



AUGUST 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE ILTS PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

No matter where you are in the world, one thing is certain: there is a lot happening across our community, and your involvement has never mattered more.

I want to begin with something that is truly a priority for us right now: **our ILTS Membership Survey, which has been extended to August 31, 2026.** As we prepare our next Strategic Plan at the October Strategy Meeting, your voice is essential. **Please take 10 minutes to complete it** if you haven't done so yet, and watch for a dedicated communication with additional surveys from our committees, each designed to shape best practices across the field.

On the road to Montreal, **abstract submissions for ILTS Congress 2027 are open until November 18,** and I encourage every member to submit. After the exceptional quality of what our community brought to Geneva, I have no doubt that Montreal will be even more remarkable. **Your research belongs on that stage.**

Closer on the calendar, I hope to see many of you in **San Diego on October 16 for our Joint Meeting with SATA** — a full day of high-level content on perioperative care in liver transplantation, bringing together **transplant anesthesiologists, surgeons, intensivists,** and **allied professionals** from across our community. And on **October 20, our Business Practices Committee hosts an important webinar on the cost, value, and sustainability of living donor liver transplantation in the era of machine perfusion** — a conversation that is reshaping how we think about transplant program sustainability worldwide.

This newsletter also highlights several events where ILTS is actively present — from the **AASLD/ILTS Transplant Course at The Liver Meeting®** in Colorado to a **joint session with the IPTA Congress** in Charleston, where our **Pediatric Committee** will be represented. These collaborations reflect the breadth and value of ILTS engagement across the global transplant community.

Finally, I am pleased to share an early announcement: we are currently finalizing the **ILTS DCD Consensus Conference, planned for January 2027 in Rome.** This will be an important gathering dedicated to advancing evidence-based guidance in donation after circulatory death transplantation, and more details will follow soon.

As always, thank you for being part of this community and help us to write the future of liver transplantation.

Warm regards,



Wojciech Polak, MD, PhD
President, International Liver Transplant Society
Erasmus MC University Medical Center
Rotterdam, The Netherlands



Our Member Feedback Survey has been extended to August 31, 2026.

As ILTS prepares to develop its next Strategic Plan at the upcoming Strategy Meeting in October, your voice is more important than ever. Your feedback will directly shape the future direction of the Society and ensure our priorities reflect the needs and aspirations of our global membership.

Whether you are actively involved with ILTS or engage with us only occasionally, every response contributes to a more complete picture of our community.

The survey takes only 10 minutes to complete.

Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback. **Together, we can shape the future of our Society.**

 **Complete the Survey, [CLICK HERE](#)**



Save The Date: 2027 ILTS Consensus

Mark your calendar for **January 15–16, 2027, in Rome, Italy**. The **2027 ILTS International Consensus Conference on Contemporary DCD Liver Transplantation** will bring together global experts to advance evidence-based guidance in one of the field's most rapidly evolving areas, with a focus on optimizing organ recovery, machine perfusion, viability assessment, and clinical implementation.



What will you bring to Montreal?

The **ILTS Congress 2027** stage is yours — and we want to know what research you'll bring to it. Whether you're working on advanced liver surgery, living donor transplantation, transplant oncology, pediatrics, machine perfusion, or any of the many areas that define our field, **Montreal is where your findings enter the global conversation**.

Abstract submissions are open until November 18, 2026.



Don't wait any longer, submit early and give your work the attention it deserves.

[Submit Your Abstract, Details HERE](#)



The ILTS & SATA Joint Meeting is Almost Here: Are You Registered?

ILTS and **SATA** are bringing together an outstanding international faculty for a full day dedicated entirely to the challenges, controversies, and future of perioperative care in liver transplantation. This is a meeting designed for transplant anesthesiologists, surgeons, intensivists, hepatologists, cardiologists, trainees, and all professionals involved in the care of liver transplant patients.

