



Dear ##[Name | First]##,

As we progress through the year, I am continually inspired by the commitment and energy of our global membership. Whether through scientific meetings, educational programs, or research initiatives, the work we do together demonstrates the strength of ILTS as a truly international society.

Partnering with other societies remains central to how we advance our shared goals. These partnerships not only expand the reach of our educational offerings but also foster valuable opportunities for knowledge exchange, innovation, and joint advancement in liver transplantation. From jointly organized meetings to co-hosted webinars, these efforts connect our members with colleagues around the world and amplify the impact of our work.

We are also excited to announce the Call for Proposals to host the ILTS 2028 Annual Congress. This is a unique opportunity to showcase your center, highlight regional expertise, and welcome the ILTS community to your city. I encourage all eligible members to review the RFP and consider submitting a proposal.

In the coming months, we look forward to several key events, including the Perioperative Care in Liver Transplantation meeting in October and our upcoming webinars. We are also preparing for the ILTS 2026 Annual Congress in Geneva, where we will gather as a global community to share the latest advances, collaborate across disciplines, and strengthen our professional network. Your participation plays a vital role in expanding ILTS's reach and impact and in growing our shared expertise in liver transplantation.

Thank you for your dedication, collaboration, and passion for advancing the science and practice of liver transplantation. Together, we will keep pushing the boundaries of innovation and excellence in liver transplantation.

With Warm Regards,



**Valeria R. Mas, MSc, PhD, FAST**  
**President, International Liver Transplant Society**  
University of Maryland School of Medicine  
Baltimore, MD, USA

## Upcoming ILTS Events



Join us at the world's premier Congress on liver transplantation! The **ILTS 2026 Annual Congress** is being held from May 6-9, 2026 in Geneva. More information is coming soon! See you next year.



Please join us on October 10th, 2025 for the **2025 Perioperative Care in Liver Transplantation** meeting jointly organized by the International Liver Transplant Society (ILTS) and the Society for the Advancement of Transplant Anesthesia (SATA). For program information, [click here](#). To register, [click here](#).

## ROBOTIC LIVER TRANSPLANTATION WEBINAR

PRESENT AND FUTURE OF MINIMALLY INVASIVE LIVER TRANSPLANTATION

### Webinar Objectives:


- Explore the latest innovations in robotic liver transplantation with insights from internationally renowned experts.
- Review a clinical case to discuss indications, patient selection, and step-by-step breakdown of the robotic approach.
- Learn key tips and tricks including a focused analysis of the technical challenges and critical pitfalls of the procedure.

Friday September 12, 2025  
9:00 AM (EST)


**FREE  
WEBINAR**

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)


[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)




**SPEAKER**  
**Dr. Mafalda Sobral**  
Case presentation of a robotic whole graft liver transplantation




**SPEAKER**  
**Prof. Dieter Broering**  
Robotic approach in living donor liver transplantation donors "one size fits all?"





**SPEAKER**  
**Prof. Fabrizio Di Benedetto**  
Pros and cons of whole graft robotic transplant



**SPEAKER**  
**Dr. Adeel Kahn**  
Future perspectives and health related costs of robotic transplantation



**MODERATORS**



Dr. Ashwin Rammoohan      Prof. Paolo Magistri

On September 12, 2025, ILTS will host a webinar, **Robotic Liver Transplantation: Present and future of minimally invasive liver transplantation**. This webinar is free to the public, and it will be on-demand for ILTS members on ILTS University. For more information, [click here](#). To register, [click here](#).

### Webinar Presentations:

- Case presentation of a robotic whole graft liver transplantation - Dr Mafalda Sobral (Portugal)
- Robotic approach in living donor liver transplantation donors "one size fits all?" - Prof. Dieter Broering (Saudi Arabia)
- Pros and cons of whole graft robotic transplant - Prof. Fabrizio Di Benedetto (Italy)
- Future perspectives and health related costs of robotic transplantation - Dr Adeel Kahn (US)

[View All Events](#)

## ILTS Society News

### ILTS President Awarded Prestigious AST Award

We are proud to announce that Dr. Valeria Mas, ILTS President, has earned the AST [Basic Science Established Investigator Award at the 2025 World Transplant Congress](#). This prestigious award recognizes Professors who have made significant scientific contributions and are recognized as experts in the field of transplantation.

Dr. Mas' impactful research and visionary leadership continue to elevate ILTS and inspire our global community. We are grateful for her vision, commitment, and the inspiration she brings to our community. Join us in celebrating this well-deserved honor!



