ILEEM

# 13th International Lead Extraction Expert Meeting

December 11 – 12, 2026

Berlin, Germany

DHZB AKADEMIE

# Day 1 — Friday, Dec 11

Moderators: C. Starck (Berlin) & N. Lever (Auckland)

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| **8:00–9:00** | **Registration & Welcome Coffee** | |
| **9:00** | **Opening Remarks — welcome and audience-survey headlines** | C. Starck (Berlin) & N. Lever (Auckland) |

**SESSION 1: The 2026 Consensus and Contemporary Standards**

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| **9:15** | The 2026 HRS/AHA/APHRS/EHRA/IDSA/LAHRS/PACES/STS Expert Consensus Statement on CIED Lead Management and Extraction - what the extractor needs to know | A. Breitenstein (Zurich) |
| **9:35** | Extract vs. abandon in non-infected, redundant leads - the 2025/26 evidence | M. Gallagher (London) |
| **9:55** | The three most important TLE publications of 2025/26 - the papers you cannot afford to miss | C. Starck (Berlin) |
| **10:15** | ⚡**INTERACTIVE -** Panel discussion with live Slido polling — "What did you change in your practice this year?" | all speakers + audience |
| **10:45** | **Coffee break** | |

**SESSION 2: CIED Infection and Vegetations — Closing the Guideline–Practice Gap**

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| **11:15** | CIED infection management in 2026: the Brigham approach to early extraction and the guideline-practice gap | B. Schuler (Boston, Brigham) |
| **11:35** | Vegetation debulking before extraction: catheter-based and ICE-guided approaches in 2026 | S. Westra (Nijmegen) |
| **11:55** | Persistent bacteremia after extraction: what to do when the infection won't go away | F. Bracke (Eindhoven) |
| **12:15** | ⚡ **INTERACTIVE** - Pro/Con mini-debate + audience vote: "The 2 cm vegetation — debulk first, or extract directly?" | Pro-debulk: S. Westra \| Pro-direct extract: B. Schuler |
| **12:45** | **Lunch Break** | |

**SESSION 3: Interactive Case-Based Session — "The Art of the Difficult Extraction"**

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| **14:00** | Case 1 — the difficult case the audience chose first | L. Rademakers (Eindhoven) |
| **14:20** | Case 2 | K. Bode (Leipzig) |
| **14:40** | Case 3 | M. Sohal (London) |
| **15:00** | Case 4 | O. Al-Razzo (Madrid) |
| **15:20** | Case 5 | G. Domenichini (Lausanne) |
| **15:40** | Case 6 | A. Sommer (Aarhus) |

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| **16:00** | **Coffee break** | |

**SESSION 4: Special Populations and Risk Stratification**

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| **16:30** | Sex-specific outcomes in TLE: the EROS score, 2026 matched-cohort data and what has changed | G. Milasinovic (Belgrade) |
| **16:50** | 25 years of lead extraction: what have we really learned? A senior reflective view | F. Gadler (Stockholm) |
| **17:10** | ⚡ **INTERACTIVE** Hot Topic Showdown<br>— three 3-minute hot takes + live audience vote | |
| | Pre-TTVI lead management: extract early or jail? | tba |
| | The LBBAP lead you don't want to touch | K. Saleh (Linz) |
| | When extraction is futile: the ethical boundary | S. Richter (Dresden) |
| **17:30** | ⚡ **INTERACTIVE** Panel + Slido<br>“Which risk score do you actually use?” | all speakers + audience |
| **17:45** | Close of Day 1 | |

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| **20:00** | **ILEEM 2026 Networking Dinner —modest, program-related** |

# Day 2 — Saturday, Dec 12

Moderators: C. Starck (Berlin) & N. Lever (Auckland)

**SESSION 5: New Devices and Their Lifecycle**

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| **9:00** | Conduction-system pacing (CSP) lead extraction: TECSPAM, EXTRACT and the lumenless lead | tba |
| **9:20** | Leadless pacemaker retrieval: tools, techniques, dwell-time, and what the 2026 Consensus says | R. Schaerf (Los Angeles) |
| **9:40** | The modern extraction toolbox: jugular snare, femoral pull-through and tandem approaches | Z. Akhtar (London) |
| **10:00** | ⚡**INTERACTIVE** Panel + Slido<br>“Which device would you NOT implant today?” | all speakers + audience |

**10:30 Coffee break**

**SESSION 6: The Two-Device Problem — Lead Management in the TTVI Era**

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| **11:00** | Lead management in the era of transcatheter tricuspid interventions: TRIPLACE registry and the 2025 EHRA/EAPCI statement | N. Lever (Auckland) |
| **11:20** | EV-ICDs: 3-year Pivotal Study data, Enlighten registry and implications for lead extractability | A. Breitenstein (Zurich) |
| **11:40** | ⚡ **INTERACTIVE** Pro/Con mini-debate:<br>“Before TTVR — extract the lead or jail it?” | Pro-extract: M. Sohal (London) \|<br>Pro-jail: K. Saleh (Linz) |
| **12:00** | ⚡ **INTERACTIVE** Panel + Slido on the pre-TTVI heart-team decision | all speakers + audience |

**12:30 Lunch Break**

**SESSION 7: Bailout, Safety and the Surgical Interface**

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| **13:30** | Bailout strategies for the SVC and central veins: contemporary management of the highest-risk complications | C. Starck (Berlin) |
| **13:50** | Extractions and the surgical conversion decision: when transvenous is not enough | M. Jalava (Turku) |
| **14:10** | ⚡ **INTERACTIVE** Fail Forum — three short, blameless case vignettes: what went wrong, what we learned | |
| | Vignette 1 — cardiac tamponade | G. Milasinovic (Belgrade) |
| | Vignette 2 — vascular tear | H. Rosianu (Cluj-Napoca) |
| | Vignette 3 — lead fracture mid-procedure | M. Grabowski (Warsaw) |

**SESSION 8: Bring Your Case & Building a Safe TLE Program**

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| **14:30** | ⚡**INTERACTIVE** "Bring Your Case & We Will Discuss" — participant-submitted cases on the day, with live Slido polling | Panel: Starck I Lever I Gallagher I tba I Schaerf I Breitenstein |
| **15:15** | Training, credentialing and building a safe TLE program — the St George's model and the 2026 Consensus recommendations | M. Gallagher (London) |
| **15:40** | ⚡ **INTERACTIVE** - Closing Panel + Outlook to ILEEM 2027 — what we need in the data for next year | Starck I Lever I Gallagher I tba I Schaerf I Breitenstein |

# Thank you for your participation!

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