

**Dear Colleagues,**

It is a great pleasure to invite you all to the EACTA Echo Course 2019 in Gdańsk.

The theme of the course for 2019 is: " **Back to the bedside, benefiting the patient** "

The EACTA ECHO course will be held from June 22<sup>nd</sup> to June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the premises of the University Medical Centre of the Medical University of Gdańsk (MUG) in Poland.

The aim of this annual Echo Course is to educate Anaesthesiologists, Surgeons, Cardiologists, Cardiac Surgeons and Intensivists in the use of Echo in the Perioperative setting and in Intensive care. The role of Echo as a valuable and effective tool for safer and better outcomes will be explored in all aspects.

The Scientific Programme comprises a wide spectrum of topics, from basic skills to advanced and extensive knowledge. It is divided into four courses: The Basic Course will give a concise insight to transthoracic and transoesophageal echocardiography. The Advanced Course will focus on the use of the essence of echo examination for clinical decision-making. The Certification Course will prepare the candidates for the accreditation exam, which will be organised at the end of EACTA ECHO 2019 Course. The Hands-on Course will include tips and tricks in the most advanced echo imaging. The workshops will address the most challenging clinical problems and provide live clinical operating room cases.

Preliminary programme of the courses is available at:

<http://www.eacta.org/echocourses/eacta-echo-course-2019/programme/>

Registration to the course is now open at

<http://www.eacta.org/echocourses/eacta-echo-course-2019/registration/>

The Organizers believe that the scientific programme, modern venue, and interesting hosting city will make EACTA ECHO 2019 uniquely attractive and successful in achieving its educational goals.

Looking forward to welcoming you in Gdańsk in June 2019!

**Romuald Lango**

Chair of the Local Organising Committee