



Transaxillary Minimally Invasive Surgery

London - St. Thomas' Hospital
Center of Excellence 2026

Advanced Course Description

This course on **Transaxillary Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (TAX MICS)** is hosted at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, and led by **Mr. Gianluca Lucchese** and his team. It is designed for cardiac surgeons and their multidisciplinary teams seeking to integrate minimally invasive transaxillary techniques with optimized perioperative care pathways.

The program provides a comprehensive blend of theory and practice, focusing on patient selection, operative planning, and step-by-step execution of transaxillary aortic and mitral valve procedures within an ERAS framework. Participants will gain insights into how surgical technique, anesthesia, perfusion, and postoperative management interact to enhance patient recovery and outcomes.

This course is particularly valuable for teams aiming to establish or further develop their transaxillary MICS approach, align surgical practice with ERAS standards, and promote close collaboration across disciplines to standardize best practices and improve patient recovery.

The course is open to candidates holding specialization in

- cardiac surgery,
- anaesthesia,
- cardiac nursing
- cardiac perfusion

Director of the course

Mr. Gianluca Lucchese

Faculty

Mr. Rajdeep Bilkhu Mr.
Kamran Baig

Key objectives

- Transaxillary isolated (aortic/mitral/tricuspid) valve replacement
- Transaxillary combined valve procedures
- Transaxillary atrial fibrillation surgery

Participant number

Up to 5 participants,
preferably from one team

Dates

- September 8–9, 2026
- September 29–30, 2026
- October 20–21, 2026
- November 24–25, 2026
- February 9–10, 2027
- June 01-02, 2027

Location:

St. Thomas' Hospital
Westminster Bridge Road
London SE1 7EH
United Kingdom



Day 1

15:00 Welcome to the hospital

15:30 Scientific basis and technical considerations of transaxillary approach

16:30 ERACS guidelines in minimally invasive cardiac surgery

17:30 Visit to the PACU/ ICU

18:00 Case preparation for the following day –
Patient selection, echo and CT scan evaluation

19:00 Dinner

Day 2

08:00

- Arrival at the hospital and transfer to OR
- Patient positioning

08:30 Transaxillary case 1

12:00 Lunch break

13:00 Transaxillary case 2

16:00 Q&A for the cases and wrap-up

16:30 End of the session

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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