Metabolic Gateway to HFpEF
M. Obokata (Gunma, JP)

04:13 p.m. Hypertension: The First and Most Neglected Step Toward HFpEF
M. Laufer-Perl (Tel Aviv, IL)

04:26 p.m. Renal Dysfunction: The Hidden Driver of HFpEF Progression
S. Mak (Toronto, CA)

04:39 p.m. Diabetes: Metabolic Pathways Linking Insulin Resistance to HFpEF
C. Miller (Manchester, UK)

04:52 p.m. - 05:15 p.m. Discussion

05:15 p.m. - 05:30 p.m. Survey event: Appreciation survey with certificate

05:30 p.m. End of the first day

SATURDAY, 24th JANUARY 2026

VII SESSION

CHAIRPERSONS: **V. Van Empel** (Maastricht, NL),
M. Fudim (Durham, US)

08:30 p.m. - 09:30 p.m. **Open questions - How to prevent HEpEF: pathophysiological approaches? (II PART)**

08:30 a.m. Microvascular Dysfunction: Targeting the Early Stage of HFpEF
V. Van Empel (Maastricht, NL)

08:43 a.m. Rhythm control versus rate control for HFpEF Prevention
C. Baratto (Bergamo, IT)

08:56 a.m. Catheter Ablation in AF: A Window for Preventing HFpEF?
R. Zakeri (London, UK)

09:09 a.m. - 09:30 a.m. Discussion

VIII SESSION

CHAIRPERSONS: **M. Petrie** (Glasgow, UK), **M. Guazzi** (Milan, IT)

09:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. **Open questions - HFpEF Prevention: Translating Pathophysiology into Therapy**

09:30 a.m. ACE Inhibition: Targeting Hypertension and Remodeling to Prevent HFpEF - **F. H. Verbrugge** (Leuven, BE) *virtual*

09:43 a.m. MR Antagonism: From Cardiorenal Protection to HFpEF Prevention
R. Zakeri (London, UK)

09:56 a.m. SGLT2 Inhibitors: From Diabetes to Diastolic Protection
M. Metra (Milan, IT) *virtual*

10:09 a.m. GLP-1R Agonists: Targeting Obesity and Inflammation to Prevent HFpEF - **M. Senni** (Bergamo, IT)

10:22 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Discussion

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. *Coffee Break*

SATURDAY, 24th JANUARY 2026

IX SESSION

CHAIRPERSON: **V. Melenovsky** (Prague, CZ)

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Open questions - Strength and weakness of exercise right heart catheterization**

11:00 a.m. Defining HFpEF hemodynamically. Exercise PAWP, PAWP/Workload or PAWP/CO slope?

M. Laufer-Perl (Tel Aviv, IL)

11:13 a.m. Navigating uncertain waters? Effects of age, exercise duration, respiratory pressure swings, body position

M. Obokata (Gunma, JP)

11:26 a.m. Distinguishing HFpEF from pulmonary vascular diseases

S. Mak (Toronto, CA)

11:39 a.m. Beyond the left heart. Right heart function, pulmonary vascular reserve, tricuspid Regurgitation - **M. Guazzi** (Milan, IT)

11:52 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Discussion

12:15 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. *Lunch*

Workshop: Grey Zones in HFpEF Prevention and Diagnosis

PROGRAMME

SATURDAY, 24th JANUARY

SATURDAY, 24th JANUARY 2026

X SESSION

CHAIRPERSONS: **S. Caravita** (Bergamo, IT), **M. Senni** (Bergamo, IT)

