

# AtriCure

## 2023 Professional Education

Committed to education for therapies to improve outcomes in atrial fibrillation, stroke, and pain management





# About AtriCure

As a leading provider of innovative technologies for the treatment of atrial fibrillation (Afib) and related conditions, electrophysiologists and cardiothoracic surgeons around the globe count on AtriCure to deliver best-in-class solutions that can treat even the most complex cases. We invest in innovation, clinical science, and education to focus on improving lives for our patients worldwide.

## Mission

We are passionately focused on reducing the global Afib epidemic and healing the lives of those affected.

## Values

We work to heal the lives of Patients, empower our People, and collaborate with our Partners to reduce the burden of Afib worldwide.

# Education and Training

We offer many different educational opportunities that build on the fundamentals of the Cox-Maze IV Procedure. Our courses focus on the rationale, efficiency and efficacy of performing complex arrhythmia procedures to include the first FDA approved minimally invasive Hybrid AF™ Therapy for long-standing persistent Afib. Our courses feature both didactic and hands-on training from highly experienced Afib surgeons and electrophysiologists covering a broad range of relevant topics:

- Understand the relevant anatomy for performing a concomitant or hybrid procedure
- Review pathophysiology and key principles of Afib treatment
- Review society guidelines supporting surgical ablation and left atrial appendage exclusion
- Discuss the rationale and indications for the Cox-Maze IV lesion set and Hybrid Convergent lesion sets
- Identify tips and tricks to improve procedural efficiency and clinical efficacy
- Review alternate epicardial and endocardial approaches, energy sources and lesion sets associated with surgical treatment
- List pre- and post-operative care considerations of hybrid and concomitant treatment
- Review role and alternate techniques associated with left atrial appendage
- Understand the benefits of surgeon/ electrophysiologist collaboration in identifying, treating, and performing rhythm follow-up of Afib patients

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# About This Course Book

AtriCure offers a full curriculum of educational programs that welcome a wide range of users and experience levels to include Electrophysiologists, Cardiac Surgeons, Thoracic Surgeons, Fellows, Advanced Practice Providers (APPs), and Nurses.

## Educational Content Includes:

- Didactic Modules | Courses
- Hands-on | Simulation Workshops
- Observerships
- Proctorships
- Peer-to-Peer WebEx Sessions
- Live Physician Interaction
- Virtual Reality Cases
- Live Cases

Atrial fibrillation (Afib) carries a heavy clinical burden, with patients experiencing a 5x greater risk of stroke<sup>1</sup> and a 5x increase in heart failure.<sup>2</sup> These patients also experience up to a 47% reduction in quality of life related to anxiety about medications and burnout from frequent doctor appointments.<sup>3-9</sup>

## AtriCure offers innovative products used in various treatments:

- Concomitant Surgical Ablation Therapy
- Hybrid AF™ Therapy
- Left Atrial Appendage (LAA)
- Cryo Nerve Block Therapy (cryoNB)

Along with these treatments, AtriCure offers minimally invasive surgical instruments.

AtriCure understands the importance of education as a key component in giving the HealthCare Provider (HCP) access to the knowledge and experience required to assure optimal safety and outcomes in the atrial fibrillation patient population. This booklet contains educational information intended to enhance the user's experience. We encourage you to register for the program that meets your needs and educational interest. For additional information please contact [Education@AtriCure.com](mailto:Education@AtriCure.com) or your local AtriCure representative.



# Foundational Programs

These programs are for customers seeking to gain knowledge and education about identifying patients with atrial fibrillation and treatment options to restore sinus rhythm. AtriCure is committed to assisting HealthCare Providers (HCPs) adapt to evolving products and techniques. Our healthcare professional training programs are designed with the guidance of an Education Steering Committee comprised of key opinion leaders to help individuals at all experience levels learn more about the surgical treatment of atrial fibrillation. The program is dedicated to helping practitioners focus on deepening their expertise and improving patient care.

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## Arrhythmia Management: Foundations of Treating Afib Surgically

This course is the first and ONLY training course to focus on the concomitant surgical treatment for persistent and long-standing persistent atrial fibrillation. The Society of Thoracic Surgeons and Heart Rhythm Society have both endorsed AtriCure's Advanced Ablation Course in the United States.

