

Emory University, Koç University

MONA & PHILIP SUNSHINE URO-ONCOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

Basic Science, Diagnosis & Multi-disciplinary Management &
Hands-on Training Courses

10 October 2026, Saturday

Venue: RMK AIMES Surgical Training Center & Koç University Hospital, Istanbul



Emory University Hospital



Koç University Hospital

Registration: Free-of-charge

Please send an e-mail for more details to register: info@aimes.org

KOÇ UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL ARIES CENTER EVENT (ADVANCED ROBOTIC, INVASIVE ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY CENTER)



Support the Sunshine Symposium:

Advancing Global Cancer Research Through Cultural Diplomacy

Now in its third year, the Sunshine Symposium has grown into a powerful platform for cultural diplomacy, medical collaboration, and international scholarship exchange between the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia and Koç University Hospital in Istanbul, Türkiye.

This groundbreaking collaboration celebrates not only advancements in cancer research but also the deep bonds between the United States and Türkiye.

The symposium brings together distinguished oncologists, researchers, and medical leaders from both institutions to exchange knowledge, foster innovation, and inspire the next generation of global medical professionals.

A Landmark Achievement in International Medical Training

In 2025, the Sunshine Symposium is proud to welcome a resident physician from Koç University Hospital in Istanbul to Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, for a fully funded year-long fellowship.

This extraordinary opportunity is made possible through Emory's support and reflects the long-term commitment of both institutions to nurturing future leaders in oncology and bridging international expertise.

Spotlight on Prostate Cancer and Robotic Surgery

This year's symposium focuses on the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer, featuring live robotic surgeries performed with state-of-the-art Intuitive da Vinci and Medtronic Hugo robotic systems.

These advanced technologies, currently available only at Koç University Hospital in Türkiye will be showcased in real time, offering a unique opportunity for physicians from neighboring countries and Türkiye to observe, engage, and collaborate.

The symposium serves as an important platform to promote Koç University Hospital as a center of excellence in robotic prostate surgery, encouraging international referrals and treatment access for patients in the region.

Honoring the Legacy of Philip Sunshine

Philip Sunshine's connection to Türkiye was personal and profound.

He traveled there several times with his wife, Mona Sunshine, Hon. Consul of Türkiye for the state of Georgia for the past 20 years.

Philip developed many close friends there that reflected his genuine admiration for the Turkish people and culture. He believed deeply in building bridges through understanding, empathy, shared goals and the value of education, international cooperation, and advancing healthcare.

Philip was diagnosed with glioblastoma, cancer of the brain, in 2024. He was grateful to all his physicians who gave him excellent care, especially, Dr. Omer Kucuk who showed Philip unwavering support daily.

Philip passed away in January of 2025. The Symposium honors the memory of Philip Sunshine through the newly named Mona and Philip Sunshine Symposium.

It was a dream of Philip's that the symposium would continue following his death and show the love he felt for the United States and Türkiye and to promote international cooperation for cancer research.



Mona Diamond Sunshine



Philip Sunshine

Emory University, Koç University

MONA & PHILIP SUNSHINE URO-ONCOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

10 October 2026, Saturday

Venue: RMK AIMES Surgical Training Center & Koç University Hospital, Istanbul

<https://www.sunshinesymposium.org/>

The Mona & Philip Sunshine
Symposium

Oncology · In Memory of Philip Sunshine



4TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM · OCTOBER 10,
2026

The Mona & Philip
Sunshine Symposium
— advancing oncology
in memory of Philip
Sunshine.

A joint academic initiative of Emory
University, Koç University, and Mayo Clinic.