- 12:45 p.m. - 03:00 p.m. **Can we propose an outside US registry of exercise hemodynamics to diagnose HFpEF with the perspective of a new diagnostic model?**
- 12:45 p.m. Why an International Registry?
Addressing the Gaps in HFpEF Diagnosis - **C. Baratto** (Bergamo, IT)
- 12:58 p.m. Challenges and Limitations: Standardization, Feasibility and Reproducibility - **F.H. Verbrugge** (Leuven, BE) *virtual*
- 01:11 p.m. From Concept to Consortium: A Pragmatic Proposal for a Global HFpEF Registry - **S. Caravita** (Bergamo, IT)
- 01:24 p.m. International Practice Patterns: What the Survey Reveals and What It Doesn't - **M. Senni** (Bergamo, IT)
- 01:37 p.m. - 03:00 p.m. Discussion
On site and *virtually* connected Faculty Members
M. J. Andersen (Aarhus, DK), **J. Bartunek** (Aalst, BE),
C. Dewachter (Brussels, BE), **P. Gajewski** (Wroclaw, PL),
A. Goda (Mitaka, JP), **L.Y. Lin** (Taipei, TW)
F. Lo Giudice (London, UK), **R. Oliveira** (San Paolo, BR),
Y. N. Reddy (Rochester, US), **E. Ródenas-Alesina** (Barcelona, ES),
A. Vonk Noordegraaf (Amsterdam, NL), **E. Wolsk** (Herlev, DK)
- 03:00 p.m. - 03:15 p.m. Survey event: Appreciation survey with certificate
- 03:15 p.m. - 03:30 p.m. Closing Remarks and Take-Home Message

Workshop: Grey Zones in HFpEF Prevention and Diagnosis

FACULTY

Andersen Mads J. 	Aarhus, DK
Baratto Claudia	Bergamo, IT
Bartunek Jozef 	Aalst Belgium
Caravita Sergio 	Bergamo, IT
Dewachter Céline 	Brussels, BE
Dizdarevic-Hudic Larisa	Tuzla, BA
Fudim Marat	Durham, US
Gajewski Piotr 	Wroclaw, PL
Guazzi Marco	Milan, IT
Iacovoni Attilio	Bergamo, IT
Jhund Pardeep 	Glasgow, UK
Laufer-Perl Michal	Tel Aviv, IL
Lin Lian-Yu 	Taipei, TW
Lo Giudice Francesco 	London, UK
Goda Ayumi 	Mitaka, JP
Mak Susanna	Toronto, CA
Melenovsky Vojtech	Prague, CZ
Metra Marco 	Milan, IT
Miller Christopher	Manchester, UK
Obokata Masaru	Gunma, JP
Oliveira Rudolf 	San Paolo, BR
Petrie Mark	Glasgow, UK
Reddy Yogesh N. 	Rochester, US
Ródenas-Alesina Eduard 	Barcelona, ES
Senni Michele	Bergamo, IT
Tschöpe Carsten C.	Berlin, GE
Van Empel Vanessa	Maastricht, NL
Verbrugge Frederik H. 	Leuven, BE
Vonk Noordegraaf Anton 	Amsterdam, NL
Wolsk Emil 	Herlev, DK
Zakeri Rosita	London, UK

Workshop: Grey Zones in HFpEF Prevention and Diagnosis

GENERAL INFORMATION

VENUE

Auditorium Fondazione Menarini

Piazza G. Garibaldi 30, Fiesole (Florence), Italy

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the meeting is English. Simultaneous translation will not be provided.

FACULTY SLIDE CENTRE OPENING HOURS

The center will be open at the following times:

Friday, January 23rd 2026: 08:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 24th 2026: 08:00 a.m. - 16:00 p.m.

Please note that times are expressed in Local time

TECHNICAL FACILITIES

Facilities will be available for computer presentations and overhead projections.

A Slide Center with PCs (Windows and Macintosh operating systems) will be available for Speakers to preview and finalize their presentations. Speakers are kindly requested to submit their presentations to the Slide Center technicians at least one hour before their talks.

LUNCH AND COFFEE STATION in CATERING

Lunch and coffee break will be served in the meeting area.

