

MASTERING INTRAOPERATIVE NEUROMONITORING IN THYROID SURGERY

CONTINUOUS & INTERMITTENT NEUROMOSTIMULATION • TIPS, TRICKS AND
THE FUTURE OF TRAINING • ADDITIONAL SESSION ON AUTOFLUORESCENCE

Athens
GREECE



Department of
Endocrine Surgery
Henry Dunant
Hospital



18 SEPTEMBER
2026

PROGRAM

<https://athensneuromonitoringevent.concopco.com/>

A COMPREHENSIVE MASTER CLASS FEATURING



LIVE SURGERIES

Continuous neuromonitoring
and autofluorescence



HANDS-ON SESSION

Virtual reality headset training
for electrode placement



ADDITIONAL SESSION

on Autofluorescence



CONTINUOUS
MONITORING



INTERMITTENT
STIMULATION



AUTOFLUORESCENCE



LIVE SURGERY



VIRTUAL REALITY
TRAINING



ENDOSCOPIC &
ROBOTIC THYROIDECTOMY



**HENRY
DUNANT**



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Welcome note

Dear Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to this international course dedicated to intraoperative neuromonitoring in thyroid surgery.

The remarkable pace of technological advancement across modern medicine has also profoundly influenced the field of endocrine surgery. Among the most significant developments has been the integration of intraoperative neuromonitoring of the recurrent laryngeal and vagal nerves into modern thyroid surgery.

Today, intraoperative nerve monitoring has become an established adjunct to thyroid surgery, providing the surgeon with valuable real-time information regarding nerve identification and functional integrity. Intermittent nerve stimulation remains the most widely used technique; however, continuous intraoperative nerve monitoring (C-IONM) has progressively gained importance. In Europe, continuous monitoring is currently used in approximately 10% of cases in which intraoperative nerve monitoring is employed, highlighting both its growing role and the considerable potential for further adoption.

Continuous neuromonitoring offers an important advantage over intermittent stimulation: it enables continuous assessment of nerve function throughout the critical stages of the operation. This provides the operating surgeon with timely information when a surgical manoeuvre affects nerve function, creating an opportunity to modify the manoeuvre before potentially irreversible injury occurs. Beyond the technology itself, however, its value depends upon the surgeon's ability to correctly interpret the information provided and to translate it into appropriate intraoperative decision-making.

This is precisely the purpose of this course: not simply to demonstrate the use of intermittent and continuous nerve stimulation, but to provide a comprehensive understanding of their correct application, the interpretation of neuromonitoring signals, troubleshooting, and—most importantly—the integration of this information into an effective surgical strategy for the benefit and safety of our patients.

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A particular strength of this course is the presence of internationally renowned surgeons and experts in intraoperative neuromonitoring, whose scientific contributions and extensive clinical experience have helped shape contemporary practice in this field. Their participation offers us a unique opportunity not only to discuss current evidence and technical standards, but also to learn directly from those who have contributed to the development and evolution of neuromonitoring worldwide.

It is an exceptional privilege to welcome Professor Henning Dralle, one of the true pioneers of intraoperative neuromonitoring in endocrine surgery. Professor Dralle's contribution extends far beyond the introduction of a surgical technique. His pioneering clinical and scientific work has played a fundamental role in establishing the principles of nerve monitoring, advancing our understanding of recurrent laryngeal nerve injury, and defining how neuromonitoring information can influence surgical strategy and improve patient safety. His presence at this course gives all of us the rare opportunity to learn from a surgeon whose work has profoundly influenced generations of endocrine surgeons and the development of intraoperative neuromonitoring worldwide.

I hope that this course will provide an environment for education, scientific exchange and practical discussion, allowing participants to deepen their understanding of both intermittent and continuous neuromonitoring and, above all, to acquire knowledge that can be directly translated into everyday surgical practice.

I warmly welcome our distinguished faculty and all participants, and I wish you a highly productive and inspiring course.

Kyriakos Vamvakidis

Director, Department of Endocrine Surgery

"Henry Dunant" Hospital

Chairman of the Education Committee of the European Society of Endocrine Surgeons (ESES)

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Organizing Committee

Kyriakos Vamvakidis

Henning Dralle

Marco Raffaelli

Ioannis Koutelidakis

Ozer Makay

General Information

Venue

Amphitheater, Henry Dynan Hospital Center
Address: 107 Mesogeion Ave, 115 26, Athens, Greece

