


**PCHF** POSTGRADUATE COURSE  
IN HEART FAILURE  
**LONDON**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

## A NOVEL COURSE IN HEART FAILURE MANAGEMENT


February 2021 to October 2022

Royal Brompton & Harefield   
NHS Foundation Trust

Venue: The Royal Society of Medicine,  
1 Wimpole Street, Marylebone, London, UK

Endorsed by  
British Society for Heart Failure  
British Cardiovascular Society

Based on the curriculum of the ESC Heart Failure Association (HFA)



## COURSE ORGANISATION

### Institutions

Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospital Trust, London  
London Institute of Medical Science  
British Society for Heart Failure  
British Cardiovascular Society

### Course Directors

Thomas F. Lüscher, MD, FRPC, FESC, London, United Kingdom  
Martin Cowie, MD, FRPC, FESC, London, United Kingdom  
Kim Fox, MD, FRCP, FESC, London, United Kingdom  
Richard Grocott-Mason, MD, FRCP, London, United Kingdom  
Shouvik Halder, MD, FACC, London, United Kingdom  
Paul Kalra, MD, MRCP, FRCP, Portsmouth, United Kingdom  
Milton Packer, MD, FACC, Dallas, United States

### Course Organisation

Ruth Amstein, PhD, FESC  
Christine Lohmann

### Advisory Board

A renowned international advisory board will guarantee for a high-quality education integrating the curriculum of the British Society for Heart Failure and the ESC Heart Failure Association. It consists of the following members:

Jeroen J. Bax, MD, FESC, FACC, Leiden, Netherlands  
Michael Böhm, MD, FESC, Homburg/Saar, Germany  
John A. Camm, MD, FRCP, FESC, FACC, London, United Kingdom  
John Cleland, MD, FRCP, FESC, FACC, Glasgow, United Kingdom  
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Bertram Pitt, MD, Ann Arbor, MI, United States  
Dirk van Veldhuisen, MD, FESC, FACC, Groningen, Netherlands

Representatives of the major sponsors (without vote)

## INVITATION

Dear Colleagues,

Heart failure is the end-stage of most forms of heart disease such as hypertension, coronary artery disease and acute myocardial infarction, congenital heart disease, cardiomyopathies and consequently a major cause of morbidity and mortality. This development needs to be appropriately addressed by novel training programmes for medical doctors to develop a professional profile, competent in all aspects of care for patients with acute and/or chronic heart failure.

The London Postgraduate Course in Heart Failure Management (PCHF) is a two-year programme consisting of 6 modules, each module with a 3.5-day duration. The course includes a total of 160 hours of classroom time and 140 hours of self-study, and its successful completion leads to a **Certificate in Heart Failure Management**. Unlike at congresses, the PCHF modules offer interactive sessions between speakers and participants, workshops, rapid fire sessions, live case seminars and ward visits. The course covers all relevant aspects of heart failure such as diagnostic procedures, imaging, pharmacotherapy, devices and mechanical circulatory support systems. The course structure with its hands-on approach enables participants both to improve their clinical skills in diagnostic procedures and increase their therapeutic knowledge.

Considering the broad spectrum of the course, PCHF is clearly one of the most exciting educational experiences in cardiology available today, and it is made possible thanks to a strategic collaboration among academia, professional organisations and industry partners. After highly constructive and encouraging feedbacks from the PCHF courses in Zurich and the present London PCHF course we are delighted to announce a new edition in London in 2021/22.

We look forward to receiving your application and meeting you in London.

With best regards,



Thomas F. Lüscher  
MD, FRPC, FESC



Kim Fox  
MD, FRCP, FESC



Paul Kalra  
MD, MRCP, FRCP



Richard Grocott-Mason  
MD, FRCP



Martin Cowie  
MD, FRCP, FESC



Milton Packer  
MD, FACC



Shouvik Halder  
MD, FACC

## COURSE CONTENT & DATES

### YEAR 1 MAIN TOPICS 2021

#### Module 1 10 -13 February 2021

##### How to Approach Heart Failure

Epidemiology of heart failure: incidence and prevalence, risk factors.  
How to assess HF: clinical signs and symptoms, use of biomarkers, ECG and exercise tests. Comorbidities. Theoretical and practical application of different imaging modalities: Echo, CMR, CT and nuclear techniques.  
Pathophysiology of HF: interpretation of haemodynamic parameters, pump dysfunction. Management of HF in congenital heart disease.

#### Module 2 23-26 June 2021

##### Different Forms of Heart Failure

HF encompasses HFpEF, HFmrEF and HFrfEF according to the classification of the ESC guidelines. Focus on HFpEF, diagnostic procedures and treatments. Comorbidities linked to HFpEF, including dyspnoea, sleep disturbances, depression, obesity, diabetes, hypertension, iron deficiency, atrial fibrillation, gender aspects.  
Different forms of cardiomyopathies, diagnostic techniques and treatments, cardiac amyloidosis. Practical imaging sessions with patient cases in Echo, CMR, CT and Nuclear/PET.

