INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

ISMICS INSIDER

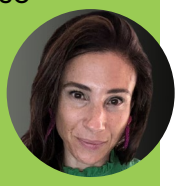
NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION / Monthly news, updates and resources for the ISMICS community

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

OUR ISMICS FAMILY CONTINUES TO GROW!



We're excited to welcome yet another addition to the ISMICS management team. **Kayla Dunaway** steps in as Associate Director, joining Executive Director, **Lauren Antelo**. Together, they bring deep expertise and fresh energy to the work we do — and we're thrilled to have them leading the charge.



FROM THE ISMICS DESK

ISMICS has always been defined by people like you—surgeons, innovators, and collaborators pushing the boundaries of minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery for the benefit of patients everywhere.

Welcome to the November edition of the revised *ISMICS Insider*—your monthly briefing from the heart of the ISMICS community. We're kicking things off with a lot to share: our new webinar series launched in October, our Board met in Barcelona alongside the EACTS Annual Meeting, and abstract submissions for ISMICS 2027 are officially open. There is also a member spotlight worth sharing and some exciting field news ahead.

ISMICS BOARD MEETS IN CONJUNCTION WITH EACTS 40TH ANNUAL MEETING

The 40th EACTS Annual Meeting took place in Barcelona, Spain last month (Oct. 7-10)—and as always the perfect setting for our recent Board Meeting. Our agenda reflected this year's theme, **Minimally Invasive, Maximally Precise**, through a precise, data-informed look at member value, global engagement, and the 2027 budget.

If you attended EACTS, hopefully you were able to stop by Booth #169—right across from the networking area.



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
for MINIMALLY INVASIVE
CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

ISMICS INSIDER / NOVEMBER 2026 / NEWSLETTER

KEEP CONNECTED

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

Your ISMICS membership is what makes everything we do possible. Renewing today ensures uninterrupted access to the resources, relationships, and opportunities that support your professional growth—and keeps you connected to a community of members across 65 countries.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

DR. JOERG KEMPFERT

A special congratulations to our Vice President, **Dr. Joerg Kempfert**, who serves as Chair of the EACTS Techno-College Taskforce. Hear from Dr. Kempfert as he shares what makes Techno-College a unique part of the 40th EACTS Annual Meeting.

WATCH VIDEO





INSIDER QUICK LINKS:

- Renew Your Membership
- Submit Your Abstracts for ISMICS 2027
- Webinar Series: Precision Pathways
- Contact ISMICS

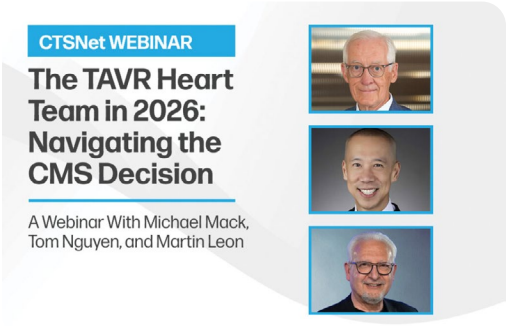
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
for MINIMALLY INVASIVE
CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

ISMICS INSIDER / NOVEMBER 2026 / NEWSLETTER

TAVR AND THE EVOLVING ROLE OF THE CARDIAC SURGEON

ISMICS President-Elect Dr. Tom Nguyen alongside fellow surgeons breaks down the updates and controversies surrounding the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR)

WATCH THE RECORDING



ISMICS 2026 WORKSHOP

November 20-22, 2026 | New Delhi, India

ISMICS actively seeks partnerships with organizations that share our commitment to innovation and education through participation in an annual ISMICS Workshop. This year ISMICS is proud to participate in the 10th Annual Conference of SMICTSI, held in conjunction with ATCSA 2026 and the International Coronary Congress in India.

ISMICS WORKSHOP



IN THE FIELD



5th Annual SEATS x MLCC Conference
November 11-15, 2026 / Singapore



7th EACTS/STS/LACES Latin America Cardiovascular Surgery Conference
December 3-5, 2026 / Santiago, Chile



19th National Congress of the Turkish Society of Cardiovascular Surgery
November 26-29, 2026 / Perge Convention Center, Antalya, Turkey



6th Annual Canadian Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery (MICS) Conference
March 5 & 6, 2027 / Canmore, Alberta

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY *for* MINIMALLY INVASIVE CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

ISMICS INSIDER / NOVEMBER 2026 / NEWSLETTER



ISMICS WEBINAR SERIES

We completed session 2 of our **Precision Pathways Webinar Series** on October 31. This session presented: *The Precision Cardiac Surgery Unfolded*—a unique format that followed one real patient case through five sequential stages of precision surgery. Six expert surgeons each address a single stage, sharing what they do differently today and what evidence supports it.

Session 1 of the series brought together four leading experts to examine one of the most debated questions in robotic thoracic surgery: which single-port access approach delivers better outcomes—and why?

If you missed the live session or want to share it with a colleague, the webinar recordings are available online for ISMICS Members.

WATCH RECORDINGS

Stay tuned: Information about our next webinar in the Precision Pathways Series coming soon!



ANSWER THE CALL!

2027 ISMICS CALL FOR ABSTRACTS OPEN NOW!

If you have research to share, we want to hear from *you*.

Watch a personal message from ISMICS President Dr. Nirav Patel, then share your work across our five precision-focused categories: *Prepare. Plan. Simulate. Operate. Care.*

Deadline Extended: December 1, 2026

SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT



HELP US BUILD A BETTER NEWSLETTER

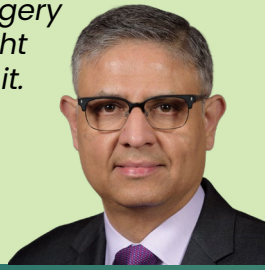
MEMBER ENGAGEMENT POLL

ISMICS Insider is built for you, so we are asking for your input. Your answers will shape what we cover in future issues. What content matters most to you? What format do you prefer? What engagement features would you like to see?

SHARE YOUR INPUT

A SPECIAL MESSAGE:

We are thrilled to have you with us. ISMICS is at its best when its members are engaged, curious, and connected. The Board of Directors encourages you to dive in—attend a webinar, submit an abstract, join a committee, and make your mark on this Society. The future of minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery is being written right now. Help us write it.



Nirav Patel, MD
President, ISMICS
2026–2027