

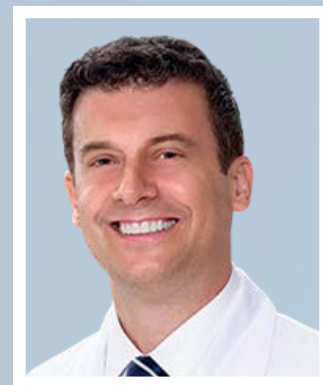


# NEWSLETTER

## AUGUST 2025 EDITION

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 36th Annual ELSO Conference is right around the corner, and it's shaping up to be one of our most memorable gatherings yet. Thanks to incredible community engagement in both planning and programming, we can share contributions from 230 speakers and moderators, 380 submitted abstracts, and already over 1,000 attendees registered. This record-setting meeting is one you won't want to miss.



Be sure to join us for special events throughout the week, including the Exhibit Hall Opening Reception, the Award of Excellence Ceremony, and our Conference Reception at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

As always, the annual conference is a chance to reconnect with colleagues, forge new relationships, and celebrate our shared mission.

We can't wait to see you in DC!

**Dan Brodie, President, ELSO**

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## CHAPTER CONFERENCES



### SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

**Location:** Chennai, India

**Dates:** February 5th - February 8th, 2026



### 14th Annual EuroELSO Conference

**Location:** Dublin, Ireland

**Dates:** May 6 - 9, 2026

**Website:** <https://euroelso-congress.com/>



### 8th Annual APELSO Conference

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan

**Dates:** June 12th - June 14th, 2026



### 7th Annual LATAM Conference

**Location:** San Jose, Costa Rica

**Dates:** November 5th- November 7th, 2026

**Website:** <https://congresosusp.com/congreso-elso/>

## COMMITTEE ROUNDUP

### ELSO Conference Committee

Registration is still available for the 36th Annual ELSO Conference, which will be taking place in Washington DC September 27-30th, 2025. More information about pricing and hotel can be found on our [36th Annual Conference website](#).

A few reminders and updates:

- Agenda is posted and can be found [here](#).
- Registration is available for our **Mission Critical Team Building** event. This special half-day interactive team training is limited to 50 participants.
- Hotel block is filling fast. Book your room [here](#).



### Education Committee/ELSO Academy

The Education Committee is looking forward to welcoming all of our Global Education Committee (GEC) delegates to our first in-person meeting that will be held right before the ELSO Annual Meeting. We are also very excited to be launching the ELSO Initiatives Dashboard in partnership with the Nominations & Membership Committee at the upcoming conference. We hope to make this a successful system that will help connect our ECMO Community with our ELSO Committees!

### Upcoming Course Dates

Our Fall 2025 and Spring 2025 ELSO Simulation Center Education activities are live on ELSO Academy. We are offering a variety of Adult Simulation, Neo/Peds Simulation, and Cannulation courses in Ann Arbor, MI. Please keep an eye on the [ELSO Website](#) as well as ELSO Academy to see course dates and sign-up!

ELSO Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Neo/Peds Simulation Course  
Fall 2025 Dates: October 7-8, 2025 (Session 1)  
*Next course offering is anticipated in Fall 2026*

ELSO Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Adult Simulation Course  
Fall 2025 Dates: November 4-5, 2025 (Session 1) & November 6-7, 2025 (Session 2)  
Spring 2026 Dates: April 14-15, 2026 (Session 1) & April 16-17, 2026 (Session 2)

ELSO Adult ECMO Cannulation Workshop  
Spring 2026 Dates: April 18, 2026 (Session 1) & April 19, 2026 (Session 2)

All Endorsed courses can be found [HERE](#)

All non-ELSO courses/events can be found [HERE](#).