Here's what's on the program:

- **Optimization of intraoperative hemodynamics** — from postreperfusion and vasoplegic syndromes to portal perfusion
- **Leadership & education in transplant anesthesiology** — innovations in fellowship training and preparing the next generation of leaders
- **Cardiac evaluation of liver transplant candidates** — rethinking cardiovascular assessment, stress testing, CT angiography, and right ventricular dysfunction
- **Interactive case presentations and workshops**
- **Pro/Con debate** — plasma-based transfusion vs. factor concentrates
- **Postoperative challenges** — sepsis, immunosuppression, graft dysfunction, retransplantation, and transplantation for acute alcoholic hepatitis
- **Future directions** — including the new **TEE Certificate Program for Liver Transplant Anesthesiology**

The day closes with addresses from **ILTS President Dr. Wojciech Polak** and **SATA President Dr. Lorenzo DeMarchi**.

Come for the science, stay for the discussion, and connect with colleagues from across the transplant community. **ILTS members attend for just \$150.**

We look forward to seeing you in San Diego.



Living Donor Liver Transplantation in the Era of Machine Perfusion: Cost, Value, and Sustainability

Machine perfusion and normothermic regional perfusion (NRP) have transformed the donor pool — but at a significant cost. Meanwhile, living donor liver transplantation continues to deliver excellent outcomes and sustainable resource utilization, **yet its economic value often goes unrecognized.**

This webinar brings together international leaders to critically examine the financial, clinical, and societal value of both strategies, and how transplant programs can integrate them to maximize access, improve outcomes, and ensure long-term sustainability.

Webinar Objectives:

- Review the major cost drivers of LDLT and DCD transplantation with machine perfusion and NRP
- Compare the short- and long-term economic value of LDLT versus DCD/NRP
- Discuss how reimbursement models and healthcare policies influence adoption across different systems
- Explore how transplant centers can optimize resource allocation within a value-based program

Presentations & Speakers

The Value Proposition of Living Donor Liver Transplantation and Machine Perfusion Preservation (NRP and MP types): The Economics of Expanding the Donor Pool with Deceased Donors



Prof. Dieter E. Broering, MD

King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre, Saudi Arabia

Discussants & Discussion Points



David Axelrod, MD
Professor of Surgery,



Simone Strasser, MD
Transplant



Andrea Schlegel
Transplant Surgeon,
Cleveland Clinic

Moderators and Opening Remarks



Daniel Maluf, MD
Director,
Transplantation Unit,
University of Maryland
Medical System



Markus Selzner, MD
Surgical Director,
Ajmera Liver
Transplant Program,
University Health
Network



**Prof. Xiao Xu, MD,
PhD**
Professor, Zhejiang
University

More speakers coming soon.

[Register Now, Click HERE](#)



The Wait Is Almost Over: ILTS Liver Transplant Immunology Course

We have been building something special and registrations will open next week.

The ILTS Global Course "**Liver Transplant Immunology: From Mechanisms to Precision Medicine**" is a comprehensive, CME-accredited educational program designed to provide an integrated and advanced understanding of the immunological principles that govern liver transplantation. Bringing together leading international experts, **the course delivers a structured, high-level curriculum that bridges fundamental immunology, liver-specific immune biology, and clinical transplantation.**

Over six months, participants will engage in a series of interactive, case-integrated virtual sessions covering key domains including innate and adaptive immunity, antigen presentation, immune trafficking, liver tolerance, ischemia–reperfusion injury, regeneration, microbiome–immune interactions, and immune-mediated liver diseases. The program further addresses **clinical**

immunosuppression, mechanisms of rejection, tumor immunology, and emerging therapeutic strategies such as cellular therapies and xenotransplantation.

Participants can earn up to **12 CME credits** throughout the program.

Speaker announcements and registration details are coming very soon.
Stay tuned. You won't want to miss what's coming.



Introducing: The ILTS Effect

ILTS is more than a place to learn. It is a place to connect, contribute, and grow. A conversation can lead somewhere unexpected. A collaboration can change your work. A mentor can change your perspective. And, over time, your own contribution can help shape the Society.

That exchange is **The ILTS Effect** — **what ILTS gives you, what you give back, and what happens in between.**

We are proud to launch this new series on our website with our first story, and many more to come. Hear from the people who make this community what it is.

