

Dear Colleagues,

Berlin Hernia Days to Hamburg! The merger of the “Berliner Hernientage” and the International Hamburg Wilhelmsburg Hernia Symposium has been accomplished! In the future in January of even years (2012, 2014, 2016...) the International Hamburg Wilhelmsburg Hernia Symposium will take place in Hamburg, whilst in January of uneven years (2013, 2015, 2017..) the “Berliner Hernientage” will be held in Berlin. The special character of the two events will remain unchanged. The scientific board of both hernia congresses consists of Ralph Lorenz, Bernd Stechemesser and Wolfgang Reinpold.

To inspire more and more surgeons in training for hernia surgery, we have created a special three-day training course "HERNIA COMPACT - young Surgery". The first HERNIA COMPACT Course was very successfully held in January 2011 in Berlin. Seventeenth to 19th January 2012 “HERNIA COMPACT” will take place for the first time in Hamburg.

Today over 7 billion people are living on our planet. About 1 billion people will suffer from an inguinal or abdominal wall hernia. This outlines the major importance of hernia surgery. Nowadays hernia surgery is an innovative specialty of General and Visceral Surgery. New surgical techniques, instruments and implants allow us a more differentiated treatment of our patients. International guidelines give us more help in our treatment decisions. For further optimization of therapy in addition to controlled studies, national hernia registries are of utmost importance. The first 1-year results of the recently established first German hernia registry "Herniamed" will be presented at this symposium. The 4th Hamburg Wilhelmsburg Hernia Meeting will give you an overview of the latest developments in hernia surgery. As in the years before live surgery from our operating theatre will show you a selection of established and new surgical techniques, including an original “Lichtenstein-repair” by Parviz Amid. The main topic of this years symposium is the complicated and complex hernia. Other important topics are: Innovative techniques for inguinal and ventral hernia, new developments of biological and alloplastic implants and their fixation, guidelines of hernia surgery, among others. As in previous years, the symposium is accompanied by a large international industrial exhibition. TED-voting and other interactions are planned. We hope, like last year on a broad discussion forum, where your personal experiences and contributions are of great importance.

You are cordially invited to Hamburg. We would be very glad to welcome you to Hamburg on the 20th and 21st January 2012 .

Kindest regards and “herzliche Grüsse” from Hamburg

Dr. Wolfgang Reinpold Dr. Ralph Lorenz Dr. Bernd Stechemesser

Friday 20th January 2012 (“Elbkuppel” Hall)

08:00h Registration

08:15h Welcome ceremony

08:30h – 13:00h

Live surgery from Gross Sand Hospital

Moderators: Ralph Lorenz / Bernd Stechemesser / Wolfgang Reinpold

1. Lichtenstein operation Parviz Amid (Los Angeles, California / USA)
2. TEP-Operation Andreas Kuthe (Hanover)
3. Lichtenstein operation with fibrin glue Bernhard Lammers (Neuss)
- 4 TAPP-Operation with 2.5 mm instruments Henning Niebuhr (Hamburg)

Coffee break - Exhibits

5. Laparoscopic IPOM operation with absorbable mesh fixation
Tim Tollens (Bonheiden / Belgium)
6. Laparoscopic sublay ventral hernia repair with self-fixating mesh
Michael Schröder (Hamburg)
7. Laparoscopic IPOM operation with absorbable mesh fixation
Matthias Rohr (Gifhorn)
8. TAPP-operation with three-dimensional mesh Michael Schröder (Hamburg)

13:00h – 13:45h Lunch Break - Exhibits

13:45h – 15:00h Session I: Complex and difficult groin hernia I

Chair: Amid Parviz / Reinhard Bittner

Lichtenstein repair with tips on recurrent and large scrotal hernias. Parviz Amid (Los Angeles, California / USA)

TAPP-operation of giant scrotal hernias, multiple recurrences and after previous surgery in the lower abdomen. Reinhard Bittner (Fürth)

TEP surgery for giant scrotal hernias, multiple recurrences and after previous surgery in the lower abdomen. Andreas Kuthe (Hanover)

Bacterial infection after open groin hernia mesh repair - surgical management, Andreas Koch (Cottbus)

Management of bacterial infections after TAPP / TEP, Dirk Weyhe (Oldenburg)

15:00h – 15:50h Session II: Complex and complicated groin hernia II
Chair: Henning Niebuhr / Jan Kukleta

Femoral hernia - pro open repair. Enrico Nicolo (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania / USA)

Femoral hernia - pro TAPP / TEP. Jochen Schwarz (Fürth)

The incarcerated and strangulated groin hernia - pro open repair. Frank Muller (Gelsenkirchen)

The incarcerated and strangulated groin hernia - pro TAPP / (TEP), Jan Kukleta (Zurich / Switzerland)

15:50h – 16:10h Coffee break / Exhibits

16:10h – 17:40h Session III: Standards / Guidelines / New Studies / Innovations in Hernia Repair