## Quality Committee - Award of Excellence

We extend our congratulations to the new recipients of the Platinum, Gold, and Silver Awards! The award winners will be celebrated at the 36th Anniversary ELSO Conference in September 2025. Plaques will be sent in early December, and any requests for additional plaques must be submitted by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Your award will be valid for a 3 year period beginning January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028. Please reach out at [award@elso.org](mailto:award@elso.org) if you have any questions.

A sincere thank you to all the centers that participated in site visits this year! Our teams were delighted to visit the thoughtful and collaborative ECMO programs that submitted applications this year!



## Publications Committee

ELSO has a growing list of publications available.

- New guidelines – always free and available to our community (Guidelines are [here](#))
- The ELSO Red Book – 6th Edition
- ECMO Specialist Training Manual – 4th Edition (*5th Edition in development*)
- ECPR and Resuscitative ECMO
- Post-Cardiotomy ECLS and other Temporary Mechanical Circulatory Supports in Adult Patients, with Roberto Lorusso as Senior Editor and a robust team of international authors.
- Neonatal and Pediatric ECMO Simulation Scenarios – developed in partnership with IPSS
- A Korean translation of the ELSO Red Book – 5th Edition
- Spanish translations of the ELSO Red Book – 4th Edition and ECMO Specialist Training Manual – 4th Edition

Visit our website for the full list of publications available [HERE](#).

## Registry Committee

Mapping efforts continue to update codes for diagnoses. Once done, you will see a difference in the report summaries that will better align diagnoses in ELSO's reports. We anticipate that there will be far less cases in the 'other' category that currently is a predominant diagnoses. We aim to have these updated for next year's international summary reports and other areas.

The Quality Reporting team appreciates the feedback from the new benchmarking platform. This group continues to take shape. If this is something you would like to be involved in, please let us know. When the risk-adjusted model is added to the benchmarking platform and published, we will continue to look for feedback and ways to improve, so your input makes a difference. The risk-adjusted model will apply to adult cases first, using an AI-driven methodology. Other patient populations will be added soon after.

Please keep your data updated! We appreciate what we can learn together, thanks to your efforts.

Please email us at [ELSOqualitysupport@elso.org](mailto:ELSOqualitysupport@elso.org) for benchmarking questions. For questions on entering data into the registry email us at [RegistrySupport@elso.org](mailto:RegistrySupport@elso.org). Questions on requesting ELSO data please email [ELSODataRequest@elso.org](mailto:ELSODataRequest@elso.org).





## Research Committee

Please contact [research@elso.org](mailto:research@elso.org) for any suggestions you might have for the committee.

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## Technology & Innovation Committee

The Technology and Innovation Committee is currently seeking committee members with specific interests in developing projects centered around the following topics that we hope to roll out in 2025. Please contact the Chair-elect Timothy M. Maul, CCP, PhD at [tmaul@elso.org](mailto:tmaul@elso.org) for details or to get involved.

- **How I Do It Webinars:** We are looking to elevate diverse perspectives from our global ELSO Community on your best practices across ECMO related topic areas. We will be scheduling webinars to be held for free via Zoom. so please keep an eye on our social media channels for more information.
  - **Development of a quarterly or semi-annual survey** to global ELSO institutions to assess equipment utilization, new technology hitting the global markets, and impacts of supply chain issues. This data may be incorporated with a new Registry Project to update the 2012-2017 data published in ASAIO in 2021. We would like to publish an update to the way that centers are utilizing technology (circuits and remote monitoring) on a regular basis (every 5 years or so).
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## FELSO

The nomination period for this year's FELSO Awards has ended and applications are currently under review. Thank you to everyone who nominated the ECMOlogist in their life. Recipients to receive their award at the ELSO 2025 conference!

As a reminder, FELSO is the honorary designation recognizing extraordinary contributions to the art and science of ECLS. Applications will receive consideration by the FELSO Nominations Committee. When released, the application will be available [here](#). Self-nominations will not be accepted.

