

WMI

Cardio-prenatal Conference

19-20th of June, 2026

- Form: hybrid
- Place: The Mazovian University in Płock

Conference agenda

- More information

www.kardioprenatal.mazowiecka.edu.pl

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POLSKIE TOWARZYSTWO
KARDIOLOGII PRENATALNEJ



UNIWERSYTET JAGIELLOŃSKI
COLLEGIUM MEDICUM



Ministerstwo Nauki
i Szkolnictwa Wyższego



Projekt dofinansowany ze środków budżetu państwa, przyznanych przez Ministra Nauki w ramach Programu „Wektory Nauki”.

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the international scientific conference “Cardio-Prenatal”, which will take place on 19–20 June 2026 at the Mazovian University in Płock. The conference will provide a comprehensive presentation of scientific achievements in the field of fetal cardiology and will create a platform for the exchange of views among specialists in this medical discipline from Poland and abroad. It will also be an opportunity for young researchers to have direct contact with global leaders in fetal cardiology—individuals who are shaping contemporary medicine in this field. An important aspect of the event will be the popularization of science and fetal cardiology topics, as well as strengthening its position in Poland. The event is addressed not only to physicians, but also to scientific societies and other academic institutions.

Congenital heart defects are the most common congenital malformations, both in newborns and fetuses. They are estimated to occur three times more often in fetuses than in newborns, affecting approximately 2–3 cases per 100 pregnancies. Over the past 10 years, the rate of prenatal detection of congenital heart defects has been steadily increasing each year. Currently, in Poland, according to the data from the National Registry of Fetal Cardiac Pathologies (ORPKP), the detection rate is around 40%, which places Poland at the European average level of 25–28%.

There is still much to be done to improve prenatal detection rates; however, the approximately 1,200 pregnancies in which fetal heart defects are diagnosed annually require the highest standards of care, based on the latest achievements of Polish and international medicine. Fetal cardiology is one of the youngest medical disciplines and was officially recognized by the Ministry of Health in 2023, included in the Regulation of 13 June 2023 on professional competencies as one of 57 medical skills available to physicians specializing in pediatric cardiology, neonatology, obstetrics and gynecology, and radiology and imaging diagnostics.

Poland is one of the world leaders in the diagnosis and treatment of congenital heart defects, and one of the main centers dealing with this issue is the Polish Mother’s Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Łódź. For nearly 35 years, it has been the only hospital in Poland combining perinatology, obstetrics, pediatric cardiology, and cardiac surgery within one institution. It is also the leading national center for fetal cardiology and the only hospital providing comprehensive care for newborns with congenital heart defects requiring treatment. Furthermore, it is the only center in Poland capable of providing immediate interventional treatment in the first hours and days of life in cases of critical heart defects.

The conference will emphasize interdisciplinary cooperation with clinical psychologists, highlighting the psychological burden of prenatal diagnosis of severe fetal conditions and the need for appropriate communication, education, and emotional support for patients and their families.

Prof. Maciej Słodki
Rector
The Mazovian University in Płock

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Conference Agenda

Friday 19th of June, 2026

9.00–9.30 – The Conference Opening Ceremony

9.30 – 11.10 - Plenary Session I

(English-language session with simultaneous translation)

Session Chairs: Prof. Giuseppe Rizzo, Prof. Iwona Maroszyńska, Prof. Krzysztof Filipiak

9.30 – 9.50 – ***Congenital heart diseases risk stratification classification - different places, the same idea*** - prof. Maciej Słodki, Faculty of Medicine, The Mazovian University in Płock, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

9.50 – 10.10 – ***Outcomes of critical congenital heart disease requiring emergent neonatal cardiac intervention*** - prof. Jay Pruetz, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Division of Cardiology, Fetal Cardiology Program, Keck School of Medicine of USC, Los Angeles

10.10 – 10.30 – ***Which congenital heart diseases are the most important for fetal cardiologist and neonatologist*** - prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska. Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute, Lodz, Poland

10.30 – 10.50 – ***Advances in interdisciplinary care for term and preterm neonates with congenital heart disease*** - dr Alyssa Thomas, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

