



Enhanced Recovery After Cardiac Surgery

Leuven
Center of Excellence
2026



Course Description

This course, held by the cardiac team of UZ Leuven, aims to provide participants with theoretical and practical knowledge on implementing an **Enhanced Recovery After Cardiac Surgery (ERACS)** program in their daily practice. The team provides customized training and guidance through peer-to-peer learning, featuring concise presentations on evidence-based clinical practices and hands-on bedside training.

To ensure a personalized experience, each course is tailored for a multidisciplinary team from a single center.

Course directors:

Prof. Dr. Peter Verbrugghe, Prof. Dr. Danny Hoogma,
Prof. Dr. Wouter Oosterlinck, Prof. Dr. Steffen Rex, Prof. Dr. Tom Verbelen

For the best implementation, we advise attending with a multidisciplinary team consisting of, but not limited to:

- Cardiac surgeon
- Cardiac anesthesiologist
- Nurse practitioner
- Intensivist
- Physiotherapist
- Perfusionist

Dates:

- September 16-17, 2026
- November 25-26, 2026
- more dates on demand

Location:

Herestraat 49
3000 Leuven, Belgium



Day 1

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 13:00 | Welcome to the hospital |
| 13:10 | Starting an ERACS program |
| 13:30 | Presentation afternoon cases/ patients |
| 13:45 | Getting ready for the OR - visit of the OR/ Ward/ Physio |
| 16:30 | ERACS from different perspectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ERACS from a Perfusionist's perspective• ERACS from a Anesthesiologist's perspective• ERACS from a Surgeon's perspective |
| 18:00 | Visit to the PACU |
| 19:30 | Dinner |

Day 2

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|-------|---|
| 8:15 | Welcome to the hospital |
| 8:30 | Getting ready for the OR |
| 9:00 | Visit OR/ PACU/ ward/ physio |
| 11:30 | ERACS from different perspectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ERACS from a Perfusionist's perspective• ERACS from a Nurse's perspective• Pre-operative patient management |
| 13:00 | Lunch break with Q&A |
| 13:30 | Closing remarks and wrap-up |

The content of the course and the dates can be adapted on a case by case basis according to the needs of the participants.

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