

October 30th, 2026

ESAGON 2026

European School of Abdomino-Pelvic Surgery in Gynecologic Oncology



From biology to surgical judgment
The ESAGON Surgical Decision Path
Advanced decision-making in ovarian
cancer surgery

ESAGON Advanced session – open to external surgeons

COURSE DIRECTORS

Roberto Biffi

Angelo Maggioni



Why this course

Advanced ovarian cancer surgery remains one of the most demanding areas of gynecologic oncology. While systemic therapies and maintenance strategies have evolved, surgical decisions have become more complex.

Complete cytoreduction remains the cornerstone of surgical treatment.

However, surgical value today depends on appropriate indication, proportional radicality, and integration within the broader therapeutic pathway.

This course focuses on surgical judgment rather than operative technique.

What will be addressed

- How tumor biology influences surgical intent
- How imaging and mapping define resectability
- When operable does not mean indicated
- How to build an operative strategy before entering the operating room
- How to balance radicality with safety
- How to interpret outcomes in the maintenance era
- How to evaluate surgical gain versus surgical burden

What participants will gain

Participants will refine their ability to:

- Select patients appropriately
- Define anatomical limits
- Build a strategic operative plan
- Recognize the threshold between feasibility and proportionality
- Integrate surgical decisions within the modern therapeutic pathway

Who should attend

Gynecologic oncologic surgeons seeking to strengthen their clinical judgment in advanced ovarian cancer management.

Open to ESAGON participants and external surgeons interested in high-level decision-making

FACULTY

Esagon Directors: **Roberto Biffi, Angelo Maggioni**
European Institute of Oncology IRCCS, Milan,
Italy

Maria Teresa Achilarré

Sarah Alessi

Giovanni Damiano Aletti

Alessia Aloisi

Roberto Biffi

Giuseppe Caruso

Nicoletta Colombo

Annalisa Garbi

Mariacristina Ghioni

Angelo Maggioni

Francesco Multinu

Gabriella Schivardi

Vanna Zanagnolo

Livia Xhindoli

Scientific Programme

Friday, October 30th

8.45 AM Welcome & introduction

Step 1 - Understanding the disease

What truly drives surgical strategy

9.00 AM Tumor biology and clinical heterogeneity
Why biology shapes clinical decisions
M. Ghioni

9.20 AM From radiologic mapping to surgical intent
Reading disease before planning surgery
S. Alessi

9.40 AM Interactive case lab I
From biology to surgical intent
L. Xhindoli

Q&A session

Step 2 - Defining resectability

Should this patient undergo surgery

10.20 AM Technical feasibility & anatomical limits
Where anatomy defines the limits of indication
M.T. Achilarré

10.40 AM Preoperative mapping
Imaging and diagnostic laparoscopy as decision tools
A. Garbi

11.00 AM Strategic operative planning
Designing the operation before entering the operating room
A. Maggioni

Q&A session

Step 3 - Choosing the right strategy

Which operation offers the greatest value?

11.30 AM Primary vs interval surgery
Surgical strategy in the maintenance era
A. Aloisi

11.50 AM Patient selection & risk balance
Who truly benefits from surgery?
G. Schivardi

12.10 PM Interactive Case Discussion
Where evidence ends and surgical judgment begins
L. Xhindoli

Q&A session

1.00 PM Lunch break

Step 4 - Executing with Judgment

How radical should surgery be?

1.45 PM Pelvic radicality
Defining proportional radicality
V. Zanagnolo

2.05 PM Upper abdominal radicality
Balancing benefit and surgical burden
R. Biffi

2.45 PM Complications and surgical strategy
Every complication starts with a decision
G.D. Aletti

Q&A session

Step 5 - Defining surgical value

Did surgery truly improve patient outcome?

3.00 PM Ro in the era of maintenance therapy
The evolving meaning of complete cytoreduction
G. Caruso

3.20 PM Surgical gain vs surgical burden
Measuring the value of radical surgery
F. Multinu

3.40 PM Distinguished lecture
Designing the modern therapeutic strategy in advanced ovarian cancer
N. Colombo

Step 6 - The final surgical judgment

Can we justify the operation?

4.10 PM Final interactive case: applying indication, limits, and value
Applying biology, indication, strategy, proportionality and value
L. Xhindoli

4.30 PM Closing remarks
R. Biffi

*Advanced ovarian cancer surgery is not defined by how much we remove.
It is defined by how responsibly we decide.*

Saturday, October 31st - ESAGON International - Inaugural Academic Session
Scann the QR Code to register for the course



October 30th Registration Fee:

Regular: Euro 100 VAT Included

Free for attendees of Esagon 2026

Click here to register for October 30th:

<https://ems.mzevents.it/start/2568/eng>

October 31st Registration Fee:

Free of charge

Click here to register for October 31st:

<https://ems.mzevents.it/start/2569/eng>

To participate in both days, it is necessary to complete both registration forms.

Certificate of attendance

The certificate of attendance will be sent by email, while the parchment certificate for participants in the ESAGON Weeks Program 2026 will be awarded on October 31st at the end of the ESAGON International Inaugural Academic Session.

Scientific area of interest

Gynecology and General Surgery

Don't miss
OCTOBER 31
Collect your 5 Weeks
Training Program
CERTIFICATE during
the event.



Course venue:

Aula Magna Leonardo la Pietra, Building 1
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