The ILTS Effect: Roberto Hernandez-Alejandro

On Mentorship, Transplantation and the People Who Shape a Career

ROBERTO
HERNANDEZ-
ALEJANDRO

on Mentorship, Transplantation and the
People Who Shape a Career



Some careers begin with a plan. Others are shaped through a series of people, decisions, and moments that, at the time, simply feel like the next step.

[Read the full story, Click HERE](#)

41 LIVER TRANSPLANTATION & SURGERY SESSIONS

NOV. 5-9 IN DENVER, CO



41 Sessions Liver Transplantation & Surgery

Expand and **ELEVATE** your expertise in liver transplantation and surgery with sessions featuring real-world data-driven strategies, liver cancer diagnosis and treatment planning, living donor transplantation, and more.

Whether you're a **transplant hepatologist, surgeon, fellow, or member of the multidisciplinary care team**, these sessions offer education and research to improve patient outcomes while staying current with liver transplantation advancements.

And, don't miss the **ILTS and AASLD Transplant Course (Parts 1–5)** at [The Liver Meeting 2026®](#) in Colorado, on November 7th, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM — **a ticketed, multi-part program featuring some ILTS faculty, as highlighted below:**



Dr. Valeria Mas

ILTS Past President

Professor of Surgery, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, and a cellular and molecular transplant immunologist at the University of Maryland School of Medicine



Dr. Koji Hashimoto

Director of Liver Transplantation at the Cleveland Clinic Main Campus and Professor of Surgery at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University



Dr. Prashant Bhangui

Director of Liver Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery at Medanta, The Medicity Hospital in Delhi NCR, India



Dr. Varvara (Varia) A. Kirchner

Associate Professor of Surgery in the Division of Abdominal Transplantation at Stanford

[View the Liver Transplantation & Surgery Track](#)



**14th Congress of the
International Pediatric Transplant Association**
Charleston, SC, USA | March 18-21, 2027

**IPTA 2027 Congress | Abstract Submission
Deadline: September 10**

The **14th Congress of the International Pediatric Transplant Association (IPTA)** will take place in Charleston, South Carolina in 2027, under the theme **"Whole-Child Transplantation: Multidisciplinary Care in Pediatric Transplantation."**

For **ILTS members working in pediatric transplantation**, this is a valuable opportunity to share your research with a multidisciplinary international community spanning over 60 countries. **Abstract submissions close September 10, 2026**, so if you're considering submitting, now is the time to act.

We are also pleased to share that the **ILTS Pediatric Committee will be joining IPTA to present a session at the congress** — more details to follow as the programme develops.

Stay tuned for further programme details and registration opening in early fall.

[See More Details](#)



Two surveys. One community. Real Impact.

The ILTS Business Practices Committee is currently running two surveys and would be grateful for your participation. Both are brief, and your expertise directly contributes to research that will shape best practices across the field.

1. Technical Variations in Deceased Donor Liver Transplantation: An International Survey of Clinical Practices

This survey aims to **capture the technical variations and preferences among transplant surgeons and centres worldwide** while performing deceased donor liver transplantation, as considerable variation exists in clinical practice. If you have completed the draft version previously, please complete this final survey again.

The survey takes approximately 10–12 minutes to complete. Please also consider forwarding it to colleagues who may wish to participate.

Led by Bobby VM Dasari (University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK) and Sateesh Iype (Royal Free Hospitals, UK) on behalf of the **ILTS Business Practices Committee**.

Deadline: September 14, 2026.

[Take the Survey, Click HERE](#)

2. HCC Exception Point Policies Worldwide

The ILTS Business Practices Committee invites you to participate in a survey to **characterize HCC exception point policies worldwide**. The data collected will be used to guide projects that identify and share best practices across healthcare systems. The survey takes 5–10 minutes to complete and can be returned to at any time if you are unable to finish in one sitting.

We appreciate your participation and commitment to the improvement of liver transplantation worldwide.

[Take the Survey, Click HERE](#)



ESOT-ELITA-ILTS Split Liver Survey

On behalf of **ELITA (a section of ESOT)** and **ILTS**, we invite your centre to participate in an international survey on the **"Evaluation of Split Liver Transplantation Practices, Techniques and Advanced Perfusion Technologies."**

This survey explores current split liver transplantation activity, technical approaches to liver splitting, the use of machine perfusion technologies in liver splitting and paediatric liver transplantation, and challenges, barriers, and future opportunities in the field.

