



Theoretical &
hands-on course

Paediatric Minimally Invasive Surgery and Urology Course

LAPAROSCOPY

Geneva, 20-21 August 2026



Course directors



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Prof. Barbara Wildhaber

Head of Paediatric Surgery, Geneva University Hospitals, University Center of Pediatric Surgery of Western Switzerland

Invited Faculty



Prof. Amulya Saxena

Consultant Paediatric Surgeon, Chelsea Children's Hospital, Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare NHS, London, UK



Mr. Harish Chandran

Consultant Paediatric Surgeon, Birmingham Children's Hospital, Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS, Birmingham, UK



PD Dr. med. habil. Peter Zimmermann

Director, Department of Pediatric Surgery and Congenital Malformations Helios Dr. Horst Schmidt Kliniken Wiesbaden, Germany



PD Dr. med. Luca Mazzone

FMH-certified Paediatric Surgeon, Senior Physician, Department of Pediatric Surgery, University Children's Hospital Zurich

Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

The SWISS Foundation for Innovation and Training in Surgery (SFITS) has the pleasure to announce the next edition of the Paediatric Minimally Invasive Surgery and Urology course.

The minimally invasive approach is becoming the standard for a growing number of procedures in all fields of paediatric surgery. But where can we start getting into them?

By being introduced to the specific theory, by being exposed to standardized operations in a simulative real-time setting, by being guided by experts in the field, by having a safety-belt during our first steps!

We are happy to offer you the opportunity to train on the avian model which we developed for neonatal MIS training and published recently.¹

We are offering this two-day course in the unique facilities provided by the SFITS, allowing surgeons of all levels to benefit from this formal theoretical teaching, but most importantly to have the opportunity to exercise on a wide range of carefully selected models, while exchanging and discussing operative techniques with internationally recognized experts.

Welcome to the Paediatric Minimally Invasive Surgery and Urology course!

*Dr. Enrico Brönnimann
Dr. Oliver Sanchez
Prof. Barbara Wildhaber*

¹ Zimmermann, P., Wiseman, A.X., Sanchez, O. et al. The avian model: a novel and cost-effective animal tissue model for training in neonatal laparoscopic surgery. J Ped Endosc Surg 1, 99–105 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42804-019-00027-8>

Course description

Theoretical & hands-on course, aimed at junior and senior trainees



Date

20-21 August 2026

Day 1

- The first day offers up to date teaching on the physiological specificities of laparoscopy in children and technical aspects covering from the fine tunings of the stack to the basics of laparoscopy ergonomics, by leading experts. The theoretical introduction will be followed by 5 hours of hands-on exercises with a view to improving laparoscopic knotting, suturing and dissection. The highlight of the first day is the new avian model proposing adapted training opportunity for juniors, as well as advanced surgeons.

- Two-day hands-on course for pediatric surgeons on cadaveric animal models including the new avian model
- Fully equipped and modern surgical training center
- Multimedia-learning with instructional videos during hands-on practice

Day 2

- The second day will entail two half-days of hands-on practice. Specific procedures will be performed on selected high quality animal models, following short video presentations (funduplicatio, cholecystectomy, pyeloplasty...), with high tutor-participant ratio.

Participation fees

- including lunches and dinner

2-day training : CHF 1'500.-

-10% for EUPSA members and members of the Swiss Society for Pediatric Surgery

Registration

Please book your participation via the SFITS web application:

Go to

<https://calendar.sfits.ch>

or scan QR code

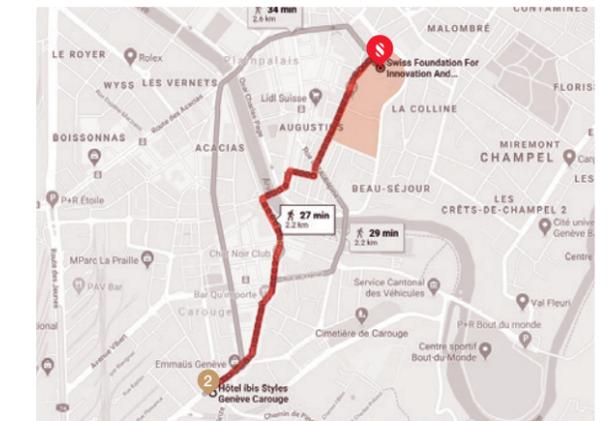


Contact for more info: inscription@sfits.ch

Venue

SFITS SWISS Foundation for Innovation and Training in Surgery

1 Rue Gabrielle-Perret-Gentil 4,
1205 Geneva, Switzerland | +41 22 322 9100



Hotel recommandation

- not included in the course fees

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ibis Styles Genève Carouge Hotel
Route De Saint Julien 3, 1227 Carouge

- Please contact us to get special prices.

More information

www.sfits.ch



Day 1

08:30	Welcome coffee & introduction of sponsors	
09:00-10:00	Theoretical session	
20'	Instruments and equipment	Prof. A. Saxena
20'	Ergonomics in endoscopic surgery	Prof. A. Saxena
20'	Trouble shooting and checklist	Prof. A. Saxena
10:00-12:00	Hands-on session	
	Pelvitainer - Suturing model	All faculty
12:00-13:00	Lunch break	
13:00-16:00	Hands-on session	
	Avian model - dissection, pneumoperitoneum, small space, energy device, intestinal anastomosis, cholecystectomy	All faculty
16:00-16:30	Coffee break	
16:30-17:30	Theoretical session	
	Retroperitoneoscopic and transperitoneal approach for pyeloplasty	Dr. L. Mazzone Mr. H. Chandran
17:40	End of the day	
19:00	Course dinner	

Day 2

08:00-09:30	Hands-on session	
	Pelvitainer / Pelvitainer with animal organs Pyeloplasty	All faculty
09:30-10:30	Deflux session / Coffee break	
	Dr. E. Brönnimann	
10:30-12:00	Hands-on session	
	Pelvitainer / Pelvitainer with animal organs Pyeloplasty	All faculty
12:00-13:00	Lunch break	
13:00-16:00	Hands-on session	
	Pelvitainer / with animal organs Cholecystectomy / Pyloromyotomy, Fundoplication, Splenectomy	All faculty
16:00-16:30	Coffee break	
16:30-17:30	Interactive session and course evaluation	

Accreditation

- UEMS