10.50 – 11.10 – ***Prenatal ultrasound and neonatal skin - is there any link?*** - prof. Zbigniew Ruszczak, Sheik Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE

11.10 – 11.40 – Coffee break

11.40 – 13.20 Plenary Session II

(English-language session with simultaneous translation)

Session Chairs: Prof. Jay Pruetz, Prof. Alyssa Thomas, Prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska

11.40 – 12.00 – ***Fetal Cardiac function before labor*** - prof. Giuseppe Rizzo, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

12.00 – 12.20 – ***Fetal Cardiac function in fetal growth restriction fetuses*** - prof. Ilena Mappa. Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

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12.20 – 12.40 – **Fetal Cardiac function in twin to twin syndrome therapy** - prof. Krzysztof Preis, State Integrated Hospital in Torun, Poland

12.40 – 13.00 - **Tetralogy of Fallot - how to improve detection in screening tests and how to determine prognostic factors** - prof. Marcin Wiecheć, Jagiellonian University in Cracow, MWU DOBRE USG Center of Ultrasound Diagnostics, Cracow, Poland

13.00 – 13.20 - **Artificial intelligence in fetal cardiac screening** - dr Agnieszka Nocuń, MWU DOBRE USG Center of Ultrasound Diagnostics, Cracow, Poland

13.20 – 13.30 - Discussion

13.30 - 14.30 – Lunch

14.30 – 16.30 Plenary Session III

(Polish-language session)

Session Chairs: Prof. Katarzyna Januszewska, Prof. Marcin Wiecheć, Prof. Krzysztof Preis

14.30 – 14.50 – **How prenatal diagnostics has changed the care of a newborn with a congenital heart defect** - prof. Iwona Maroszyńska, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

14.50 – 15.10 – **Evaluation of the fetal heart by obstetrician – what has to be shown in routine second trimester scanning** - prof. Mariusz Dubiel, The Mazovian University in Plock, Poland

15.10 – 15.30 – **Genetic testing and fetal heart defects – when is it worth it?** - dr Tomasz Roszkowski, Institute of Mother and Child, Warsaw, Poland

15.30 – 15.50 – **Ventricular disproportion during routine third trimester screening** - prof. Anna Wójtowicz, Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland

15.50 – 16.10 – **Fetal heart in pregnancies complicated by maternal diabetes mellitus - current state of knowledge** - Paweł Stanirowski MD, PhD, Medical University of Warsaw, Poland

16.10 – 16.30 – **Psychological Aspects of Prenatal Diagnosis of Congenital Heart Disease** - Karolina Kałużna MA., Central Teaching Hospital of the Medical University of Lodz, Poland

16.30 – 17.00 – Coffee break

17.00 – 17.45 Plenary Session IV

(Multimedia Clinical Case Presentation)

Session Chairs: Prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska, Prof. Edward Malec Prof. Iwona Strzelecka

17.00 – 17.15 – *From prenatal to pediatric cardiology: critical pulmonary stenosis/atresia, pulmonary valve atresia, cardiac tumor*

17.15 – 17.30 – *The Time-Critical Heart*

17.30 – 17.45 – *Little Heroes, Big Hearts: From Prenatal to Pediatric Cardiology*

17:45 – Closing of Day One. Summary

20.00 – Gala dinner

Saturday 20th of June, 2026

9.00 – 9.30 - Students session

Session Chairs: Prof. Maciej Słodki, Prof. Iwona Strzelecka

1. Oliwia Plaskota, Małgorzata Sędkak: 2nd-year students in the Midwifery program at the Medical University of Lublin, Student Research Club of Midwifery Enthusiasts at the Medical University of Lublin, National Student Scientific Forum on Prenatal Cardiology “Midwives’ Competencies in the Early Identification of Pregnant Women at Risk for Fetal Heart Defects”

Thesis advisors: Anna Pilewska-Kozak, Ph.D., Prof. at the Medical University of Lublin
Monika Wójtowicz-Marzec, Ph.D.

