



EACTS
European Association For Cardio-Thoracic Surgery

FRANCIS FONTAN FUND INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP PACK

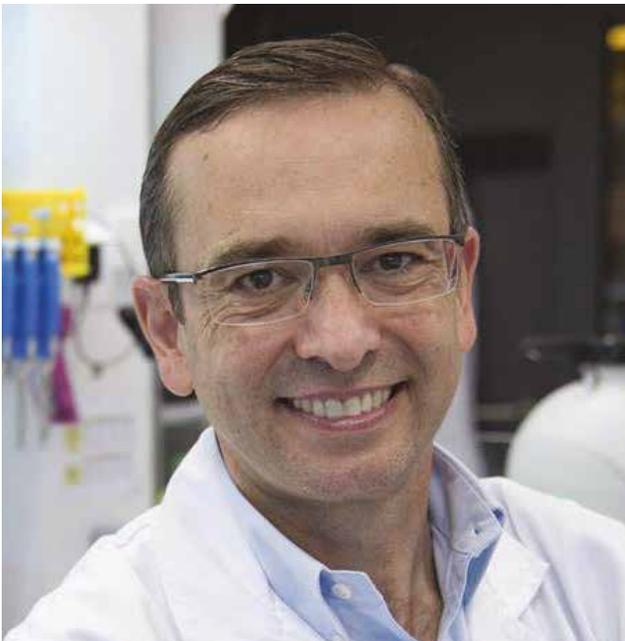


INTRODUCTION

The Francis Fontan Fund for Education supports surgical education, fosters professional development and strengthens the global cardiothoracic community through increased knowledge share.

Our mission is to create a global community sharing and learning from the highest standards of cardiothoracic care.

Message from the Chairman of the Francis Fontan Fund, Professor Rafa Sadaba



Francis Fontan was a pioneering cardiac surgeon, best known for creating the revolutionary Fontan procedure. Passionate about lifelong learning, Fontan founded the European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgery to advance education in the field of Cardio-Thoracic and vascular interventions. The Francis Fontan Fund was created in his honour, with the intention of continuing his work of facilitating lifelong learning.

The Fund currently supports seven different Fellowships (each consisting of up to eight Fellows), specialising in a wide breadth of cardiothoracic techniques. These Fellowships take place in institutions from all around the world, including Europe, the USA and China, and are open to applications from all countries.

Many of our Fellowships are supported by industry donors, and include specialist courses run by both EACTS and our industry partners. We are excited to now be able to offer more companies the opportunity to sponsor a Fellowship; supporting our goal of creating a global community of cardiothoracic surgeons that are able to share and learn from each other.

It is my honour to serve as Chairman of the Francis Fontan Fund and I have had the pleasure of witnessing nearly 50 young surgeons complete the Fellowship scheme. The work of the Francis Fontan Fund would not be possible without industry donors. Their commitment to surgical education and constant improvement means that we are able to provide Fellows with the opportunity to learn life-saving new techniques in their institution; emerging from the Fellowship with skills, techniques and supportive professional networks that they could not have gained in any other way.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rafa Sadaba', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

THE FRANCIS FONTAN FUND FELLOWSHIP SCHEME

We offer three categories of Fellowship.

1. RESEARCH

To support surgeons who wish to engage in current research within cardiothoracic community.

MSTCVS Quality and Outcomes

This Fellowship takes place in the University of Michigan and gives Fellows the opportunity to work alongside the world-leading multidisciplinary team focused on quality improvement for adult cardiac and general thoracic surgery patients in the Michigan area.

The Fellowship, offered with a grant award of up to €20,000 (four months) or €30,000 (six months), will provide the successful candidate with an in-depth understanding of cardiothoracic surgical outcomes with one of the world's leading quality improvement teams.

2. LEADERSHIP

To support surgeons who aspire to leadership roles in cardiothoracic surgery.

Atrial Fibrillation supported by AtriCure

This Fellowship takes place in eight different locations throughout Europe. Fellows are offered the chance to complete a four week placement and two courses run by AtriCure (AtriCure Maze 4 training programme and AtriCure Navigating the Maze training programme).

The Fellowship, offered with a grant award of €3,500, will provide the successful candidate with an in-depth clinical understanding and surgical proficiency in treating patients with atrial fibrillation.

Aortic TEVAR supported by Terumo Aortic

This Fellowship includes four highly specialised courses and in-hospital training. The Fellowship aims to equip Fellows with the knowledge and experience to help them establish or support endovascular aortic treatment programmes at their home centre.

This Fellowship offers candidates grants of €11,000.



3. EDUCATION

To provide early career surgeons a thorough foundation level of understanding and ability in different specialisms.

Aortic Root and Valve Repair

This Fellowship offers theoretical and practical knowledge in the surgical management of patients with aortic root dilatation and aortic regurgitation, with special interest in the sparing of the aortic valve. The Fellowship includes two specialist EACTS courses and in-hospital training. Grants of up to €5,600 are available.

Postoperative Critical Care in Adult Cardiovascular Surgery

This Fellowship provides Fellows with a chance to gain experience in postoperative management in adult cardiovascular surgery, as well as a wide exposure to minimally invasive and other advanced techniques in cardiovascular surgery. Fellows take part in a four-month placement in the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery at Hospital Clinic de Barcelona (University of Barcelona) and are offered a grant payment of €8,400.

OPCAB/MICS CABG supported by Medtronic

The Fellowships goal is to provide newly graduated cardiothoracic surgeons from around the world with an educational opportunity to enhance their clinical understanding and to acquire theoretical and practical knowledge in the surgical management of patients with coronary artery disease, with special interest in off-pump and minimal invasive techniques. Fellows will have the opportunity to complete a combination of courses, in-hospital training and proctorship, and will receive a grant payment of €5,000.





INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP

The Francis Fontan Fund provides full administrative support for each Fellowship scheme including the marketing of opportunities throughout the EACTS community, recruitment and selection processes as well as the ongoing support for participating surgeons throughout their Fellowship experience and beyond. The partnership process offers industry donors the following key benefits;

- Discussions with leading EACTS surgeons and educators to identify those areas of study where a Fellowship need exists and the early stage identification of curriculum content including industry organised training where relevant.
- Regular updates on progress including recruitment and appointment and the opportunity to contribute to the EACTS led selection process.
- Full post-Fellowship feedback and reporting including the opportunity to contribute to the forward shaping of subsequent Fellowship offerings.
- Appropriate acknowledgment in all materials and marketing activity of the industry donor's role in supporting the Fellowship scheme (including the naming of awards as appropriate).

If you are interested in supporting a Fellowship, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Funds Fellowship Advisor, Isabelle Brown, at Isabelle.brown@eacts.co.uk and we will set up a meeting to discuss this further.

“This Fellowship has been one of the most formative and rewarding experiences of my career.”

Aortic Root and Valve Repair Fellow, 2019

“AtriCure is proud to support and be associated with the EACTS Francis Fontan Fellowship program. Clinician training and education in the field of atrial fibrillation is one of the fundamental activities we engage in to assist in the advancement of safe and effective therapy adoption in this difficult to treat patient population. We have had great feedback from the Fellows who have been participants in the Fellowship program in prior years and we look forward to ongoing support of this first class educational activity.”

Geoff Stevens, Vice President of AtriCure