### During the program, physicians will review:

- Contemporary Data and why patients should be treated
- Classification of Afib and identification of appropriate patients
- Epidemiology and Economics of Afib
- Surgical Treatment of Concomitant Afib
- Treatment of Stand-Alone LSP Afib
- Left Atrial Appendage Exclusion
- Pain Management

### Who should attend:

- Cardiac Surgeons
- Administrators
- Nurses
- APPs
- Fellows

### Foundations of Treating Afib Surgically will be offered:

- February 9-10      Irvine, CA
- June 9-10            Columbia, MD
- August 10-11        Chicago, IL
- November 10-11    West Palm Beach, FL

Register Here



# Advanced Courses

These courses are offered for physicians that wish to receive education on Hybrid therapies for long-standing persistent atrial fibrillation.

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## Treatment Strategies for Advanced Afib Patients

The Advanced Hybrid Ablation Course builds on the reported positive results of Hybrid AF™ Convergent Therapy procedures and the recent FDA approval of the EPi-Sense® Hybrid Coagulation system for long-standing persistent atrial fibrillation patients. This program focuses on the rationale, efficiency, and efficacy of performing hybrid ablation therapy.

### Throughout the program, attendees will be exposed to various topics:

- Contemporary Overview of Afib
- Atrial Fibrillation Pathogenesis
- Evolution of Ablation Strategies
- Patient Identification
- Collaborative Approaches Between Cardiac Surgery and EP

This course is delivered by a qualified faculty of Electrophysiologists and Cardiac Surgeons, many of whom were active in the CONVERGE IDE Trial. Attendee interaction and group discussion is encouraged especially the sharing of anecdotal experience and observations. This program is designed for Electrophysiologists, Cardiac Surgeons, and Advanced Practice Providers interested in the collaborative hybrid approach to treating long-standing persistent atrial fibrillation patients.

After this program, HCPs should feel more comfortable in identifying patients with LSP Afib and with contemporary approaches and treatment strategies.

### Who should attend:

- Electrophysiologists
- APPs
- Cardiac Surgeons

### Courses will be offered:

- January 19-20                      Scottsdale, AZ
- April 13-14                         New York, NY
- July 27-28                         La Jolla, CA
- October 27-28                     Miami, FL

Register Here



## **A Practicum on Heart Team Approach to Patient Identification and Treatment: Building an Afib Program**

This program is geared towards physicians and centers who want to create an Arrhythmia Center offering both surgical concomitant and hybrid ablation therapies. It is also for physicians seeking to better understand and identify patients with Afib and the appropriate treatment strategy and patient care pathway.

### **Expert faculty will offer insights on:**

- Importance of the Nurse Navigator role
- Algorithms and protocols
- Patient selection
- Developing a program
- Heart Team Approach
- Referrals and patient follow-up

This course is specifically for physicians that treat patients with Afib and is most applicable for attendees that have a basic level of ablation experience or understanding of surgical and hybrid ablation procedures. It is recommended that an administrator or marketing team member attend with the heart team.

### **Who should attend:**

- Electrophysiologists
- Administrators
- APPs
- Cardiac Surgeons
- Nurses
- Marketing

***Please contact Professional Education for more information.***



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## Multimodal Approach to Pain Management in Thoracic Surgery

This course is specifically for Surgeons that wish to minimize transitional surgical pain. Opioid addiction increases after 72 hours of use and patients experience significant pain approximately 3 days to 2 months after surgery. After 3 months, it becomes persistent post-surgical pain.

### The course focuses on:

- Protocol development for pain management
- Appropriate use of cryoNB
- Best Practices and complication management
- Hands-on simulation and patient management
- Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with world class faculty and hear about their experience with the cryoNB and its impact on pain relief.

### Who should attend:

- Thoracic Surgeons
- Anesthesiologists
- Physician Assistants
- Nurse Practitioners
- Nursing Staff
- Pain Management Team

### Courses will be offered:

- February 23-24      Phoenix, AZ (Fellows)
- May 18-19            Chicago, IL (APP)
- September 15-16    Minneapolis, MN (Fellows)
- November 2-3        Houston, TX (APP)

Register Here



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## **Chest Wall Repair BioSkills Course (Multi-Sponsored Program)**

Surgical Techniques for the Treatment and Pain Management of Rib Fractures Utilizing Intrathoracic and Extrathoracic Approaches.