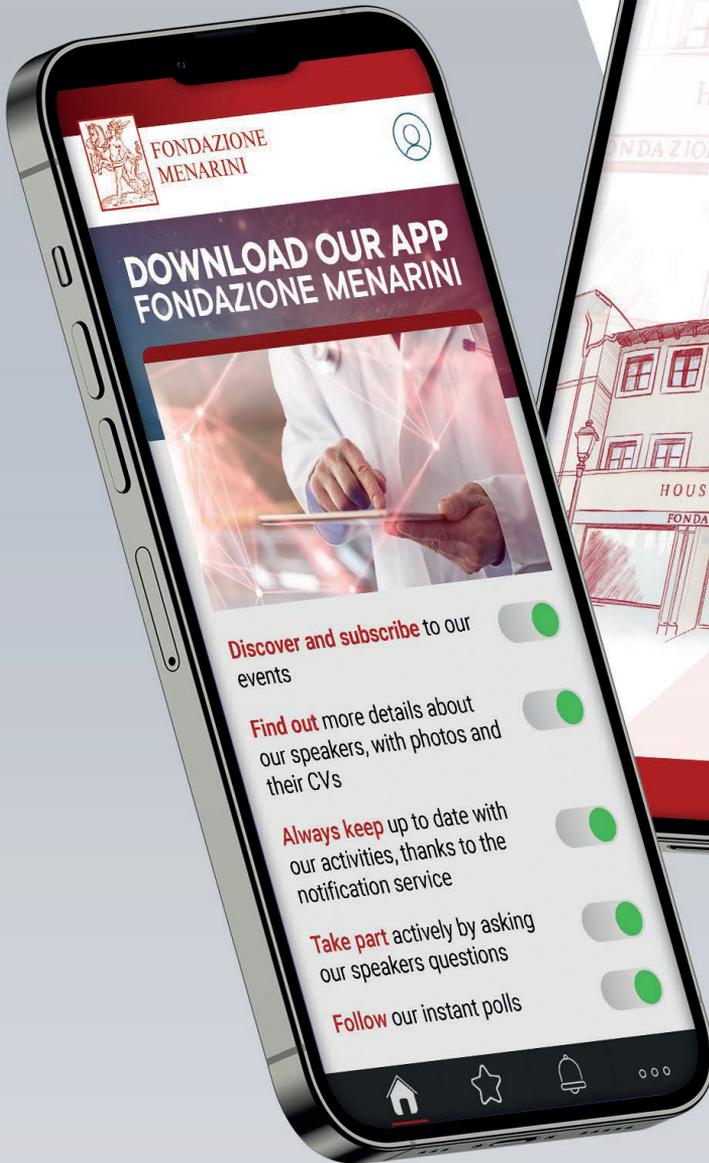
CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE AND SURVEY

At the end of the meeting, all the faculty members will have the possibility to answer a short appreciation questionnaire accessible using the QR code projected on the screen.

After completing the survey it will immediately be possible to download the Attendance Certificate which can be kept, printed and shared.



FONDAZIONE
MENARINI



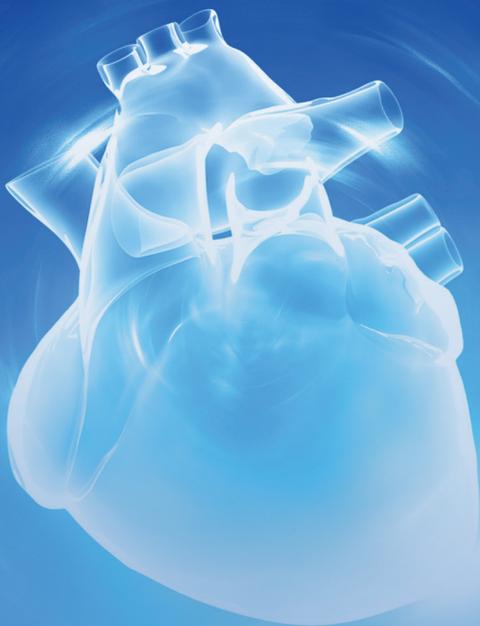
www.fondazione-menarini.com

All slides and presentations are available on our website 15 days after the event.

CO-ORGANIZED BY



FONDAZIONE
MENARINI



Follow us on: WWW.FONDAZIONE-MENARINI.COM

Scan the QR code and
immediately download
the new APP.



Fondazione Menarini
is also on [LinkedIn](#)