Upcoming Event

Support the Fund

PROGRAM

Opening Session

08:00-08:45	Opening Talks Tarık Esen, Ömer Küçük, Mona Sunshine, Nil Molinas
08:45-09:00	Wireless Medical Milli/Microrobots for Theranostic Applications / Metin Sitti
09:00-09:10	Novel approaches to cancer therapy / Rahmi Oklu
09:10-09:20	New developments in integrative oncology / Ömer Küçük

Breast Cancer Session

Moderator: **Nil Molinas**

09:20-09:30	Contemporary role of surgery in breast cancer / Orhan Ağcaoğlu
09:30-09:40	Medical oncological approach to treatment of breast cancer / Nazan Demir
09:40-09:50	Radiation oncology in breast cancer / Nilüfer Durankuş

Brain Tumor Session

Moderator: **Nil Molinas**

09:50-10:00	Surgical management of GBM / İhsan Solaroğlu
10:00-10:10	Role of radiotherapy in GBM treatment / Sepideh Mohammadipour
10:10-10:20	Medical oncological treatment in GBM / Didem Tunalı

10:20-10:40 Coffee Break

Prostate Cancer Session-I

Moderator: **Erdem Canda**

10:40-10:50	EAU prostate cancer guidelines-Update / Derya Tilki
10:50-11:00	Mp MRI of peripheral zone lesions / Bengi Gürses
11:00-11:10	Prostate cancer active surveillance / Martin Sanda
11:10-11:20	Robotic retzius sparing radical prostatectomy / Zafer Tandoğdu
11:20-11:30	Robotic radical prostatectomy with Hood technique / Tarık Esen
11:30-11:40	How to improve functional outcomes at robotic radical prostatectomy / Derya Balbay
11:40-11:50	Proton therapy in prostate cancer / Nikhil Sebastian
11:50-12:00	Emory University radiation oncology experience / Çağlayan Selenge Bedük Esen
12:00-12:10	Pathological intraoperative evaluation methods: Are they reliable and necessary? / İbrahim Kulaç
12:10-12:20	Prostate cancer basic science research at Koç University / Ceyda Ayhan

12:20-13:20 Lunch Break

Prostate Cancer Session-II

Moderator: **Yakup Kordan**

13:20-13:30	Radiation therapy in high risk prostate cancer / Uğur Selek
13:30-13:40	The role of surgery in high risk prostate cancer / Daniel Barocas
13:40-13:50	Molecular biology of castration resistant prostate cancer / Jindan Yu
13:50-14:00	New medical treatment strategies in high risk prostate cancer / Deniz Tural

PROGRAM

Kidney Cancer Session-I

Moderator: **Fulden Yumuk**

14:05-14:15	Beyond Clear Cell: Practical updates in renal tumor pathology / Ayşe Armutlu
14:15-14:25	Imaging of RCC / Duygu Karahacıoğlu
14:25-14:35	Single port robotic surgery with Intuitive Da Vinci SP robotic system / Mohammad Hajiha
14:35-14:45	Robotic partial nephrectomy for endophytic renal masses / Yakup Kordan
14:45-14:55	SABR in primary RCC / Duygu Sezen
14:55-15:05	Emory University Urology experience / Bariş Esen
15:05-15:15	Koç University Hospital robotic experience with Medtronic Hugo RAS / Erdem Canda
15:15-15:25	Focal Therapy for Prostate Cancer with Profocal - A Novel Cooled Laser Focal Therapy / Celi Varol

15:25-15:50 Coffee Break

Kidney Cancer Session-II

Moderator: **Öner Şanlı**

15:50-16:00	Systemic therapy updates in kidney cancer / Mehmet Asım Bilen
16:00-16:10	Theranostics in urologic oncology: from RCC to future applications of prostate cancer / Okan Falay

CASE DISCUSSIONS

16:10-16:30	Case discussion panel - prostate cancer / Tarık Esen
16:30-16:50	Case discussion panel - kidney cancer / Yakup Kordan

16:50-17:00 Closing remarks
Tarık Esen, Ömer Küçük

FACULTY: (in alphabetical order)



Prof. A. Erdem Canda
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Dr. Celi Varol
MBBS (Adel) FRACS, FUSANZ
CEO and Founder of Medlogical
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Prof. Ömer Küçük

Correll Chair in Genitourinary
Cancer
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Co-Leader, Prostate and GU
Cancer Research Program
Co-Director, Multidisciplinary GU
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Distinguished Scientist
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**Zafer Tandogdu,
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Consultant Urologist and
Robotic Prostate Cancer
Surgeon
University College London
Hospitals (UCLH)
Associate Professor of Urology
London, UK