This course is designed for general acute and critical care trauma, orthopedic and thoracic surgeon specialists whose scope of practice includes management of chest wall repair.

**At the conclusion of this course, attendees should be able to understand:**

- The principles of rigid fixation
- Demonstrate multiple techniques for rib fixation including both intra and extra thoracic approaches.
- Approaches to pain management
- Key components to developing a rib plating program at your institution.

**BioSkills Course will be offered multiple times throughout 2023.**

*Please contact your pain management representative for specific dates and locations.*



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## **Hands-on Workshops: Cadaveric and Simulated Model Training**

These workshops are intended for health care providers who would like to apply their didactic learnings in a hands-on environment.

Procedural preparation, technique and potential complications will be reviewed, and participants will have the opportunity to perform multiple procedures for the treatment of arrhythmias.

### **Didactic presentations will address:**

- Patient Identification
- Anatomical landmarks
- Procedural techniques
- Treatment strategies for complex cases

### **Who should attend:**

- Cardiac Surgeons
- Electrophysiologists
- APPs
- Thoracic Surgeons
- Fellows

***Please visit [www.AtriCure.com](http://www.AtriCure.com) for more information.***



# Fellows Ablation Course

## Multidisciplinary Arrhythmia Management: Collaboration Between Specialties

These workshops are intended for fellows who are interested in learning about cardiac ablation techniques, lesion sets and patient selection. The course includes both didactic as well as hands-on learning.

Procedural preparation, technique and potential complications will be reviewed, and physicians will have the opportunity to perform multiple procedures for the treatment of arrhythmias.

### Didactic presentations will address:

- Patient identification
- Anatomical landmarks
- Procedural techniques
- Treatment strategies for complex cases

### Who should attend:

- Cardiac Fellows and Residents
- Electrophysiology Fellows

### Programs will be offered:

- March 3-4                      Houston, TX
- June 2-3                        Seattle, WA
- December 1-2                Nashville, TN



*Register Here*



# Advanced Practice Providers Course

## Multidisciplinary Arrhythmia Management: Building a Heart Team Approach to Treatment

These workshops are intended for advanced practice providers who are interested in learning about cardiac ablation techniques, patient selection, best practices and algorithm development. The course includes didactic as well as workshop discussions.

### Didactic presentations will address:

- Patient identification and selecting the appropriate patient pathway
- Developing a heart team approach
- Procedural techniques
- Protocol sharing

### Who should attend:

- Physician Assistants
- Nurse Practitioners
- Nurses
- APPs

### Programs will be offered:

- February 22-23 San Francisco, CA
- November 1-2 Houston, TX

Register Here



# Additional Educational Opportunities

## Practicum and Observerships for Advanced Cardiac and Hybrid Ablation

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### Observerships

This program is for physicians that have attended an AtriCure didactic course and a hands-on workshop and are geared to begin treating patients. The number of attendees is limited giving each participant the opportunity to interact with world class faculty, observe their surgical technique and discuss best practices.

#### Who should attend:

- Cardiac Surgeons
- Electrophysiologists

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### Proctorships

These are 1:1 physician training events conducted at the trainee's hospital to help expand device knowledge and to enhance technical and device related skill sets. Proctorships focus on the following areas: patient selection, pre, intra and post-surgical patient management, surgical technique, complication management and coordinated care.

Please reach out to AtriCure Professional Education for more information about these advanced programs.

#### Requirement:

All proctorships must have 2 cases scheduled before proctor travel is booked

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### Peer-to-Peer WebEx and Live Events

These small group or one to one sessions are designed to match a new or existing physician with a thought leader with a similar practice or mindset. This session will be tailored to the specific topics or points that will lead to successful outcomes and patient success.