One response per centre is requested, with separate responses for adult and paediatric programmes where applicable. Before accessing the survey, **we recommend having your centre's split liver and pediatric transplant volumes available** (overall activity, waiting list, 1-year, and 5-year data) to help you move through the questionnaire efficiently. Completion time is approximately 60 minutes.

Contributors who fully complete the survey are eligible to be acknowledged as Collaborative Group Authors in all future publications generated from this work.

Deadline: October 15, 2026.

[Complete the Survey by October 15, 2026](#)



WHAT WE ARE READING

Article selections by Viktor Domislovic, A Mi Mi Kyaw, Anu K Vasu, Abdullah Malik, Sadhana Shankar, Ashwin Rammohan, Madhukar S. Patel, and Abdul Rahman Hakeem

HEPATOLOGY

Liver Transplantation

> Development and validation of an administrative frailty index for patients with cirrhosis (CAFI)

American Journal of Transplantation

> Immune checkpoint inhibitors after liver transplantation: The role of immunosuppressive management

> Socioeconomic Disparities in Long-Term Outcomes After Pediatric Liver Transplantation in a Universal Healthcare System: A Population-Based Study

SURGERY

Liver Transplantation

> Efficacy of different portal vein reconstruction techniques in liver allografts with multiple portal veins in living donor liver transplantation: A propensity score matched analysis

> Hepatic Congestion-linked Intrahepatic Biliary Strictures After Living Donor Liver Transplantation

ANESTHESIOLOGY AND CRITICAL CARE

Liver Transplantation

> A simple intraoperative score incorporating thromboelastometric parameters predicts early reoperation for bleeding after liver transplantation

BMC Anesthesiology

> Risk factors and a perioperative prediction model for postreperfusion syndrome in donation after circulatory death liver transplantation: a retrospective cohort study

Anesthesiology

> Intraoperative Hemodynamic Management during Liver Transplantation and Postoperative Morbidity: A Multicenter Cohort Study

Transplantation

[> Portal Vein Thrombosis in Pediatric Liver Transplantation With Technical Variant Grafts: An International Multicenter Analysis of Risk and](#)

[Prognostic Value](#)



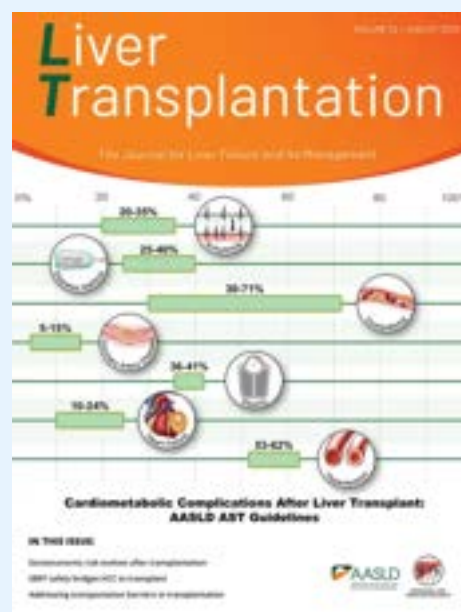
LIVER TRANSPLANTATION

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Liver Transplantation

[> Development of multicenter consensus care plans for immunosuppression after pediatric liver transplant: Reducing variability, creating comparative efficacy opportunities](#)

LATEST ISSUE



NEW PRACTICE GUIDELINE

[> New! Practice Guidelines on Pediatric Liver Transplantation: Candidate Evaluation and Post-Transplant Management](#)

AASLD, in collaboration with the North American Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN) and the American Society of Transplantation (AST), announces two new Practice Guidelines published in *HEPATOLOGY* and *Liver Transplantation*.

MOC

View the full collection of [Maintenance of Certification \(MOC\) articles](#) published in *Liver Transplantation*, including the latest article: [AASLD AST Practice Guideline on adult liver transplantation: Diagnosis and post-transplant management of non-graft-related complications](#).

Please help us bring the liver transplant community together.
Forward this to your colleagues!



INTERNATIONAL LIVER
TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY

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Thank you for staying connected with ILTS