



Benzon Symposium No. 70

Artificial Intelligence in Cardiovascular Disease

7-10 September 2026, Copenhagen

Programme

Day 1 — Monday 7 September 2026

09:00-09:10 *Welcome*
Christian Hassager, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen, Denmark
Susanne Brix Pedersen, Technical University of Denmark
Technical University Hospital of Greater Copenhagen

OPENING PLENARY LECTURE

Chair: Christian Hassager and Susanne Brix Pedersen

09:10-09:50 **Cecilia Linde** (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden)
"Why do we need AI in Cardiology?"

Session 1: AI Foundations

Chair: Susanne Brix Pedersen and Joakim Bo Kunkel

09:50-10:30 **Morten Mørup** (Technical University of Denmark)
"Machine Learning Foundations for Biomedical Discovery"

10:30-11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00-11:15 **Anton Håkansson** (Lund University, Department of Clinical Sciences, Sweden / UC Berkeley School of Public Health, California, USA)
"Open-source machine learning framework and benchmark dataset for diagnosing ACS from ECG waveforms"

11:15-11:30 **Lasse Niemeier** (Department of Internal Medicine III, Heidelberg University, Germany)
"AI Literacy Gap in Medical Training"

11:30-11:45 **Magnus Thorsten Jensen** (Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen, Denmark)
"Digital Health and AI Implementation: Organisational Transformation, Not Just Technology"

11:45-13:00 *Lunch*



Session 2: From Prediction to Personalization

Chair: Lars Køber and Joakim Bo Kunkel

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| 13:00-13:40 | Ruth Frikke-Schmidt (Rigshospitalet, Denmark)
<i>"Personalized Medicine in Cardiology"</i> |
| 13:40-14:20 | Sadasivan P. Kumaran (Technical University of Denmark)
<i>"Deep Learning for Personalised Cardiac Risk Prediction"</i> |
| 14:20-14:50 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 14:50-15:05 | Søren Albertsen Rand (Rigshospitalet, Denmark)
<i>"The PM-Heart RCT: The effects of displaying an AI survival prognosis in ischemic heart disease"</i> |
| 15:05-15:20 | Lotte Rijken (Amsterdam UMC, The Netherlands)
<i>"Predicting Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Growth: Classification Model for Fast vs Slow Progression"</i> |
| 15:20-16:00 | Joakim Bo Kunkel (Rigshospitalet, Denmark)
<i>"Digital Phenotypes"</i> |
| 16:00-17:00 | <i>Poster Session I</i> |
| 18:20-21:20 | <i>Reception (walk from venue at 18:00)</i> |



Day 2 — Tuesday 8 September 2026

Session 3: Building and Validating AI at Scale

Chair: Christian Hassager and Joakim Bo Kunkel

- 09:00-09:40 **Benjamin Meder** (Heidelberg University Hospital, Germany)
"Precision Digital Health in Cardiology"
- 09:40-10:20 **Pim van der Harst** (University Medical Center Groningen, The Netherlands)
"Genomics, AI and Cardiovascular Risk at Population Scale"
- 10:20-10:40 *Coffee Break*
- 10:40-11:20 **Peter Brodeur** (Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center / Harvard Medical School, USA)
"The State of Clinical AI: Where Does Evidence Meet Implementation?"
- 11:20-11:35 **Christoph Reich** (University of Heidelberg, Germany)
"Mapping Seven Decades of Cardiomyopathy: A Transformer-Based Analysis of 151,109 Publications"
- 11:35-12:15 **Stefan James** (Uppsala University, Sweden)
"Can AI Transform Evidence Generation for ESC Clinical Practice Guidelines?"
- 12:15-13:20 *Lunch*

Session 4: AI in Cardiovascular Research

Chair: Morten Schou og Lars Køber

- 13:20-14:00 **Lars Køber** (Rigshospitalet, Denmark)
"What will AI do to the classic RCT?"
- 14:00-14:15 **Jawad Haider Butt** (Rigshospitalet, Denmark)
"Artificial Intelligence–Generated vs Researcher-Led Meta-Analysis of MRAs in Heart Failure"
- 14:15-14:30 **Vincent Albrecht** (Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry / Department of Proteomics and Signal Transduction, Germany)
"Interpretable AI on 50,000 plasma proteomes maps molecular architecture of pregnancy complications"
- 14:30-14:50 *Coffee Break*
- 14:50-15:30 **Axel Diederichsen** (Odense University Hospital / University of Southern Denmark)
"From Clinical Idea to Population-Level AI: The DETECT-AI Journey"
- 16:00-17:30 *Poster Session II*



Day 3 — Wednesday 9 September 2026

Session 5: Clinical Translation and Ethics in AI — From Algorithm to Responsibility