Robotic NVB Sparing Radical Prostatectomy and Retzius Sparing Technique, Extended Pelvic Lymph Node Dissection & Robotic Radical Cystectomy with Intracorporeal Ileal Loop Formation Human Fresh Frozen Cadaver Course

9-10 October 2026, Friday & Saturday

Venue: RMK AIMES* Training Center, Istanbul, Türkiye

*RMK AIMES: Rahmi M. Koç Academy of Interventional Medicine, Education and Simulation

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES;

Introducing components of Da Vinci surgical robotic system, lectures and video presentations on robotic radical prostatectomy with NVB sparing and extended pelvic LN dissection, practicing with Da Vinci robotic simulators and performing robotic radical prostatectomy with NVB sparing and extended pelvic LN dissection on human fresh frozen cadavers. Trainees will also perform robotic cystectomy with intracorporeal ileal loop formation. This course is not for beginners and having some previous robotic surgery experience is suggested.

COURSE CONTENT:

- Lectures on components of Da Vinci surgical robotic system
- Lectures on robotic instruments used
- Video presentations of robotic radical prostatectomy & robotic cystectomy with intracorporeal ileal loop procedures
- Training on Da Vinci robotic simulators
- Hands-on training on human fresh frozen cadavers:
 - Performing abdominal port placement
 - Identification of Douglas' pouch
 - Dissecting seminal vesicles & vas deferences
 - Opening Denonvillier's fascia
 - Taking down anterior abdominal peritoneum
 - Periprostatic fat dissection
 - Opening endopelvic fascias
 - Deep dorsal vein suturing
 - Identification of bladder neck & sparing
 - Opening bladder neck, dissection plane between prostate & bladder
 - Performing NVB sparing
 - Performing prostatic pedicle dissection
 - Performing apex dissection & preserving a long urethra
 - Completing radical prostatectomy
 - Performing extended pelvic LN dissection
 - Performing urethro-vesical anastomosis
 - Performing major vessel injury repair
 - Learning how to use the 4th arm effectively
 - Interactive training with learning tips & tricks
 - Completion of robotic radical cystectomy
 - Performing ureteral dissection
 - Performing ileal loop formation
 - Performing side-to-side ileal anastomosis
 - Performing Wallace type uretero-ileal anastomosis



PROGRAM (Hands-on cadaver courses include Da Vinci x or xi systems)**9 October 2026, Friday****Morning: Arrival**

14:00-16:00

Lectures & video presentations:

- Introducing Da Vinci surgical robotic system (principles, components, instruments, docking & undocking, emergency undocking)
- Video presentations of step by step surgical techniques with tips & tricks of robotic radical prostatectomy & robotic cystectomy with intracorporeal ileal loop procedures

16:00-17:00

Hands-on training with Da Vinci robotic simulators**10 October 2026, Saturday**

08:30-09:00

Welcome

09:00-12:00

PART 1**Performing robotic radical prostatectomy with NVB sparing and extended pelvic LN dissection on human fresh frozen cadavers**

12:00-13:00

Lunch Break

13:00-16:30

PART 2**Performing robotic radical cystectomy with intracorporeal ileal loop formation on human fresh frozen cadavers**

16:30 - 17:00

End of Course, Closing Remarks and Presenting Certificates**FACULTY:** (in alphabetical order)**Dr. A. Erdem Canda**

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Medical Director
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**Mr. Zafer Tandogdu,**

FRCS (Urol)
Consultant Urologist and
Robotic Prostate Cancer
Surgeon
University College
London Hospitals
(UCLH)
Associate Professor of
Urology
London, UK

Course registration fee for participant-Part 1: 2500 USD**Course registration fee for participant-Part 2: 2000 USD**

(Maximum 2 participants for Part 1 / Maximum 2 participants for Part 2)

Fees exclude observership, travel & accommodation)

Robotic Partial Nephrectomy On Porcine Kidneys Using Pulsatile Organ Perfusion (POP) Trainers

