



Leuven Symposium in Fetal Therapy: From Origins to New Horizons

A tribute to Prof. Dr. Jan Deprest

The Leuven Symposium in Fetal Therapy: From Origins to New Horizons brings together internationally renowned specialists to reflect on the past, present, and future of fetal therapy. This special symposium pays tribute to Prof. Dr. Jan Deprest, whose pioneering work has significantly shaped the development of fetal therapy worldwide.

 13 November 2026

 08:30 - 13:00, followed by lunch

 Promotiezaal, Universiteitshal, Naamsestraat 22, 3000 Leuven (Belgium)

PROGRAMME

8:30-8:40: Opening: Roland Devlieger

Part 1: Chairs Paolo De Coppi & Jute Richter

8:40-9:00: Kypros Nicolaides - "Foundations of Fetal Medicine and the Birth of Fetal Therapy"

9:00-9:40: Monochorionic twins

Liesbeth Lewi - "Predicting and Treating Complications in Monochorionic Twins"

Eduard Gratacos - "Fetal Therapy in sIUGR: From Placental Pathophysiology to Clinical Management"

9:40-10:20: Congenital diaphragmatic hernia

Alexandra Benachi - "FETO for CDH: Development, Trials, and Lessons Learned"

Francesca Russo - "Why is fetopneumothorax not enough and how can we further improve outcomes"

10:20-10:40: Coffee break

Part 2: Chairs Paolo De Coppi and Francesca Russo

10:40-11:20: Myelomeningocele

Michael Belfort - "From Open Repair to Fetoscopic Approaches: The Surgical Journey"

Yada Kunpalin - "Understanding the evolution of fetal neurosurgical conditions: from imaging to intervention"

11:20-12:00: Fetal shunts and anemia

Monique Haak - "Indications, Outcomes, and Complications of Fetal Shunting: What Decades Have Taught Us"

Roland Devlieger - Fetal transfusions: Technique, Safety, and novel alternatives

12:15-13:00: Genetics and new frontiers

Lynn Chitty - Exome sequencing for all fetal therapy candidates ?

Rabih Chaoui - "Fetal Medical Therapy: new horizons"

Jan Deprest - "Fetal Therapy, what's next?"

13.00: Lunch

 **Registration:** Advance registration is mandatory via [this registration link](#), or by scanning the QR code below.



Registration fee:

- €150 for physicians (includes coffee break and lunch)
- €100 for doctoral or medical students, and paramedical staff (includes coffee break and lunch)