2. Ludwika Mucha: 3rd-year student, Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Physical Therapy, Medical University of Lodz, Student Research Club of Prenatal Cardiology, National Student Scientific Forum of Prenatal Cardiology

“Fetal/neonatal heart tumor operated on during a cesarean section”

Thesis advisors: Prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska, MD, PhD

Iwona Strzelecka, PhD, Professor at the Medical University of Lodz

3. Patrycja Bujnowicz: 2nd-year student, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University of Lodz, Student Research Club of Prenatal Cardiology, National Student Scientific Forum of Prenatal Cardiology

“Vascular ring detected before birth – a case report”

Thesis advisors: Prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska, MD, PhD

Iwona Strzelecka, PhD, Professor at the Medical University of Lodz

4. **Marta Podlasińska:** 3rd-year student, Faculty of Medicine, The Mazovian University in Płock, National Student Scientific Forum on Prenatal Cardiology
“Complex heart defect—a case of HLHS with interrupted aortic arch”

Thesis advisors: Prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska, MD, PhD

Iwona Strzelecka, PhD, Professor at the Medical University of Lodz

5. **Kacper Ostrowski:** 3rd-year student, Faculty of Medicine, The Mazovian University in Płock, National Student Scientific Forum on Prenatal Cardiology
Case report

Thesis advisors: Prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska, MD, PhD

Iwona Strzelecka, PhD, Professor at the Medical University of Lodz

10.00 – 11.30 - Plenary session V

Fetal d-TGA session - are we done yet or is it still a challenge?

Session Chairs: Prof. Anna Wójtowicz, Dr Agnieszka Nocuń, Prof. Mariusz Dubiel

10.00 - 10.15 – ***A 10-year experience of a tertiary referral prenatal cardiology center in the management of fetal d-TGA*** - stud. Aleksandra Moszura, Prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

10.15 – 10.30 – ***Can restriction of the foramen ovale be reliably diagnosed in a fetus with dd-TGA and what is its clinical significance?*** - prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

10.15 – 10.30 – ***Evolution of surgical treatment of d-TGA to date*** - prof. Katarzyna Januszewska, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

10.30 – 10.45 - ***Can d-TGA be surgically corrected after birth without performing a Rashkind procedure?*** - prof. Andrii Kurkevych, Ukrainian Children's Cardiac Center, Kyiv, Ukraine

10.45 – 11.00 - ***When the great vessels are correctly positioned but the chambers of the heart are transposed*** - Oskar Sylwestrzak MD, PhD, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

11.00 – 11.15 - ***Prenatal non-diagnosis of fetal d-TGA: physician-related error or a limitation of the healthcare system?*** - Iwona Strzelecka, PhD, Prof. at the Medical University of Lodz

11.15 - 11.30 Discussion

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee break

Plenary Session VI Case reports. Part I

(English-language session with simultaneous translation)

Session Chairs: Prof. Giuseppe Rizzo, Prof. Ilena Mappa, Prof. Andrii Kurkevych

11.45 - 11.55 - **Maternal hyperoxygenation test in fetal cardiac disproportion** - Oskar Sylwestrzak MD, PhD, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

11.55 - 12.05 - **Absent fetal cavum septum pellucidum** - Konrad Szmyt PhD, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

12.05 – 12.15 - **Fetal cardiac tumors treated with sirolimus-tertiary perinatal center experience** - Jan Modzelewski PhD, Center of Postgraduate Medical Education, Warsaw, Poland

12.15 – 12.25 - **Fetal hypothyroidism with secondary cardiovascular insufficiency** - Paweł Bartnik PhD, Medical University of Warsaw, Poland

12.25 – 12.35 - **Twin Reversed Arterial Perfusion with d-TGA** - Grzegorz Napiórkowski, PhD, Medical University of Warsaw, Poland

12.35 – 12.45 - **Fetal double outlet right ventricle** - Daniel Boroń, PhD, Poznan University of Medical Sciences

12.45 – 13.00 Discussion

13.00 – 13.10 Break

Plenary Session VII Case reports. Part II

(English-language session with simultaneous translation)