With Intuitive Da Vinci Xi or X

10 October 2026, Saturday

Venue: RMK AIMES* Training Center, Istanbul, Türkiye

*RMK AIMES: Rahmi M. Koç Academy of Interventional Medicine,
Education and Simulation

COURSE CONTENT:

- Presenting components of Da Vinci surgical robotic system
- Presenting robotic instruments
- Da Vinci robotic simulator training
- Hands-on training using Robotic Pulsating

Organ Perfusion (POP) trainers to perform robotic Upper Urinary Tract Surgical procedures (harvested animal upper urinary tracts will be used):

- Performing robotic partial nephrectomy
- Performing robotic internal renorrhaphy
- Performing robotic external renorrhaphy

PROGRAM

08:30 - 09:00	Welcome
09:00 - 10:00	Introducing Da Vinci surgical robotic system (principles, components, instruments, docking & undocking) Da Vinci robotic simulator training: 1. Sea spikes 2. 0 degree camera 3. Vessel energy dissection 4. Three arm relay 5. Energy pedals 6. Knot tying 7. Vertical defect suturing
10:00 - 12:30	Hands-on training using Robotic Pulsating Organ Perfusion (POP) trainers to perform robotic Upper Urinary Tract Surgical procedures: – Performing robotic partial nephrectomy – Performing robotic internal renorrhaphy – Performing robotic external renorrhaphy
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 - 16:30	Hands-on training using Robotic Pulsating Organ Perfusion (POP) trainers to perform robotic Upper Urinary Tract Surgical procedures: – Performing robotic partial nephrectomy – Performing robotic internal renorrhaphy – Performing robotic external renorrhaphy
16:30 - 17:00	End of Course, Closing Remarks and Presenting Certificates



Course registration fee for participant: 500 USD

There will be 2 participants per 1 porcine kidney
(includes tax, training materials, lunch & coffee breaks)

To register please contact RMK AIMES
Training Center:

E-mail: info@aimes.org

FACULTY:



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*Consultant Urological &
Robotic Surgeon
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London (UCL)
Department of Urology
London, UK*

Robotic Partial Nephrectomy On Porcine Kidneys Using Pulsatile Organ Perfusion (POP) Trainers

With Medtronic Hugo RAS

10 October 2026, Saturday

Venue: RMK AIMES* Training Center, Istanbul, Türkiye

*RMK AIMES: Rahmi M. Koç Academy of Interventional Medicine,
Education and Simulation

COURSE CONTENT:

- Presenting components of Medtronic Hugo RAS surgical robotic system
- Presenting robotic instruments
- Medtronic Hugo RAS robotic simulator training
- Hands-on training using Robotic Pulsating Organ Perfusion (POP) trainers to perform robotic Upper Urinary Tract Surgical procedures (harvested animal upper urinary tracts will be used):
 - Performing robotic partial nephrectomy
 - Performing robotic internal renorrhaphy
 - Performing robotic external renorrhaphy

PROGRAM

08:30 - 09:00	Welcome
09:00 - 10:00	Introducing Medtronic Hugo RAS surgical robotic system (principles, components, instruments, docking & undocking)
10:00 - 12:30	Hands-on training using Robotic Pulsating Organ Perfusion (POP) trainers to perform robotic Upper Urinary Tract Surgical procedures: – Performing robotic partial nephrectomy – Performing robotic internal renorrhaphy – Performing robotic external renorrhaphy
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 - 16:30	Hands-on training using Robotic Pulsating Organ Perfusion (POP) trainers to perform robotic Upper Urinary Tract Surgical procedures: – Performing robotic partial nephrectomy – Performing robotic internal renorrhaphy – Performing robotic external renorrhaphy
16:30 - 17:00	End of Course, Closing Remarks and Presenting Certificates

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(includes tax, training materials, lunch & coffee breaks)

To register please contact RMK AIMES
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RMK AIMS TRAINING FACILITIES & COURSES FOR UROLOGY IN ISTANBUL

RMK AIMS (*Rahmi M. Koç Academy of Interventional Medicine Education & Simulation*) has a **6500 m²** area with 5-floors. It has a **230 people capacity meeting room**, **86 people capacity auditorium**, and about **50 people capacity 5 additional lecture rooms**.