#### Module 3 13-16 October 2021

##### Treatment and Follow-up of Heart Failure

This module focuses on HF with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) and its pathophysiology. Role of the renin angiotensin system, the sympathetic nervous system and related treatment targets: ACE-inhibitors, AT2-antagonists, ARNIs, betablockers, I<sub>f</sub>-channel blockers, mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists, diuretics and digitalis. Pathophysiology of renal injury and the cardiorenal syndrome.  
Arrhythmias in HF, including atrial fibrillation and ventricular tachycardias, guidelines and indications for cardiac resynchronisation therapy (CRT).  
How to read and interpret randomised controlled trials, device trials and registry-based trials in HF. The patient journey in HF.

## YEAR 2 MAIN TOPICS 2022

### Module 4 19–22 January 2022

#### Catheter Ablation and Devices in Heart Failure

Catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation and ventricular tachycardias with live case transmissions or live in-a-box. Tips and tricks for catheter ablation with selected case reports and expert review lectures. Practical training for ICD and CRT implantation in a simulation lab, virtual reality cases from the EP lab, role of wearables and implantable monitors in HF and practical echo optimisation. How to build a successful career, how to become a leader and key rules for scientific publishing.

### Module 5 22–25 June 2022

#### Multidisciplinary Procedures

Emphasis is placed on valve disease in the context of HF: anatomy and imaging of the aortic, mitral and tricuspid valve. Decision making and patient selection for valve interventions. Role of the heart team. Assessment and management of aortic stenosis and functional mitral regurgitation. Live in-a-box demonstrations and ultrasound-guided valvular intervention. Revascularisation strategies in ischemic cardiomyopathy, management of cardiogenic shock including indications for ECMO. Cardio-oncology and cardiotoxic drugs in cancer treatment. Regenerative medicine in HF and stem cell therapy, myocarditis and takotsubo. How to build up a HF clinic.

### Module 6 12–15 October 2022

#### Acute and Advanced Heart Failure

Definition and epidemiology of acute HF, triggers and mechanisms. Classification of acute HF. Prehospital and early management strategies, clinical evaluation and investigation, diagnostic tools and risk markers. Therapies of acute HF including oxygen, ventilatory support, inotropes and vasopressors. Definition of advanced HF including dyspnoea, fluid retention, cardiac dysfunction, impairment of functional capacity. Short-term and long-term mechanical circulatory support. Heart transplantation: indications and timing, immunosuppressive drugs, complications after transplantation. Palliative care.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Course Dates

**YEAR 2021**  
10-13 February, 23-26 June, 13-16 October

**YEAR 2022**  
19-22 January, 22-25 June, 12-15 October

### Course Venues

The Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, Marylebone, London, UK  
Royal Brompton & Harefield Hospitals

### Course Language

The course will be held in English.

### Exams

Each of the modules will be followed by a multiple-choice examination. An examination can be repeated once if the performance is unsatisfactory. The examinations of at least 5 modules will have to be passed successfully to be eligible for certification.

### Course Structure

The London Postgraduate Course in Heart Failure Management (PCHF) is a 2-year course consisting of 6 modules, each module with a 3.5-day duration. The course includes a total of 160 hours of classroom time and 140 hours of self-study, and its successful completion leads to a Certificate in Heart Failure Management.

### Organisation and Project Management

Zurich Heart House  
Ruth Amstein, PhD, FESC  
Hottingerstrasse 14  
CH-8032 Zurich, Switzerland  
Phone: +41 44 250 40 87  
E-mail: ruth.amstein@zhh.ch



## FEES & APPLICATION

### Course Fee

The course fee is GBP 3000. Travel and accommodation costs are not included and will have to be paid on an individual basis.

### Application Procedure

The candidates will be selected by members of the selection committee based on their interest in heart failure as documented in their motivation letter, rotations in a heart failure unit and /or publications in this field. Furthermore, career options in heart failure management, as foreseen by their supervisor, will be taken into consideration. Candidates at the end of their training or junior staff members will have priority among the applicants.

Applicants are asked to submit the following documents in English:

- Curriculum vitae
- List of publications
- Grades of medical school
- Motivation letter
- Recommendation letter of supervisor
- Outline of future career

For additional information regarding the application process, please visit our website: [www.heartfailurecourse.uk](http://www.heartfailurecourse.uk)

February 2021 to  
October 2022  
(6 modules, 3.5 days per module)  
Please submit your application  
ONLINE by October 31, 2020 to:  
[www.heartfailurecourse.uk](http://www.heartfailurecourse.uk)

## AUSPICES AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS

### Under the Auspices of

Royal Brompton and  
Harefield Hospital Trust, London  
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