

# 8<sup>th</sup> ITN Kidney Transplantation Masterclass

**ADVANCED SURGICAL TECHNIQUES**

3-5 September 2026 | Istanbul • Türkiye



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In Collaboration with





## Introduction

Now established as a branded ITN educational platform, the 8th ITN Kidney Transplantation Masterclass - Advanced Surgical Techniques is designed as a high-level, practice-oriented surgical course dedicated to living donor nephrectomy, kidney transplantation techniques and contemporary surgical decision-making. The programme runs in parallel with the nephrology track and combines focused expert lectures, case-based discussion, operation videos, live online operating room connections and selected common sessions with the EKITA nephrology course. The objective is to create a concentrated learning environment where delegates can refine operative judgment, review advanced techniques and discuss real-world challenges with experienced international faculty.

## Objectives

- To strengthen advanced surgical knowledge in living donor nephrectomy and kidney transplantation.
- To review current operative strategies, technical variations and decision points in donor and recipient surgery.
- To discuss management of complex anatomy, perioperative risk, complications and salvage approaches.
- To provide practical exposure to live and video-based demonstrations from active transplant operating rooms.
- To connect surgical practice with key adjacent domains including immunology, artificial intelligence, donor-pool expansion and ethical safeguards.

## Learning Outcomes

- Assess donors and recipients from a more advanced technical and risk-oriented surgical perspective.
- Compare laparoscopic, hand-assisted, retroperitoneoscopic and robotic approaches for donor nephrectomy.
- Apply operative principles for complex recipient vessels, ureteric reconstruction and back-table preparation.
- Recognise intraoperative and early postoperative complications and discuss timely corrective strategies.
- Understand how donor-pool expansion, machine perfusion and paired donation influence surgical planning.



# Main Topics

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Informed consent in living donation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Combined organ transplantation</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evolution of donor nephrectomy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AI in transplantation</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Endoscopic, hand-assisted and robotic approaches</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pediatric kidney transplantation</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Retroperitoneoscopic donor nephrectomy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Robotic assistance in kidney transplantation</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Right-sided donor nephrectomy and short renal vein management</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deceased donor kidney transplantation and machine perfusion</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Live broadcast donor nephrectomy and recipient surgery</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recipient complications and corrective strategies</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kidney transplantation strategies and technical pitfalls</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ethics, transplant crimes and the Istanbul Declaration</li></ul>

## Course Overview

This brochure presents the course framework and the current draft scientific agenda for the surgical track. Sessions marked with common donor-pool themes are designed as shared plenaries with the parallel nephrology course.

## Co-Chairs

### **E.Barış Akin, MD.**

ESOT EKITA Past Chair  
Chair of the ITN Kidney Transplantation  
Surgical Committee  
Turkiye

### **Frank Dor, MD.**

ESOT Treasurer  
Erasmus Medical Center  
Transplantation Institute  
The Netherlands

### **Lloyd Ratner, MD.**

Director, Renal and Pancreatic  
Transplantation, Department of Surgery  
Columbia University - USA



## Academic Coordination

Turkish Transplant Foundation | ITN Course Secretariat

**Gamze Yildirim, RN. MSc.**

Senior Clinical Transplant Coordinator

gyildirim@tonv.org.tr

## Academic Qualification

Participants who successfully complete the masterclass will receive a certificate of accomplishment issued under the ITN educational framework by the Turkish Transplant Foundation.

## Methodology

The course combines focused theoretical lectures, case-based expert discussion, operation videos, interactive plenaries and live online operating room connections. Selected sessions are jointly organised with the parallel nephrology programme.

## Addressed to

Transplant surgeons, urologists, general surgeons involved in kidney transplantation, fellows and surgical teams seeking advanced exposure in donor and recipient surgery.

### Endorsed by



### Accredited by

An application has been submitted to **EACCME**, and the process is ongoing.

### In Collaboration with



# Registration

**ESOT member\*\*:** EUR 800 | **Non-member:** EUR 1 000 | **Reduced fee\*\*:** EUR 300

\* In order to be eligible to register with an ESOT member fee, please note that you must be an active ESOT member at least until the end of the course.

