



Thoracic surgery without borders: an Italian-German meeting

The Department of Vascular and Thoracic Surgery directed by Reinhold Perkmann organizes every 2 years an international conference on current issues of Thoracic Surgery at the Regional Hospital of Bolzano. This international meeting is called BIC (Bolzano International Conference). The motto of the 2019 edition “*Thoracic surgery without frontiers*” not only expresses that expert speakers from some of the most important centers of Italy, Germany and Austria meet in Bolzano, but also underlines that thoracic surgery in recent years has crossed unimaginable borders and it is no longer limited to traditional methods and techniques but manages to go much further. The technical-technological surgical and anesthesiologic evolutions allow today an extension of the open and video-assisted thoracic surgery procedures. Furthermore, the new frontiers of target therapy and immunotherapy are revolutionizing the indications for surgery for non-small cell lung cancer.

Topics to be addressed in this special series will include these currently unclear controversies, from the treatment of the chest wall and mediastinal diseases to surgery of the trachea and non-small cell lung cancers, both thoracoscopically and traditionally.

We warmly thank not only all the colleagues but also the editorial board who contributed to the drafting of the conference proceedings. The effort made has allowed the creation of a collection of experiences of high scientific profile, which represents the scientific reality of some of the best Italian, German and Austrian thoracic surgery centers.

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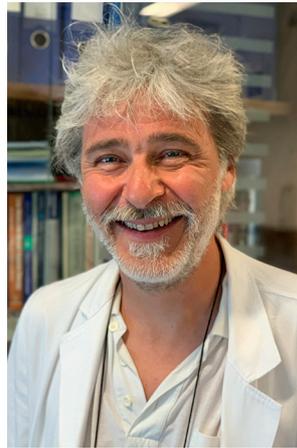
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