We have

- ✓ **1 Da Vinci xi & X surgical robotic systems and 1 Medtronic Hugo RAS system** that we use for courses on human fresh frozen cadavers, pigs under anaesthesia, animal cadaveric organs or printed 3D materials.
- ✓ **9 latest technology Stryker laparoscopy towers** (all with 4K, ICG and double large sized monitors) and with anaesthesia set up to deliver laparoscopy courses on pigs under anaesthesia.
- ✓ **Another 9 station set up for cadaver training.**
- ✓ **9 laparoscopy training boxes with EBLUS training materials.**
- ✓ **5 POP (pulsating organ perfusion) trainers**
- ✓ **2 Da Vinci robotic simulators**
- ✓ **2 X-ray scopes**

I. Robotic Urology Courses that we can offer:

Human fresh frozen cadaver:

- Robotic radical prostatectomy with extended pelvic LN dissection
- Robotic radical cystectomy with intracorporeal ileal loop formation
- Robotic upper urinary tract surgery (partial nephrectomy, pyeloplasty, nephrectomy, adrenalectomy, nephroureterectomy)
- Robotic sacrocolpopexy
- Robotic supine or lateral position RPLND
- Robotic reconstructive urology (sacrocolpopexy, Burch, UNC, cystoplasty)

Pigs under anesthesia:

- Robotic upper urinary tract surgery (partial nephrectomy, pyeloplasty, nephrectomy, adrenalectomy, nephroureterectomy)
- Robotic sacrocolpopexy
- Robotic reconstructive urology (UNC, cystoplasty, Burch)
- Robotic renal transplantation (Prof. Burak Kocak & colleagues in our department have performed more than 30 robotic renal transplantation cases on humans and they are one of the leading teams in this field).

POP trainers:

- Robotic partial nephrectomy on animal kidneys with ICG application

Robotic urology courses on 3D models:

- UPJ obstruction models, PN models, urethro-vesical anastomosis models

Robotic courses with Da Vinci simulators

II. Laparoscopic Urology Courses that we can offer:

Human fresh frozen cadaver:

- Laparoscopic radical prostatectomy with extended pelvic LN dissection (transperitoneal & extraperitoneal)
- Laparoscopic upper urinary tract surgery (partial nephrectomy, pyeloplasty, nephrectomy, adrenalectomy, nephroureterectomy)
- Laparoscopic sacrocolpopexy

Pigs under anesthesia:

- Laparoscopy upper urinary tract surgery (partial nephrectomy, pyeloplasty, nephrectomy, adrenalectomy, nephroureterectomy)
- Laparoscopy sacrocolpopexy

POP trainers:

- Laparoscopy partial nephrectomy on animal kidneys with ICG application

Laparoscopy training box EBLUS courses

III. Endourology Courses that we can offer:

- Human fresh frozen cadaver URS, RIRS with laser application (we can insert stones in the renal pelvis beforehand)
- Courses on models: URS, RIRS with laser application
- HoLEP (human fresh frozen cadaver)

IV. Open surgery courses on human fresh frozen cadavers

Human fresh frozen cadaver penile prosthesis & artificial sphincter implantation

Because Koç University Hospital & RMK AIMES Surgical Training & Convention Centre are located in the same campus, during or following courses organised at our training centre, we can offer live case observation and/or observership/preceptorship at Koç University Hospital.

In addition, surgical procedures performed at the hospital can be broadcasted to the training centre. Therefore, symposiums and even congresses can be organised at our training & convention centre with live surgeries.

ROBOTIC UROLOGY OPERATION ROOMS:



Intuitive Da Vinci (Xi & X)



Medtronic Hugo RAS

LAPAROSCOPIC UROLOGY FACILITIES:



POP (Pulsating Organ Perfusion) Trainers for Robotics & Laparoscopy



DA VINCI ROBOTIC SIMULATORS:



LAPAROSCOPY TRAINING BOXES:



Venues for Courses & Symposium

RMK AIMES, Istanbul

<https://aimes.org/>



Koç University Hospital, Istanbul

<https://www.kuh.ku.edu.tr/>

