

We spoke to IDEAS 2021 Deputy Chairperson Prof. Eric Verhoeven on what makes IDEAS a one-of-a-kind meeting.



## IDEAS 2021: The Interdisciplinary Endovascular Aortic Symposium

### **CIRSE: What makes IDEAS such a unique meeting?**

**Verhoeven:** IDEAS is unique, as it is a true interdisciplinary meeting not only in the presentations, where we try to have about a 50/50 split between interventional radiologists and vascular surgeons, but also in that we have both IRs and VSs on the programme committee. All of this is reflected in the open, collaborative atmosphere in which presentations and case discussions take place. As a surgeon, I can say that I am truly impressed by the CIRSE organisation which IDEAS is a part of.

### **CIRSE: Why is it essential to focus on multidisciplinary collaboration in aortic interventions?**

**Verhoeven:** We simply cannot handle all treatment options and complications within a single speciality. Every bit of knowledge and experience from both major players (vascular surgeons and interventional radiologists) is welcome when deciding upon the best treatment option for each patient. Collaboration also helps with technical needs. As a surgeon, I am always pleased to discuss complications and CTA with my colleagues from IR, and embolisations for EL or acute bleeding are well-placed in their hands, just to give an example. I personally am convinced that if you work on the aorta as a mono-specialty you are more at risk of losing the balance with regards to correct indication. An open, multicentre environment is the best guarantee for having the variety of perspectives that are sometimes needed.

### **CIRSE: What sessions are you personally most looking forward to at IDEAS 2021?**

**Verhoeven:** As I am now a co-chairperson of IDEAS, I would have to answer this question with: every session,

of course! I know we are in a special situation due to the pandemic, but I must honestly say that the case presentations have always been my favourite, as I happily moderate such sessions very actively, involving all attendees. These sessions always generate a maximum interest and attention and are so educational, and I really hope we will have a face-to face meeting next year where we can build upon the great conversations we'll have online. Also of note are the focus sessions, which have longer presentations in which it is possible for the speakers to go into more detail on a specific topic. But really, all IDEAS 2021 sessions are worthwhile!

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#### **FS 2816 New and evolving technology in aortic intervention**

- 2816.1 Arch stent grafts  
*T. Kölbel (Hamburg, DE)*
- 2816.2 Thoraco-abdominal repair  
*G. Oderich (Houston, US)*
- 2816.3 Ancillary devices and techniques  
*E. Verhoeven (Nuremberg, DE)*
- 2816.4 Intervention suite of the future  
*B. Katzen (Miami, US)*