Secretariat

CONCO

THE CONFERENCE COMPANY

www.concopco.com

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Scientific Program

- 08:30 **WELCOME**
Kyriakos Vamvakidis, Henning Dralle, Marco Raffaelli, Ioannis Koutelidakis, Ozer Makay
- 08:45 **30 Years of Nerve Monitoring in Neck Surgery: More Than Just a Useful Tool**
Henning Dralle
- 09:15 **Intermittent Neurostimulation: Troubleshooting – Failure to Obtain a Signal at the Beginning of Surgery – Management of Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve Branching**
Christos Christoforides
- 09:45 **Continuous Neural Stimulation as a Giant Leap in Thyroid Surgery: What Is the Penetration of the Method in Europe and What Are the Outcomes of Its Application?**
Marco Raffaelli
- 10:05 **Recognizing the unexpected and avoiding Catastrophe: the critical role of intraoperative neuromonitoring**
Chrysanthi Aggeli
- 10:15 **LIVE SURGERY 1: Total Thyroidectomy using continuous neuromonitoring and autofluorescence**
Surgeons: Kyriakos Vamvakidis, Ilias Zorbas
Commentary: Henning Dralle, Marco Raffaelli, Sam van Slycke, Özer Makay, Ioannis Koutelidakis, Nick Roukounakis, Haridimos Markogiannakis
- 11:30 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11:45 **Why Neuromonitoring ?**
Konstantinos Nastos
- 12:05 **Intraoperative Neuromonitoring in Endoscopic and Robot-Assisted Thyroidectomy**
Ozer Makay
- 12:25 **Future Developments in Intraoperative Neuromonitoring During Thyroidectomy**
Dietmar Simon

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- 12:45 **LUNCH during**
LIVE SURGERY 2: Total Thyroidectomy using continuous neuromonitoring and autofluorescence
Surgeons: Kyriakos Vamvakidis, Christos Christoforides
Commentary: Henning Dralle, Dietmar Simon, George N. Zografos, Klaas van de Heede, Stylianos Kapisiris, Konstantinos Nastos
- 14:10 **Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve Suturing: When, How, and What Are the Potential Benefits?**
Sam van Slycke
- 14:30 **The Usefulness of Autofluorescence in Thyroid Surgery**
Klaas van den Heede
- 14:50 **How to Create and Establish a Training Program for Intraoperative Monitoring in Thyroid Surgery**
Ioannis Koutelidakis
- 15:10 **Virtual Reality Applications in the Training of Endocrine Surgeons**
Kyriakos Vamvakidis
- 15:20 **Management of Vocal Cord Paralysis Post Thyroid Surgery**
Konstantinos Chaidas
- 15:30 **Q&A Session**
All Faculty
- 16:00 **HANDS-ON SESSION**
Virtual reality headset training for electrode placement in continuous neuromonitoring during thyroidectomy
Konstantina Rekouna, Ioannis Papandrikos, Konstantinos Pavlopoulos



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Faculty

Chrysanthi Aggeli

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Konstantinos Chaidas

MD, PhD, FRCS (ORL-HNS), Assistant Professor in Otorhinolaryngology - Head & Neck and Thyroid surgery, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki - Medical School, Thessaloniki, Greece, Hon. Consultant ENT Surgeon, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London, UK

Christos Christoforides

General Surgeon, Deputy Director, Clinic of Endocrine Surgery & Parathyroid Surgery Department at the Henry Dunant Hospital Center

Henning Dralle

Univ. Prof. Dr. med. Dr. h. c. mult. Henning Dralle, FRCS, FACS, FEBS

Klaas van den Heede

MD, Consultant in General and Endocrine Surgery, Consultant at AZORG

Stylianos Kapisris

Consultant General Surgeon and Coordinating Director at the 1st Surgical Dept., Evangelismos Hospital, Athens, Greece

Ioannis Koutelidakis

Associate Professor of General Surgery, Department of Medicine, School of Health Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Ozer Makay

MD, FEBS div. Endocrine Surgery, Professor of Surgery

Haridimos Markogiannakis

Attending General Surgeon at Hippokration Hospital in Athens

Konstantinos Nastos

Assistant Professor of Surgery at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) and a faculty member of the 3rd University Surgical Department at "Attikon" University Hospital in Athens



Ioannis Papandrikos

Clinic of Endocrine Surgery & Parathyroid Surgery Department at the Henry Dunant Hospital Center

Konstantinos Pavlopoulos

General Surgeon, Clinic of Endocrine Surgery & Parathyroid Surgery Department, Henry Dunant Hospital Center

Marco Raffaelli

Professor of General Surgery at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Head of the Division of Endocrine and Metabolic Surgery at the Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS Rome

Konstantina Rekouna

Clinic of Endocrine Surgery & Parathyroid Surgery Department, Henry Dunant Hospital Center

Nick Roukounakis

MD, MSc, PhD, FEBS (Endo) Director, First Department of Surgery Evangelismos General Hospital of Athens, Former President of the Hellenic Society of Endocrine Surgery (EEHEA)

Dietmar Simon

Professor, MD, PhD, Head of the Clinic for General and Visceral Surgery, Head of the Interdisciplinary Center for Thyroid Diseases, Head of the Interdisciplinary Center for Bowel Cancer

Sam van Slycke

MD, PhD, FEBS, Endocrine bij AZORG Aalst

Kyriakos Vamvakidis

MD, FEB S - Endocrine, Director Department of Endocrine Surgery, Henry Dunant Hospital Center, Chairman of the Education Committee of the European Society of Endocrine Surgeons (ESES)

George N. Zografos

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Ilias Zorbas

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Notes



Reducing Complexity.
Amplifying Trust.

The art of neuromonitoring.



Spine Action

Maximizing impact through Focused Excellence

*We are Neuromonitoring.
True excellence stems from deep expertise,
distraction-free development and a close
link to the reality of thyroid surgery.
Only IONM—but done right.*

The art of neuromonitoring.



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