### **Call for Local Convenors: Bring ILTS 2028 Annual Congress to Your City**

The International Liver Transplantation Society (ILTS) is pleased to announce the official Call for Proposals to host the ILTS 2028 Annual Congress. We invite academic and clinical liver transplant centers to consider serving as the Local Convenor and host institution for this impactful meeting. This is a unique opportunity to bring the ILTS community to your city, highlight your center's contributions to the field, and foster collaboration and knowledge exchange on a global stage. Proposals must be submitted by a current ILTS member willing to serve as Local Convenor. The RFP can be found [here](#), and it includes all guidelines, evaluation criteria, and submission requirements. The deadline for proposals is **October 31, 2025** (11:59 PM CET).

### **ILTS Committees Welcome New Members**



We are delighted to introduce the newest members of our ILTS Committees. Each brings valuable expertise and dedication to advancing the society's mission.

**Anesthesia & Critical Care**

- Dr. Ecaterina Scarlatescu, Fundeni Clinical Institute, Spain

**Basic & Translational Research**

- Dr. Jiang Liu – The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam, Hong Kong

**Education & Scholarship**

- Dr. Ryan Chadha – Mayo Clinic Florida, Jacksonville, FL, USA
- Dr. Sencan Acar – Istanbul Florence Nightingale Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey

**Membership & Communications**

- Prof. Simone Strasser – Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, NSW; The University of Sydney, Australia

**Pathology**

- Dr. Iram Siddiqui – The Hospital For Sick Children, Toronto Canada
- Dr. Maha Guindi – Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA USA
- Dr. Romil Saxena – Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, USA

**Pediatrics**

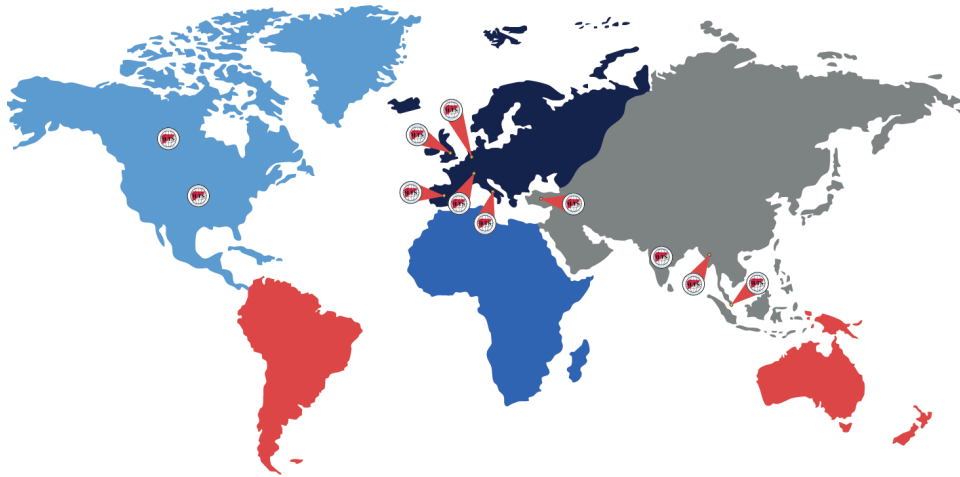
- Dr. Sergio Assia-Zamora – King's College Hospital London, United Kingdom
- Dr. Stefania Camagni – ASST Papa Giovanni XXIII, Bergamo, Italy

Please join us in welcoming them to their roles, where they will contribute their expertise, passion, and leadership through Congress 2028.

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**ILTS Committee Spotlight: Vanguard Committee**

The ILTS Vanguard Committee's mission is to promote the participation of younger members of the liver transplant community in all ILTS activities, and to guide the society in responding to their educational and professional needs. The committee advocates for the unique needs of trainees and junior faculty (professionals under 42 or within five years of training), and it encourages their involvement in all ILTS initiatives, including webinars, podcasts, journal reviews, grants, awards, and networking events. Representing 12 different countries across North America, Europe, India, and Asia, the Vanguard Committee embodies the truly global nature of ILTS. It is currently led by Ashwin Rammohan (Chair), Abdul Rahman Hakeem (Vice Chair), Ryan Chadha (Past Chair), and Wojtek Polak (Affiliated Council).