Session Chairs: Prof. Jay Pruetz, Prof. Alyssa Thomas, Prof. Maciej Słodki

13.10 – 13.20 - **Unusual extracardiac anomaly associated with functional cardiac changes in a fetus** - Julia Rochatka PhD, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

13.20 – 13.30 - **Symptomatic fetal intra-abdominal cyst** - Jerzy Węgrzynowski PhD, Zdroje Hospital, Szczecin, Poland

13.30 – 13.40 - **Fetal conotruncal defect- diagnostic "pitfalls"** - Łukasz Sokołowski PhD, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz

13.40 – 13.50 - **Cantrell pentalogy** - Marek Blitek PhD, Obstetrical Outpatient Clinic, Żory, Poland

13.50 – 14.00 - **The outcomes of a newborn with congenital pulmonary valve stenosis and congenital diaphragmatic hernia** - Łucja Biały PhD, Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute in Lodz, Poland

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14:00 Discussion and closing ceremony: Prof. Maria Respondek-Liberska, Prof. Alyssa Thomas, Prof. Ilena Mappa, Prof. Jay Pruetz, Prof. Giuseppe Rizzo, Prof. Zbigniew Ruszczak, Prof. Andrii Kurkevycz, Prof. Maciej Słodki

14.30 - Lunch

The organizers reserve the right to change the titles and the order of the presentations.

Place of the Conference

The Mazovian University in Płock

Auditorium, 2 Dąbrowskiego Sq, Płock

Conference rooms, Starzyński Hotel, 1 Piekarska St, Płock

Registration

Participant registration is available online via the website www.kardioprenatal.mazowiecka.edu.pl

Participation in the Conference

Full fee: PLN 300 for participation in the conference. The fee includes conference materials and catering. Reduced fee for residents: PLN 250.

The conference will be recorded and made available online after the event on the conference website. The recording will include Polish subtitles, which will facilitate understanding of English-language lectures and improve accessibility for people with disabilities

Conference objectives

The aim of the project is to strengthen the position of the Mazovian University in Płock, which in 2023 launched medical studies, through the promotion of one of the more challenging fields of medicine, namely fetal cardiology. The Mazovian University in Płock is one of the youngest academic institutions, and an important aspect of its functioning is active participation in national and international academic life. The implementation of the project will enable contact with representatives of other research centers, which is crucial for enhancing the university's reputation and supporting the professional development of its staff. The opportunity to invite experts from larger and more recognized centers will improve the visibility and prestige of the university, contributing to its further development and to the improvement of the level of research and education. Establishing cooperation between the Mazovian University in Płock, the Polish Mother's Memorial Hospital Research Institute, and other leading medical universities in Poland will allow the institution to gain not only new experience but also to present itself as a well-prepared institution for medical education. The conference will provide a comprehensive presentation of scientific achievements in the field of fetal cardiology and create a platform for the exchange of

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views among specialists from this medical discipline from Poland and abroad. Informal discussions will help strengthen relationships, establish contacts, and discuss the possibility of further cooperation with representatives of leading centers from the United States and Europe. It will also be an opportunity for young researchers to have direct contact with global leaders in fetal cardiology—individuals who are shaping contemporary medicine in this field.

Planned outcomes

1. Comparison and summary of current scientific achievements of Polish and international research centers in the field of fetal cardiology, as well as identification of areas requiring further research and observation.
2. For students and young researchers starting their careers, participation in the conference and the opportunity to present their own research provides a chance to build initial scientific output and earn points that increase their prospects in applications for doctoral studies, internships, scholarships, grants, etc. The participation of outstanding students and doctoral candidates is planned.
3. Opportunity to gain new experience and attempt to implement it both in clinical practice and in the education of future physicians.
4. A video recorded during the conference and made available after the event may serve as supplementary educational material for use in teaching medical students. An important aspect of the event is the popularization of science and fetal cardiology topics, as well as strengthening its position in Poland. The event is aimed not only at physicians but also at scientific societies and other universities.

Contact

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