Chair: Morten Schou and Susanne Brix Pedersen

- 09:00-09:40 **Victoria Blanes-Vidal** (University of Southern Denmark)
"Human-AI Collaboration in Clinical Decision-Making"
- 09:40-10:20 **Folkert Asselbergs** (University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands / University College London, UK)
"Federated and Trustworthy AI in Cardiology"
- 10:20-10:50 *Coffee Break*
- 10:50-11:30 **Sebastian Wiberg** (London School of Economics, UK)
"AI in Cardiovascular Care: A Health Economics Perspective"
- 11:30-12:10 **Anders Søgaard** (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)
"Ethics of AI in Clinical Medicine"
- 12:10-13:10 *Lunch*

Session 6: Imaging and Multimodal Sensing — Radiomics, Bias and Generalisability

Chair: Christian Hassager and Joakim Bo Kunkel

- 13:10-13:25 **Jens Dahlgaard Hove** (Amager-Hvidovre University Hospital, Denmark)
"Comparison of Clinical and AI-assisted Pulmonary Auscultation of patients with heart failure"
- 13:25-13:40 **Xiaopeng Mao** (Health Technology, Technical University of Denmark)
"AI-assisted Pulmonary Auscultation for Heart Failure Monitoring"
- 13:40-14:20 **Rasmus Reinhold Paulsen** (Technical University of Denmark)
"Cardiac CT Radiomics: Methods and Clinical Translation"
- 14:20-14:50 *Coffee Break*
- 14:50-15:05 **Jule Leverenz** (Heidelberg University Hospital, Germany)
"Detection of Cardiac Amyloidosis in Routine Echo: Real-World Performance of an AI Algorithm"
- 15:05-15:20 **Milou ter Braak** (Amsterdam UMC / Department of Surgery, The Netherlands)
"Automated Analysis Pipeline for Type B Aortic Dissections Using Deep Learning Segmentation"
- 15:20-16:00 **Judy Wawira Gichoya** (Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, USA)
"Bias and Hidden Signals in Medical Imaging AI"
- 16:00-16:40 **Thomas Lüscher** (European Society of Cardiology / Royal Brompton Hospital / Imperial College London, UK / University of Zurich, Switzerland)
"The Future of AI in Cardiology — So Far"
- 19:00-23:00 *Symposium Banquet (walk from venue at 18:30)*



Day 4 — Thursday 10 September 2026

Session 7: Transforming the Health System — Regulation, Democratisation and Governance

Chair: Morten Schou and Lars Køber

- 09:10-09:40 **Anders Dohn** (Copenhagen Optimization, Denmark)
 “AI in another world”
- 09:40-10:20 **Pardeep Jhund** (University of Glasgow, UK)
 “How will AI change cardiology?”
- 10:20-10:40 *Coffee Break*
- 10:40-11:20 **Pernille Vinholt** (Indsigt, University of Southern Denmark)
 “The Dora Journey: From Development to safe Implementation of a Clinical AI Search Tool”
- 11:20-11:35 **Jørgen Kanters** (Copenhagen University, Denmark)
 “Visualization of XAI in ECG analysis. Does synthetic data yield proficient models?”
- 11:35-12:15 **Kajsa Kvist** (Novo Nordisk A/S, Denmark)
 “How Can a 100-Year-Old Company Succeed with AI in Cardiovascular Research?”
- 12:15-12:30 **Sacharias von Koch** (Lund University, Sweden)
 “Prediction of major bleeding events for patients with DAPT after myocardial infarction”
- 12:30-13:15 *Lunch*

Session 8: Mitigating Risk — Explainability, Data Quality and Trustworthy AI

Chair: Christian Hassager and Susanne Brix Pedersen

- 13:15-13:55 **Aasa Feragen** (Technical University of Denmark)
 “Fairness and Uncertainty in Medical AI”
- 13:55-14:35 **Lars Dittmann** (Technical University of Denmark)
 “Secure Infrastructure for Health AI: Where Are We and What’s Missing?”
- 14:35-14:50 **Steffen Roskopf** (Precision Digital Health Group, University Hospital Heidelberg, Germany)
 “CLEP: Rule-Based NLP for Extracting Structured Clinical Metadata from EHR at Cohort Scale”
- 14:50-15:10 *Coffee Break*

CLOSING PLENARY LECTURE

Chair: Christian Hassager and Susanne Brix Pedersen

- 15:10-16:00 **Florian A. Wenzl** (University of Zurich, Switzerland / NHS England, UK)
 “Personalizing Cardiovascular Care: A Data Science Approach”
- 16:00-16:15 **Christian Hassager and Susanne Brix Pedersen**
 Concluding Remarks