For more information please email [FELSO@elso.org](mailto:FELSO@elso.org)



## ELSO Communities - Real-Time Support & Collaboration on WhatsApp

If you have a question or need advice, please join one of the discussions. Please also contribute your own practices and advice to help your ELSO colleagues.

**New ELSO WhatsApp Communities are now available** including:

- NRP & Ex-Vivo Perfusion
- Ethics
- Innovation in ECLS
- Hypothermia
- Cardiogenic Shock
- ECPR



To join a community visit the ELSO [website](#). You will be required to download WhatsApp on your phone. Communities are designed to be a support for our members that want to connect, collaborate, and support each other on a topic.

## SURVEY ALLEY

### Decision Making for VV ECMO

Please consider participating in this survey for a study seeking information on the decision-making involved in venovenous Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation. The survey uses different scenarios (interchangeable demographics and socioeconomic status of the fictional cases) to determine VV ECMO decision-making. The purpose is to assess factors that impact such decisions.

Primary Survey Contact: Shahla Siddiqui; [ssiddiq4@bidmc.harvard.edu](mailto:ssiddiq4@bidmc.harvard.edu)

Link to Survey: [https://lehigh.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_808zIJPtM2IBGJg](https://lehigh.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_808zIJPtM2IBGJg)

### VA-ECMO distal limb perfusion strategies and techniques

The goal of this survey is to gather insights into institutional practices related to monitoring methods, such as the use of near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) and flow monitoring, as well as the implementation of protocols and guidelines for distal limb perfusion in patients on VA-ECMO.

Primary Survey Contact: Erick McNair; [erick.mcnair@emory.edu](mailto:erick.mcnair@emory.edu)

Link to Survey: <https://redcap.link/4s5g8xhn>

*If you have a survey that you would like us to include in a future edition of the newsletter, please email us at [ELSOnewsletter@elso.org](mailto:ELSOnewsletter@elso.org).*

## BEDSIDE WITH BARTLETT

### *A NOTE ON THE FUTURE OF THE SECTION*



**Robert Bartlett, MD**

Founder, Board of Directors Emeritus  
ELSO Professor Emeritus of Surgery University of Michigan

For many years 'Bedside with Bartlett' has been one of the highlights of the ELSO newsletter, allowing the ECMO community to hear Dr Bartlett's numerous insights into specific clinical problems related to ECMO across every age range, indication, and cannulation strategy. However, Dr Bartlett has now expressed a desire to offer this opportunity to others with expertise and wisdom to share. ELSO is throwing open an invitation to everyone in our community to contribute cases which the authors believe demonstrate an important principle (or two) in ECMO management, whether that is in neonatal, pediatric, or adult patients. We encourage ELSO institutions to submit a brief case history to our new Newsletter section 'Circuit Chatter', to highlight both the principal clinical details and learning points for the community, between 300-700 words. This will then be edited and published.

The deadline for potential submissions will be the last day of every odd-numbered month, i.e., 31st Jan, Mar, May, etc.

Please email [newsletter@elso.org](mailto:newsletter@elso.org) with your cases and teach the community about what you learned!



## CIRCUIT CHATTER

### EDITION 3

**WRITTEN & SUBMITTED BY:**  
**ZHONG-RAN CEN, YING TANG**  
ZHUJIANG HOSPITAL  
GUANGZHOU, CHINA

A 72-year-old woman with severe mitral valve prolapse presented in acute cardiogenic shock complicated by pulmonary edema. She was emergently placed on venoarterial ECMO (VA ECMO) support via a 21 Fr drainage cannula in the right femoral vein (advanced to 42 cm) and a 15 Fr return cannula in the left femoral artery (advanced to 13 cm). Despite a pump speed of 3500 RPM, ECMO flow remained persistently low at approximately 2.2 L/min, insufficient to maintain adequate perfusion. High-dose norepinephrine (0.8 mcg/kg/min) was required to maintain a mean arterial pressure (MAP) of 67 mmHg. and severe tissue hypoperfusion was indicated by a markedly elevated serum lactate level of 13 mmol/L. Bedside transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) confirmed that the venous drainage cannula tip was located within the right atrium. Notably, the inferior vena cava (IVC) measured 1.98 cm in diameter on the subxiphoid long-axis view and showed minimal respiratory collapse, indicating adequate intravascular volume and excluding hypovolemia as the cause for low ECMO flow. However, the exact mechanical cause of the poor ECMO flow remained unclear.