\*\* Addressed to low and lower-middle income countries and Turkiye. Please make sure that your country actually belongs to low and lower-middle income economies by visiting the following webpage: [World Bank classification.](#)

## The registration fee includes

- Access to scientific sessions
- Educational materials
- Certificate of attendance
- CME credits
- Coffee breaks and luncheons
- Networking dinner (no entertainment)

## Airport Transfers

EUR 100 per person/group transfer  
EUR 200 private transfer  
Airport - Hotel - Airport  
(round trip)

## Accommodation Package

EUR 600  
4 nights, single room and breakfast  
[Hilton Kozyatağı Hotel - Istanbul](#)

## Invoices

All fees are VAT included. Invoices will be issued for payments made both by credit card and bank transfer.

## Cancellation Policy

There will be no refunds once your registration has been confirmed. Refunds will be issued only if the Organiser elects to cancel the event due to force majeure. Should ESOT&Turkish Transplant Foundation decide to cancel in-person courses, this will be communicated to all registered participants a month before the start date of the event.

## Contact

Turkish Transplant Foundation | [info@tonv.org.tr](mailto:info@tonv.org.tr)

# Venue & Accomodation

**Hilton Hotel Kozyatađı, Istanbul-Turkiye**

Sahrayı Cedit, Batman Sk. No: 4, 34734 Kadıköy/İstanbul

# Length and Language

3 full days, 3-5 September 2026.

Official language: **English**.

Simultaneous **French** and **Russian** interpretation will be provided throughout the course.

# Faculty

<b>E. Baris Akin</b> • Turkiye	<b>Aiko P.J. de Vries</b> • The Netherlands	<b>Acar Tuzuner</b> • Turkiye
<b>Lloyd E. Ratner</b> • USA	<b>Carmen Lefaucheur</b> • France	<b>Bulent Oktay</b> • Turkiye
<b>Frank Dor</b> • The Netherlands	<b>Soykan Barlas</b> • Turkiye	<b>Farhad Kheradmand</b> • UAE
<b>Dixon B. Kaufman</b> • USA	<b>Ender Ozden</b> • Turkiye	<b>Tonguc Utku Yilmaz</b> • Turkiye
<b>Lucrezia Furian</b> • Italy	<b>Waldo Concepcion</b> • UAE	<b>Volkan Turunc</b> • Turkiye
<b>Ibrahim Berber</b> • Turkiye	<b>Burak Kocak</b> • Turkiye	<b>Hakan Hakeri</b> • Turkiye
<b>Corinne Antoine</b> • France	<b>Kamil Yakupoglu</b> • Turkiye	<b>Ulaş Sözen</b> • Turkiye

**8<sup>TH</sup> KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION MASTERCLASS**  
**Advanced Surgical Techniques**

**1<sup>st</sup> Day • 3 September Thursday**

08:00 - 08:30	Registration & Coffee
08:30 - 08:40	Welcome & Course Introduction
08:40 - 09:00	Introduction of the Participants

<b>SESSION 1</b>	<b>Morning Discussion: Informed Consent Living Donor Nephrectomy</b>
09:00 - 09:30	Informed consent for the donor in live kidney donation

<b>SESSION 2</b>	<b>State of-the-Art Lecture</b>
09:30 - 10:00	How did the living donor nephrectomy evolve and learning curve for laparoscopic donor nephrectomy

<b>SESSION 3</b>	<b>Endoscopic Living Donor Nephrectomy Techniques</b>
10:00 - 10:30	Safety is a priority! Is it worthwhile to learn other techniques? Retroperitoneal vs Intraperitoneal, Laparoscopic vs Assisted hand or robotic

<b>SESSION 4</b>	<b>Some Nice Presentations</b>
10:00 - 10:15	Brought out by experiences
10:15 - 10:30	How to avoid disasters in laparoscopic donor nephrectomy

