

## **Preliminary Programme**

### **ESSO Hands on Course on Colorectal Cancer Surgery**

**Ljubljana (SI), 15 - 17 January 2026**

#### **Chairs**

**Ibrahim Edhemovic**, Institute of Oncology, Ljubljana, SI

**Franco Roviello**, Università degli Studi di Siena, IT

**Theo Wiggers**, University Medical Center Groningen, NL

#### **Faculty members (tbc)**

**Ayhan Kuzu**, Ankara University Faculty of Medicine, Ankara, TR

**Andrej Laposa**, Ljubljana University Medical Centre, Ljubljana, SI

**Claus Anders Bertelsen**, Hillerød University Hospital, Hillerød, DK

**Erik Brecelj**, Institute of Oncology, Ljubljana, SI

**Mirko Omejc**, Ljubljana University Medical Centre, Ljubljana, SI

**Paolo Delrio**, Istituto dei Tumori di Napoli, Fondazione G. Pascale, IT

#### **Program**

##### **Thursday, 15th January**

<b>13:30– 13:50</b>	<b><i>Registration</i></b>
13:50 – 14:00	Introduction and welcome
14:00 – 14:15	The surgeon as the prognostic factor in colorectal cancer surgery <i>I. Edhemovic</i>
14:15 – 15:00	Colon cancer I – Surgical anatomy, embryology and reversion principles, ligaments <i>A. Kuzu</i>
15:00 – 15:20	Colon cancer II – Surgical technique <i>F. Roviello</i>
15:20 – 16:05	Colon cancer III – (Extended) Right hemicolectomy, transversectomy following the principles of complete mesocolic excision (CME)

*C. A. Bertelsen*

16:05 – 16:25 Routine mobilization of the splenic flexure: is it mandatory for a low anterior resection?

*M. Omejc*

16:25 – 16:35

Omental plasty

*I. Edhemovic*

**16:35 – 16:50**

**Coffee break**

16:50 – 19:10

Hands on workshop colon I – (Extended) Right colectomy: approach and dissection with side-to-side stapled anastomosis terminal ileum/transverse colon, ileostomy, omental plasty

*All faculty*

### **Friday, 16th January**

08:30 – 09:15

Colon cancer IV – (Extended) Left hemicolectomy, sigmoidectomy, following the principles of complete mesocolic excision (CME)

*C. A. Bertelsen*

09:15 – 09:45

Filling the pelvic space with flap – VRAM

*A. Laposa*

09:45 – 10:05

Anastomosis technique and stoma formation

**TBC**

**10:05 – 10:20**

**Coffee break**

10:20 – 12:30

Hands on workshops colon II – Left colectomy with mobilization of splenic flexure, anastomosis, VRAM

*All faculty*

**12:30 – 13:30**

**Lunch**

13:30 – 14:00

Rectal cancer I – Surgical anatomy, planes and nerves in the pelvis

*A. Kuzu*

14:00 – 14:45

Rectal cancer II – (Low) Anterior resection following the principles of total mesorectal excision (TME). Coloanal anastomosis.

*P. Delrio*

**14:45 – 15:00**

**Coffee break**

15:00 – 15:40

Rectal cancer III – Abdominoperineal resection – extralevator approach

*T. Wiggers*

15:40 – 18:15      Hands on workshop – rectal cancer – Low anterior. ELAPE.  
Gluteus flap (eventually)  
*All faculty*

**Saturday, 17th January**

08:30 – 08:45      Options after good response after neoadjuvant treatment in rectal cancer

**TBC**

08:45 – 09:45      Video session: surgical techniques

*T. Wiggers*

09:45 – 10:05      Low anterior resection: how low can we go?

*E. Breclj*

**10:05 – 10:20      *Coffee break***

10:20 – 11:50      Tips and tricks and questions from participants. Advantage and  
Hazards/Disadvantage of all procedures, both technical and medical, with  
comments from the faculty

**TBC**

11:50 – 12:10      Minimal invasive approach in colorectal surgery

*F. Roviello*