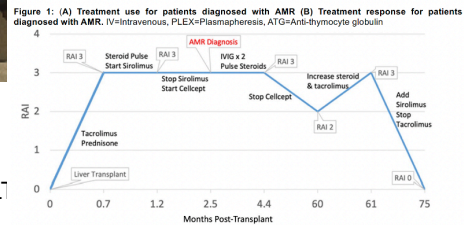
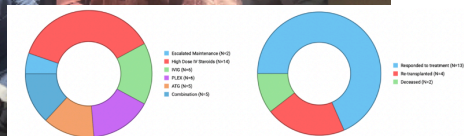
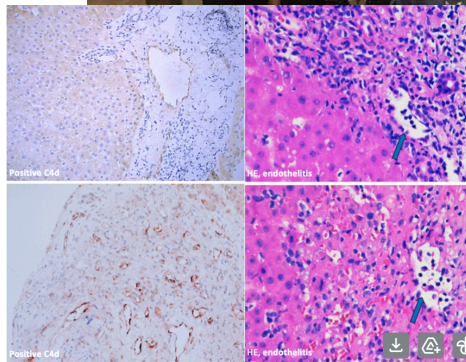
Over the past year, the Vanguard Committee has achieved a great deal. They produced several educational podcasts, including a podcast on the [reSOFT score](#) and their ongoing [Article of the Month](#) series available on Spotify. They also partnered with ILTS SIGs to deliver joint webinars, including collaborations with the [Transplant Oncology SIG](#) and the [Liver Failure Syndromes SIG](#) (formerly ALF). The Vanguard Committee will also host an upcoming free [webinar](#) on robotic liver transplantation scheduled for September 12, 2025. . In collaboration with the EDI Committee, the Vanguard Committee launched our successful [ILTS Global Liver Transplant Mentorship Program](#). The committee played a leading role in the Living Donor Consensus Conference, with publications forthcoming. They also organized highly engaging Vanguard sessions at the 2024 and 2025 ILTS Congresses, including cases, debates, surgical videos, posters, and symposia, with the 2024 symposium on critical HCC now submitted as a White Paper to *Liver Transplantation*. Their achievements this year continue to mount as the Vanguard Committee advanced its long-running Articles of the Week series, contributed the What We Are Reading section in our newsletters, relaunched the Vanguard Grant in 2025 with ExCo support, and maintained strong involvement in mentorship, education, and scholarship efforts. Ready to explore some of the Vanguard Committee's contributions? As an ILTS member, you can log in to your [ILTS University](#) profile to access their podcasts, literature, and webinars.



The Vanguard Committee's impact is also reflected in individual achievements. Marta Tejedor spearheaded the innovative Metabolic Health in Motion initiative as well as a [5K fundraiser](#), which will support the 2026 Vanguard Research Grant. Beth Wilson made significant progress on [intraoperative factors of IRE](#) through her Vanguard Grant project, leading to important academic contributions.

Testimonials from members highlight the career-shaping value of the Vanguard Committee. As Past Chair Ryan Chadha shared: *"The ILTS Vanguard Committee has set me up for a successful career in academic liver transplantation. Because of the ability to connect me to experts in the field and to work with some of the greatest young minds in surgery, hepatology, and anesthesia and critical care, I have gotten involved in numerous initiatives and have grown my scope of academic inquiry to great lengths. Special thanks to my first chair, Prashant Bhangui, who has guided me on how to navigate societal work and progression into leadership roles."*

The Vanguard Committee remains a vital force in nurturing the next generation of leaders in liver transplantation. Learn more about the Vanguard Committee [here](#).



The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee Recruitment Survey aims to gather insights on global compensation trends among liver transplant professionals. Your input will help shape future research, advocacy, and policies that promote a fairer and more inclusive work environment.

We are grateful to have received this investment from ILTS in our trainee, Dr. Khalessi, a pediatric gastroenterology fellow at CHLA, and our project investigating antibody mediated rejection (AMR). AMR is one of the most challenging complications in our pediatric liver transplant recipients, and completing this project will help Dr. Khalessi build her skills in computational immunology with a strong linkage to her patients.

The Global Allied Health Professional Survey seeks to define the roles, education, training, and scope of practice for AHPs working in liver transplantation worldwide.



### New to ILTS University (ILTS Members Only)

- Literature: [ILTS Journal Club Commentary on:](#) *Safety and efficacy of simultaneous liver transplantation and sleeve gastrectomy in morbid obese patients with end-stage liver disease: The LT-SG study. Liver*
- Literature: [ILTS Journal Club Commentary on:](#) *Impaired whole blood thrombin generation is associated with procedure-related bleeding in acutely decompensate cirrhosis*

## Partner Events



### INASL 2025, 33rd Annual Conference

The Indian National Association For Study of The Liver invites you to INASL 2025, which will be held from August 7-10, 2025 at The LaLiT, IT Park, Chandigarh, India. Register [here](#).