<b>Session 5</b>	<b>Some strategies during kidney transplantation</b>
10:45 - 11:00	Different strategies for placing kidney. How many can fit in?
11:00 - 11:15	Complex donors: pediatric en bloc/split, dual deceased donors, and horseshoe kidneys
<b>SESSION 6</b>	<b>Live Online connection to Acıbadem Ataşehir Hospital Operating Room: Laparoscopic Donor Nephrectomy with Vaginal Extraction</b>
11:15 - 12:15	Online connection to Operating Room.
	<p>Discussion during surgery</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most serious complications of laparoscopic donor nephrectomy</li> <li>• Remove the kidney with or without the Gerotas fascia?</li> <li>• Anything to consider regarding adrenal gland</li> </ul>
<b>SESSION 7</b>	<b>Live Online connection to Acıbadem Ataşehir Hospital Operating Room: Kidney transplantation procedure</b>
12:15 - 13:00	Online connection to Operating Room.
	<p>Discussion during surgery</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you need to clamp the renal vein while doing arterial anastomosis?</li> <li>• Ureter dissection, with or without gonadal vein</li> <li>• Over dissection of iliac arteries. How much do you need?</li> <li>• Retractor related complications during kidney transplantation</li> <li>• How do you find bladder with no urine recipients? Anatomic landmarks</li> <li>• No veins, iliac veins found to be sclerotic, what can be done?</li> </ul>

<b>13:00 - 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>SESSION 8</b>	<b>Strategies to increase the donor pool / Common session Nephrology - Surgical Course</b>
14:00 - 14:20	Machine perfusion
14:20 - 14:40	Pushing the boundaries for living donation
14:40 - 15:00	Are there still surgical barriers to TX
15:00 - 15:20	Tolerance induction in living donation
15:20 - 15:40	AI in kidney transplantation
15:40 - 16:00	Discussion
<b>16:00 - 16:20</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>SESSION 9</b>	<b>Strategies to increase the donor pool / Common session Nephrology -Surgical Course</b>
16:20 - 16:40	Transplantation across HLA borders
16:40 - 17:00	ABOi transplantation
17:00 - 17:20	Paired kidney donation
17:20 - 17:40	Xenotransplantation
17:40 - 18:00	Discussion

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Day • 4 September Friday**

08:20 - 08:30	Introduction to Daily Events
<b>SESSION 10</b>	<b>Morning Discussion: Retroperitoneoscopic Donor Nephrectomy and Robotic Surgery</b>
08:30 - 08:45	Why Retroperitoneal Access? Intraabdominal complications!
08:45 - 09:00	How to switch from hand assisted laparoscopic to retroperitoneal access. Tips and Tricks to access retroperitoneum.
<b>SESSION 11</b>	<b>Right sided donor nephrectomy. How long renal vein do you need?</b>
09:00 - 09:15	How to manage short renal vein
09:15 - 09:30	A different transplantation technique that you may even cut the renal vein shorter: Erasmus University approach
<b>SESSION 12</b>	<b>Surgical challenges in living donor Kidney Transplantation</b>
09:30 - 09:45	How do you use it safely? Monopolar, Bipolar, Liga sure, Harmonic Scalpel, Enseal, and Thunbeate, how to avoid and handle the complication of laparoscopic energy sources. Introducing different vascular staplers. Tips and tricks to use them
09:45 - 10:00	Discussion
10:00 - 10:15	Coffee Break

<b>SESSION 13</b>	<b>Live Online connection to Medical Park Florya Aydın University Hospital Operating Room: Hand Assisted Retroperitoneoscopic Donor Nephrectomy Procedure</b>
10:15 - 11:45	Online connection to Operating Room.
	Discussion during surgery Cons and Pros: Full laparoscopic and Hand assisted donor nephrectomy Moderator

<b>SESSION 14</b>	<b>Live Online connection to Medical Park Florya Aydın University Hospital Operating Room: Kidney transplantation procedure</b>
11:45 - 12:00	Online connection to Operating Room.
	Discussion during surgery Different anastomosis techniques for renal artery and vein Important tricks; skin incisions, preparation of iliac vessels, anastomosis techniques Moderator

