



Heart Team Workshops: Herzkllinik Hirslanden Center of Excellence

Zurich, Switzerland



Edwards

Heart Team Workshops: Herzlinik Hirslanden Center of Excellence



An overview

In recent years, groups of aspiring Heart Teams have visited the Herzlinik Hirslanden in Zurich, Switzerland to participate in two-day workshops that focus on the assembly, purpose, and achievements of a well-functioning Heart Team. The main aim of the workshops is to provide the visitors with an opportunity to see how the host Heart Team functions on a daily basis.

Topics covered include:

- Building and optimizing a Heart Team: how did we get here?
- How to structure a Heart Team meeting and agree on the optimal choice of therapy
- What is the added value for the patient?
- Surgical aortic valve replacement (SAVR) and transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVI) imaging pathways and case discussions
- Patient journey: from referral to discharge and postoperative care
- Tips & tricks for successful TAVI and minimally-invasive SAVR

In addition to discussing the theories and rationales for assembling a Heart Team, a number of case studies are presented, live TAVI and SAVR cases are observed within the hybrid operating room, and the visitors can interact with the Heart Team as they work side-by-side to deliver the most appropriate treatment for the patient. Following the live procedures, the hosts and their guests sit down for a final Q&A. After these workshops, the guests leave Zurich with a newfound sense of how teamwork can positively impact patient outcomes.

For more information or if you are interested in the workshop, please contact Josip Petrovic (josip_petrovic@edwards.com).

Takeaways and lessons learned

"In my country, a perfusionist isn't usually part of the Heart Team, so it was interesting to get a look behind the curtain. In fact, cannulation choice is usually decided right before the operation, but perhaps it should occur earlier in the decision-making process."

What is the added value for the patient?

- A true Heart Team encourages an unbiased approach, which is not driven by reimbursement or monetary aspects
- According to the Herzklinik Hirslanden team, their aortic valve replacement mortality rate is almost zero since consistently adopting the Heart Team approach
- The patients see that their fate does not depend on an individual, but on an entire team

"I would never regret taking time out of my schedule to attend such an informative program and sharing experiences with such an experienced faculty. The Heart Team concept was great to see, and we hope to implement it in our practice. The procedure looked so smooth and flawless after such perfect planning."

Why a Heart Team?

- The arrival of TAVI yielded a need for merging different specialties (surgeons, interventional cardiologists, vascular surgeons, imaging specialists, anesthesiologists)
- Each patient is evaluated individually via an interdisciplinary approach
- A wide range of technologies and expertise becomes increasingly useful when intra-procedural complications arise

"A great learning experience to see how the Heart Team concept can be established. Have seen some great examples of handling complications. One of the best programs I have attended in recent times."

What advice would you give to other centers?

- Acknowledge the idea of specialization and that no single physician can cover the whole spectrum of treatment possibilities
- A true Heart Team encourages an unbiased approach, which is not driven by reimbursement or monetary aspects
- Make full use of the recent advances in imaging techniques
- Trust your colleagues, especially when complications arise

Edwards, Edwards Lifesciences, and the stylized E logo are trademarks of Edwards Lifesciences Corporation. All other trademarks are property of their respective owners.

© 2023 Edwards Lifesciences Corporation. All rights reserved. NP--EU-1597 v1.0

Edwards Lifesciences • Route de l'Etraz 70, 1260 Nyon, Switzerland • [edwards.com](https://www.edwards.com)



Edwards