### 7th World Congress of iLDLTG

The 7th World Congress of the International Living Donor Liver Transplantation Group (iLDLTG), joint meeting with 7th Oriental Congress of Organ Transplant, will be taking place October 17-19, 2025, in Shanghai, China. [Click here](#) for more information.



### The Liver Meeting 2025

AASLD invites you to attend The Liver Meeting 2025, which will be held in Washington D.C. November 7-11, 2025. [Click here](#) for more information.





### 5K Fundraiser: ILTS Vanguard Research Grant

Lace up your shoes (or cheer from afar!) for this [5K Race](#), raising funds to support the ILTS Vanguard Grant, an award that fuels innovative research and advances in liver transplantation. The race will take place in Iowa, bringing together colleagues and friends for a morning of movement, camaraderie, and purpose. Every step taken supports early-career professionals who are making a difference in our field.

Can't attend in person? You can still be part of the impact. Donate to the race and the Vanguard Grant directly [here](#). Your contribution, no matter the size, helps fund groundbreaking projects and nurture the next generation of leaders in liver transplantation.

Run it, walk it, or support it with a click. Every action brings us closer to our goal.

## What We're Reading

Article selections by A Mi Mi Kyaw, Kenan Moral, Daniel Aliseda, Tommy Ivanics, Ryan Chadha, Abdul Rahman Hakeem, and Ashwin Rammohan.

### HEPATOLOGY

American Journal of TRANSPLANTATION

#### **Association between everolimus combination therapy and cancer risk after liver transplantation: A nationwide population-based quasi-cohort study**

**Abstract:** The potential of everolimus (EVR) in reducing hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) among recipients following liver transplantation has been reported. This nationwide

population-based quasi-cohort study investigated whether combining EVR with calcineurin inhibitor therapy affects the risk of HCC and extrahepatic cancers compared to a time duration-matched cohort of recipients not receiving EVR. Using data covering the entire population from Korea, liver transplant recipients who had initiated immunosuppressants between June 2015 and February 2020 were included, and divided into 2 groups: the EVR combination and noncombination groups. We calculated adjusted hazard ratios (aHRs) and absolute risk reduction for the risk of HCC and extrahepatic cancer with EVR combination therapy using a Cox regression model. [Read more...](#)

#### Liver Transplantation

##### **Short- and long-term development of gut microbiota in children after liver transplantation – a prospective observational trial**

**Abstract:** In children, little is known on gut microbiota (GM) in end-stage liver disease and its association with graft function after pediatric liver transplantation (pLT). We analyzed GM composition and function in children before pLT, longitudinally post-pLT and in long-term survivors (LT-pLT) in order to assess the impact of disease severity, treatment and pLT on GM and delineate associations with graft and patient health. Fecal samples (FS) of 29 children (17f, age 2.6 [0.2-15.7] years) awaiting pLT were included with longitudinal follow-ups until 12M post-transplant in 18, and compared with 38 LT-pLT (21f, age 11 [2.7-17.7] years, 7.8 [1.0-17.0] years post-pLT) and 94 healthy controls (HC). Samples were analyzed using quantitative 16S rRNA gene analyses combined with shotgun metagenomics (subset of samples). Pre-pLT patients showed reduced alpha-diversities and altered GM composition compared with LT-pLT and HC, associated with disease severity and anti-pruritic treatment with Rifampicin. Dysbiosis increased after pLT and started to recover after 3M. Although bacterial concentrations, alpha diversity and gene richness increased post-pLT, levels remained below those of HC. [Read more...](#)

#### Journal of Liver Transplantation

##### **The Impact of Functional Status on Post-Liver Transplant Outcomes in Acute-On-Chronic Liver Failure**

**Background and aims:** Acute-on-Chronic Liver Failure (ACLF) is a severe condition where liver transplantation is often the only definitive treatment. Previous studies have shown an influence of functional status on post-transplant outcomes in patients with advanced chronic liver disease. However, the impact of functional status on outcomes in an ACLF cohort is largely unknown.

**Methods:** The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) Standard Transplant Analysis and Research (STAR) Database was utilized to study LT patients between 1987 and 2019. Patients were categorized by ACLF grades and further divided within each grade based on their level of assistance—no, some, or total—using KPS scores. The primary outcomes assessed were graft failure and all-cause mortality post-transplant. The secondary outcomes assessed were mortality secondary to specific organ system failures. [Read more...](#)

#### SURGERY



## Liver Transplantation

### **Management of hepatic artery thrombosis and stenosis after pediatric liver transplantation: Variability and agreement in management practices**

**Background:** Guidelines for managing hepatic artery thrombosis (HAT) and stenosis (HAS) after pediatric liver transplantation (pLT) are lacking, with heterogeneous local practices.