Chair: Uwe Klinge / Ferdinand Köckerling / Maciej Smietanski

Classification of mesh implants in hernia surgery, Uwe Klinge (Aachen)

First practice-relevant findings from the German Hernia Registry "Herniamed". Ferdinand Köckerling (Berlin)

Training in hernia surgery / Hernia Compact: a three-day training course
Ralph Lorenz, Henning Niebuhr, Wolfgang Reinpold, Bernd Stechemesser (Berlin, Hamburg)

Reimbursement of hernia surgery in Germany – the current situation.
Bernhard Lammers (Neuss)

Hiatal hernia repair with a biodegradable implant (Bio-A mesh TM).
Thomas Mussack (Munich)

Experience from a high volume outpatient Hernia Center. Michael Schweins (Cologne)

17:40h – 19.00h Session IV: Complex abdominal wall hernias and / loss of domain I

Chair: Joachim Conze / Christian Hollinsky

Honorary lecture of the past president an honorary president of the German Hernia Society: A career of advancements and future prospects of incisional and ventral hernia repair. Volker Schumpelick (Hamburg)

The biomechanics of the abdominal wall in giant abdominal wall hernias and "loss of domain". Christian Hollinsky (Vienna / Austria)

Classification of ventral and incisional hernias and EHS ventral and incisional hernia registry (EHS / Herniamed), Ulrich Dietz, Köckerling Ferdinand (Würzburg, Berlin)

Preliminary guidelines of ventral and incisional hernia repair.
Maciej Smietanski (Gdansk / Poland)

Limits and Complication Management of open Sublay repair.
Joachim Conze (Aachen)

**19:30h Shuttle bus to the evening event - meeting point in the hotel lobby
"Hotel Hafen Hamburg"**

**20:00h Evening event in the restaurant / lounge RAVEN - Champagne
Reception, Dinner**

23:15h Shuttle bus to the Hotel Hafen Hamburg

Saturday, 21st January 2012 ("Elbkuppel" hall)

**8:30h – 10:45h Session V: complex abdominal wall hernias / loss of domain II
Chair: Dieter Berger / René Fortelny / Salvador Morales-Conde**

Management of giant abdominal wall hernias with loss of domain - experience from Vienna, René Fortelny (Vienna / Austria)

Open anterior component separation, with or without mesh augmentation.
Dieter Berger (Baden-Baden)

Endoscopic Component Separation - indications and limits, Michael Rosen
(Cleveland, Ohio / USA)

Posterior component separation, Michael Rosen (Cleveland, Ohio / USA)

Endoscopic anterior component separation and "less-open" sublay repair of large ventral and incisional hernias. Wolfgang Reinpold (Hamburg)

Limitations and complications of laparoscopic IPOM ventral and incisional hernia repair. Matthias Rohr (Gifhorn)

Management of complex incisional hernias with lateral (partial) paralysis of the abdominal wall, Salvador Morales-Conde (Sevilla / Spain)

Limits of laparoscopic Parastomal hernia repair. Dieter Berger (Baden-Baden)

Flap plasties for the cure of giant abdominal wall hernias, abdominal wall defects,

and abdominal wall tumors. Oliver Doebler (Berlin)

Defect closure in laparoscopic IPOM repair. Jan Kukleta (Zurich / Switzerland)

10:45h - 11.15h Coffee break / Exhibits

11:15h - 13.00h Session VI: Abdominal wall hernias III: Therapy of the "open" abdominal / infection / contamination / fistulas of the abdominal wall / Prevention / innovation

Chair: Agneta Montgomery / Hans Jeekel / Volker Schumpelick

Management of the open abdomen and techniques on how to avoid a subsequent incisional hernias - the Swedish experience
Agneta Montgomery (Malmö / Sweden)

Conditioning and secondary closure of the abdominal wall for the cure of the open abdomen – treatment of enterocutaneous fistulas. René Fortelny (Vienna / Austria)

Prophylactic meshes in abdominal surgery, Hans Jeekel (Rotterdam / Netherlands)

Management of infected abdominal wall hernias – when does the mesh has to be removed? Sebastian E. Debus (Hamburg)

The role of biological meshes and protheseses for the treatment of infected and contaminated abdominal wall hernias
Bernd Stechemesser (Berlin)

Initial experience with an innovative U-shaped resorbable stapler (Securestrap™) in laparoscopic IPOM ventral hernia repair. Ralf Wilke (Aachen)

A new area in Laparoscopic Hernia Repair; Mesh Navigating System device for mesh introducing, placing and deploying, Moshe Dudai (Tel Aviv/Israel)

HERNIA COMPACT Course - experiences and recommendations of a trainee, NN

13:00h Adjourn

13:30h Lunch

Speakers, Operating Surgeons, Chairmen

Professor of Clinical Surgery Parviz Amid, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.R.C.S. University of California Los Angeles, Lichtenstein Hernia Institute, Surgery, 90404 Los Angeles, California/USA

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