Given the persistent low ECMO flow and clinical deterioration, urgent transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) was performed. TEE revealed the drainage cannula had been advanced too far, pressing against the interatrial septum, thereby occluding the main inlet ports and significantly limiting venous inflow. With ECMO temporarily paused, the venous cannula was repositioned, withdrawing it approximately 1.5 cm under TEE guidance. This immediately resolved the obstruction, restoring appropriate ECMO flow and substantially reducing norepinephrine requirements to 0.3 mcg/kg/min to maintain a stable MAP of 65 mmHg.

Following cannula repositioning, the patient's hemodynamic stability quickly improved, ECMO flow rates increased, and serum lactate rapidly declined from 13 mmol/L to 1.6 mmol/L. No further flow issues occurred during subsequent ECMO support.

This case emphasizes a crucial clinical lesson: Persistent low ECMO flow, despite adequate pump speeds, warrants immediate investigation for cannula malposition or mechanical obstruction. TEE is a powerful diagnostic tool that rapidly identifies hidden mechanical issues, guiding timely interventions to significantly improve patient outcomes.



## ELSO CHAPTER UPDATES: ECMO AROUND THE WORLD

### APELSO



- **APELSO 2025 Conference:** Was held at the Landmark Tower Hotel in Beijing July 10-12, 2025, chaired by Professor Xiaotong Hou. The meeting was a great success with approximately 800 participants from around the world.
- **Upcoming Meeting Locations:** APELSO 2026 Conference will be held June 12-14, 2026 in Tokyo, Japan as a joint conference with the Japanese Society for Therapeutics and Engineering at Hamamatsucho Convention Hall. APELSO 2027 will be held in Bali, Indonesia in June 2027.
- **Revision of APELSO Bylaws:** At the on-site steering committee meeting in Beijing, new bylaws were officially approved by the APELSO Steering Committee and ELSO. New Bylaws start from August 1st, 2025. Nominations are active for the president and president-elect.
- **ECMO Education APELSO-ELSO Collaboration Project:** Led by Dr. Simon Sin and Mr. Ricky Chan, an ECMO simulation course is planned for Malaysia on June 27-28<sup>th</sup>. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Bangkok ECPR course is scheduled for November 2025, organized by Dr. Pranya Sakiyalak.
- **New Treasurer:** Dr. Adrian Matkkee (Brisbane, Australia) was elected at the Steering Committee meeting in June.

Shingo Ichiba, MD, PhD, APELSO Chair

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### LATAM ELSO

Please join us for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual LATAM Conference, being held in San Jose, Costa Rica in November 2026. Up to date news and event information can be found on our website: [elsolatam.net](http://elsolatam.net).

Guillermo Moreno, LATAM ELSO Chair





## ELSO CHAPTER UPDATES: ECMO AROUND THE WORLD

### SWAAC ELSO

**SWAAC ELSO App:** The SWAAC ELSO app is now available, please download it to stay up to date on news and activities.

You can find a list of all ECMO courses in the SWAAC ELSO region through the SWAAC ELSO app including India, Qatar, UAE, South Africa and many more. You can also submit any ECMO course within the SWAAC ELSO region through the app in the add your course section.

You can download the app [here](#).

**2026 SWAAC ELSO Annual Meeting:** Mark your calendar for the next annual meeting which will be in Chennai, India on 5-8th February 2026.