#### Who should attend:

- Cardiac Surgeons
- Electrophysiologists
- APPs
- Thoracic Surgeons
- Fellows

*Please reach out to AtriCure Professional Education for more information about these advanced programs.*

## References

- <sup>1</sup> Colilla, S. et al. (2013). Estimates of current and future incidence and prevalence of atrial fibrillation in the U.S. adult population. *Am J Cardiol*, 112(8):1142-7.
- <sup>2</sup> Odotayo, A. et al. (2016). Atrial fibrillation and risks of cardiovascular disease, renal disease, and death: systematic review and meta-analysis. *BMJ*; 354:i4482.
- <sup>3</sup> Nazli, C. et al. (2016). Impaired quality of life in patients with intermittent atrial fibrillation. *Anatol J Cardiol*, 16(4):250-5.
- <sup>4</sup> Thrall, G., Lane, D., Carroll, D., & Lip, G.Y. (2006). Quality of life in patients with atrial fibrillation: a systematic review. *Am J Med*, 119(5):448.e1-19.
- <sup>5</sup> Hagens, V.E. et al. (2004). Effect of rate or rhythm control on quality of life in persistent atrial fibrillation. Results from the Rate Control Versus Electrical Cardioversion (RACE) Study. *J Am Coll Cardiol*, 43(2):241-7.
- <sup>6</sup> Hoegh, V. et al. (2016). Association between the diagnosis of atrial fibrillation and aspects of health status: a Danish cross-sectional study. *Scand J Caring Sci*, 30(3):507-17.
- <sup>7</sup> Dorian, P. et al. (2000). The impairment of health-related quality of life in patients with intermittent atrial fibrillation: implications for the assessment of investigational therapy. *J Am Coll Cardiol*, 36(4):1303-9.
- <sup>8</sup> Wang, Y., Kong, M.C., Lee, L.H., Ng, H.J., & Ko, Y. (2014). Knowledge, satisfaction, and concerns regarding warfarin therapy and their association with warfarin adherence and anticoagulation control. *Thromb Res*, 133(4):550-4.
- <sup>9</sup> Altioek, M., Yilmaz, M., & Rencüsogullari, I. (2015). Living with Atrial Fibrillation: An Analysis of Patients' Perspectives. *Asian Nursing Research*, 9(4):305-11.

### **Epi-Sense® Coagulation System/Epi-Sense ST™ Coagulation Device**

**U.S. Indications:** The Epi-Sense Coagulation System/Epi-Sense ST™ Coagulation Device is intended for the treatment of symptomatic long-standing persistent atrial fibrillation (continuous atrial fibrillation greater than 12 months duration) when augmented in a hybrid procedure with an endocardial catheter listed in the instructions for use, in patients (1) who are refractory or intolerant to at least one Class I and/or III antiarrhythmic drug (AAD); and (2) in whom the expected benefit from rhythm control outweighs the potential known risks associated with a hybrid procedure such as delayed post-procedure inflammatory pericardial effusions. **Contraindications** include patients with Barrett's Esophagitis, left atrial thrombus, a systemic infection, active endocarditis, or a localized infection at the surgical site at the time of surgery. **Adverse Events:** Reported adverse events associated with epicardial ablation procedure may include, but are not limited to, the following: pericardial effusion/cardiac tamponade, pericarditis, excessive bleeding, phrenic nerve injury, stroke/TIA/neurologic complication. **Warnings:** Physicians should consider post-operative anti-inflammatory medication to decrease the potential for post-operative pericarditis, and/or delayed post-procedure inflammatory pericardial effusions. Physicians should consider post-procedural imaging (i.e. 1-3 weeks post-procedure) for detection of post-procedure inflammatory pericardial effusions. **Precautions:** Precautionary measures should be taken prior to considering treatment of patients: (1) Deemed to be high risk and who may not tolerate a potential delayed post-procedure inflammatory pericardial effusion. (2) Who may not be compliant with needed follow-ups to identify potential safety risks. To ensure patients undergoing treatment with the Epi-Sense device are well informed, the benefits, potential risks and procedural outcomes associated with the Epi-Sense Hybrid Convergent procedure should be discussed with the patient. Physicians should document accordingly in the medical record. Qualified operators are physicians authorized by their institution to perform surgical sub-xyphoid pericardial access. The coagulation devices should be used by physicians trained in the techniques of minimally invasive endoscopic surgical procedures and in the specific approach to be used. Operators should undergo training on the use of Epi-Sense device before performing the procedure. Safety and effectiveness of concomitant left atrial appendage closure was not evaluated in the CONVERGE study. Follow-up should be conducted at approximately 30 days postprocedure to monitor for signs of delayed onset pericarditis or pericardial effusion.



**Learn More About AtriCure**

<https://www.AtriCure.com/Healthcare-Professionals/Education-Training>

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