**This study aims to evaluate management practices for HAT and HAS after pLT.**

**Methods:** An online and paper-based survey was sent to 36 international pLT centers. The survey included 36 questions covering center experience, screening protocols, diagnostic criteria, preventive management, post-procedural care, and follow-up. Treatment strategies were explored through hypothetical case scenarios categorized by early ( $\leq 14$  d after pLT) and late onset complications ( $> 14$  d after pLT). [Read more...](#)

## Annals of Surgery

### **Fully Robotic Left Lobe Donor Hepatectomy Is Safer Compared to Open**

**Objective:** To compare the outcomes of fully robotic versus open left lobe donor hepatectomies, focusing on donor safety.

**Background:** Right lobe hepatectomies are traditionally preferred for adult liver transplants due to their larger graft size but may involve increased risks for donors. Left lobe hepatectomies are considered safer for donors but are less commonly used due to concerns about the small-for-size syndrome in adult settings.

**Methods:** We conducted an analysis of 339 living liver donors from a prospectively maintained registry at a single institution from November 2011 to June 2023, comparing 72 open and 267 robotic left lobe hepatectomies. Primary outcomes included donor complication rates until hospital discharge, whereas secondary outcomes focused on hospital stay and recipient complications. [Read more...](#)

## Pediatric Transplantation

### **Outcomes of Liver Transplantation in Patients With Congenital Heart Disease and Biliary Atresia. A Multicenter Analysis**

**Introduction:** Congenital heart disease (CHD) frequently coexists with noncardiac malformations. Among which, biliary atresia (BA) occurs in approximately 5%–15% of patients. Despite this, outcomes of liver transplantation (LT) in patients with CHD and BA remain unknown.

**Methods:** A retrospective review of the Pediatric Health Information System (PHIS) database from January 1, 2004 to October 30, 2023. All patients who underwent LT and had a diagnosis of BA were included. Multiorgan transplants were excluded. International Classification of Diseases 9th and 10th editions were utilized to identify patients with a diagnosis consistent with CHD. [Read more...](#)

## ANESTHESIA AND CRITICAL CARE

## Liver Transplantation

### **The incidence of severe complications in liver donation from living donors: Real-world data in the era of minimally invasive surgery**

Background: Although the living liver donor safety is a fundamental principle in living-donor liver transplantation (LDLT), the details of severe complications that require re-operation or intensive care is not well understood. Therefore, in this study, we summarize those events in liver donation and investigate the difference in complication rate between open and laparoscopic/robotic approach in the era of minimally invasive surgery (MIS).  
Methods: We collected the case report forms of donor Clavien-Dindo grade IIIb, IV, and V complications between January 2013 to December 2022 from 16 institutions in the Vanguard Multicenter Study of the International Living Donor Liver Transplantation Group. We then analyzed the difference in complication rate between open and MIS (laparoscopic/robotic) approach. [Read more...](#)

#### Clinical Transplantation

##### **The Liver Transplant Anesthesiology Fellowship Training Paradigm Across the United States: Looking for the Next Steps in Quality Education**

Background: Liver transplant anesthesia is a growing nonaccredited subspecialty. Although educational milestones and core competencies for training are published, there is a lack of research into how training is delivered to prepare fellows for independent practice.  
Methods: In September 2020, the fellowship directors at all 19 training programs across the United States known to the Society for the Advancement of Transplant Anesthesia (SATA) were surveyed regarding their programs' educational management processes. [Read more...](#)

#### Liver Transplantation

##### **Perioperative and postoperative analgesic strategies in live donor hepatectomy: A national survey**

Abstract: Donor safety is of paramount importance in live donor hepatectomy, and acute pain is the most frequent complaint reported by donors. There are various approaches to managing perioperative and postoperative pain following live donor hepatectomy. These include the administration of opioid and nonopioid analgesics and neuraxial, regional, and local anesthesia. However, there is limited data on the practice patterns of pain management for live donor hepatectomy, particularly when comparing left and right lobe hepatectomies. A national electronic survey was administered to active living donor liver transplant centers in the United States, identified via the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network directory. The survey focused on demographics, perioperative and postoperative pain management strategies, and differences in pain management practices based on left versus right lobe hepatectomies and surgical approach. [Read more...](#)

**Please help us bring the liver transplant community together.**

***Forward this to your colleagues!***



# INTERNATIONAL LIVER TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY

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