<b>12:00 - 13:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
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<b>SESSION 15</b>	<b>Combined organ transplants</b>
13:00 - 13:15	<b>Kidney &amp; Pancreas</b>
13:15 - 13:30	<b>Kidney &amp; Liver/Lung/Heart</b>

<b>SESSION 16</b>	<b>Case presentations</b>
13:30 - 13:45	<b>Case 1</b>
13:45 - 14:00	<b>Case 2</b>

<b>SESSION 17</b>	<b>Some videos about complications</b>
14:00 - 14:30	

<b>SESSION 18</b>	<b>Operation video: Retroperitoneoscopic donor nephrectomy</b>
14:30 - 14:50	Surgical technique with video presentation
14:50 - 15:10	Coffee Break
<b>SESSION 19</b>	<b>Operation video: Robotic Retroperitoneoscopic donor nephrectomy</b>
15:10 - 15:30	Surgical Technique with video presentation
<b>SESSION 20</b>	<b>Discussion with cases: Challenges in kidney transplantation</b>
15:30 - 15:45	Approach for multiple renal arteries and atherosclerotic ones
15:45 - 16:00	Approach for severe atherosclerotic recipient vessels
16:15 - 16:30	Approach for multiple and short veins, back table procedures
16:30 - 16:45	Bladder problems and management
16:45 - 17:15	In case of emergency

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Day • 5 September Saturday**

08:20 - 08:30	<b>Introduction to Daily Events</b>
<b>SESSION 21</b>	<b>Morning Discussion: Pediatric transplantation</b>
08:30 - 08:45	Evaluation of children for pediatric kidney transplantation
08:45 - 09:00	Surgical challenges of pediatric kidney transplantation
<b>SESSION 22</b>	<b>Discussions with Cases</b>
09:00 - 09:15	Hematoma after surgery
09:15 - 09:30	How to fix ureter complications
09:30 - 09:45	
09:45 - 10:00	Coffee Break
<b>SESSION 23</b>	<b>Robotic assistance in Kidney Transplantation</b>
10:00 - 10:15	Indications for Robotic Kidney Transplantation
10:15 - 10:30	Robotic assistance in donor nephrectomy and complication surgeries
10:30 - 10:45	Cost benefit evaluation of Robotic Surgery
10:45 - 11:00	New robotic systems
<b>SESSION 24</b>	<b>Video presentation</b>
11:00 - 11:30	Challenges for robotic kidney transplantation

<b>SESSION 25</b>	<b>Some important considerations for surgical outcomes!</b>
11:30 - 11:45	Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) for Donors
11:45 - 12:00	Surgical care of anticoagulated patient
<b>12:00 - 13:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>SESSION 26</b>	<b>Various Topics</b>
13:00 - 13:15	Kidney transplantation for Polycystic disease
13:15 - 13:30	Nephrolithiasis in donors and recipients
<b>SESSION 27</b>	<b>Interactive session: Kidney Transplantation Complications</b>
13:30 - 13:45	Ethics in Kidney Transplantation
13:45 - 14:00	Prevention of organ trafficking, commercial transplantation, transplant tourism and Istanbul Declaration
<b>SESSION 28</b>	<b>About Deceased Kidney Transplantation</b>
14:00 - 14:15	Deceased Donation in USA! Expanding the Donor Pool: Beyond "Ideal" Candidates (eg high KDPI, AKI)
14:15 - 14:30	Tips and tricks for deceased donor kidney transplantation, backtable procedures
14:30 - 14:45	Organ perfusion and storage strategies. Machine perfusion

14:45 - 15:00	Coffee Break
<b>SESSION 29</b>	<b>Discussion with cases: Surgical complications for recipients</b>
15:00 - 15:15	Renal arterial and vein thrombosis
15:15 - 15:30	Ureteral stenosis and leakage
15:30 - 15:45	Approach for hematoma and Lymphocele
15:45 - 16:00	Wound infections and management

<b>SESSION 30</b>	<b>Coming to an end</b>
16:00 - 16:15	The Important Reminders from the Course
16:15 - 16:30	The final discussion: Last Questions and evaluation of the course

16:30 - 17:00	Certification and Award of Fellowship & Closing
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