Huda Alfoudri, MD, SWAAC ELSO Chair



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### EuroELSO

- **Steering Committee Nominations:** Open call for new Steering Committee members will begin at the end of August. Please stay tuned for the application!
- **International Course on Neonatal & Pediatric ECMO Transport:** This course in collaboration with the ESPNIC Society is taking place September 10-12, 2025 in Leicester, United Kingdom. More information can be found [here](#).
- **2026 EuroELSO Congress:** The wider faculty and EuroELSO team are delighted to invite you to join us at the next EuroELSO Congress which will be held in Dublin between 6th – 9th May 2026 with the pre-Congress meeting being held on 6th and 7th May. More information can be found on the congress website [here](#).



Mirko Belliato, Chair

## CENTER CERTIFICATION



*"One of the most important things ELSO will do in the future is certify individuals and centers."  
Dr. Robert H. Bartlett, June 2025*

For three years, ELSO has been certifying individual practitioners at the foundational level through the E-AEC and now E-NPEC certification program. We are happy to announce this month that, after two years of hard work with a global Center Certification Task Force of ~50 people representing every ELSO region, ELSO's ECLS Center Certification Program is ready!

Developed by ECMO practitioners, this program is designed to be helpful to any program at any stage of development - long-term centers, to centers that are planning an ECLS program. The [blueprints](#) are organized by level and can be a guide on what ELSO believes programs should have in place.

Our Phase 1 centers will be released in the coming months. A huge thank you to them for their work. Phase 2 is by invitation. Please let us know if you are interested by emailing [centercertification@elso.org](mailto:centercertification@elso.org).



## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REMARKS

### Changing Seasons - Upcoming Gatherings

As August comes to a close, the change in seasons is a time of reflection and anticipation. The passing of summer in the Northern Hemisphere means that Fall is coming. Whichever new season is coming, we hope you have had some time with your family and friends.

As summer fades, it's a reminder that the ELSO Conference is near. The Conference Committee team has been working tirelessly for this year's program featuring more speakers than ever with all chapters pervasive in speakers and content. The reception will be at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History - an evening to remember. We are excited to offer an engaging scientific conference with the latest research and good discussions where debates are beneficial. Speakers and Moderators have been preparing their talks and we cannot wait to be together to share them. If you have not registered yet, please consider joining us and register [here](#).

I must thank John Fraser for having the idea to create a play for voices that Dr. Bartlett could receive and appreciate. Gail Annich led the role assignment effort, to which everyone agreed to record their lines. These voice recordings were edited - a huge lift by Sudeep Chatterjee. It came together beautifully as Dylan Thompson's "Under Milk Wood" - a Welsh play delivered by 75 of Bartlett's friends from around the world. Peter Rycus and I were able to share the play with him. I must share the delight he and Wanda expressed hearing the characters played by friends from around the world. We will release the play soon so all can appreciate this fun initiative that created a lot of joy for the Bartletts.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you soon in Washington, DC. Our theme is "One World, One Mission" - something worthy of a global organization that is at our best when we come together from around the world.

See you soon,

Christine Stead, CEO



# The Extracorporeal Life Support Organization

## Our Mission

Providing global leadership in extracorporeal life support through innovation, advocacy, and advancing knowledge.

## Our Vision

ELSO will be the premier organization for the advancement of extracorporeal life support throughout the world.

## Guiding Principles

### Innovation

Seeking to identify and promote advances for the application of extracorporeal therapies.

### Expertise

Bringing together world leaders in the care of critically ill patients for collaboration to advance quality of care through education and publication.

### Clinical Support

Maintaining a comprehensive registry of data to assist in reducing morbidity and improving survival of patients requiring extracorporeal therapies.

### Community

Fostering communication and collaboration among professionals who apply advanced technologies in the treatment of refractory organ failure.



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For editorial concerns related to this newsletter, please contact [newsletter@elso.org](mailto:newsletter@elso.org).

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