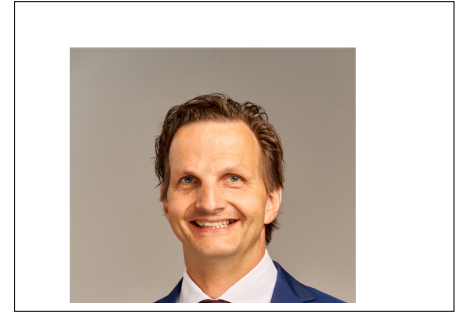




EHRA
European Heart
Rhythm Association



Application for the following position in the EHRA Board:

Nominating Committee member

1. Your Identity

Title: Prof. Dr.

Family Name(s): Tilz

First Name(s): Roland Richard



Institute/Organisation: University Herat Centre Lübeck, University Hospital Schleswig-Holstein, Campus Lübeck

Department: Department of Rhythmology

Address: Ratzeburger Alle 160, Haus A. Lübeck, Germany

Post Code/Zip: 23538



2. General Curriculum Vitae (300 words max)- Please add your H index and top 10 publications in the last 5 years

Prof. Roland Richard Tilz, MD, FHRS, FESC, FEHRA

Director, Department of Rhythmology, University Heart Center Lübeck, Germany

Profile

Prof. Roland Richard Tilz is an internationally recognised cardiologist and electrophysiologist and a true pioneer in his field. He has contributed to the development of novel ablation catheters from the animal model stage all the way to clinical approval, and played a key role in introducing new procedural concepts such as Same-Day-Discharge (SDD) catheter ablation in Germany. He currently serves as Director of the Department of Rhythmology at the University Heart Center Lübeck and as Professor of Interventional Electrophysiology at Lübeck University.

Clinical & Academic Focus

His main areas of interest include atrial fibrillation ablation, pulsed field ablation (PFA), clinical innovation, and advanced rhythm management strategies.

Education & Training

He graduated in medicine from the Karl-Franzens University Graz (Austria) at age 22 and completed postgraduate training in the United Kingdom (Cambridge and Bedford) and Germany, obtaining board certifications in Internal Medicine and Cardiology. His habilitation at the University of Hamburg focused on catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation and associated outcomes.

Leadership & Career

Before his current role, he led the Atrial Fibrillation Clinic and directed the Robotic Navigation Laboratory at Asklepios Klinik St. Georg, Hamburg, under Prof. Karl-Heinz Kuck. In Lübeck, he established one of Europe's most active AF ablation programmes and served as Deputy Director of Internal Medicine II, fostering innovation and academic-clinical integration.

Scientific Leadership

Prof. Tilz is Principal Investigator of several international studies, including the POTTER-AF Study and the SHAZAM-AF Study. He served on the EHRA Scientific Committee, where he initiated and published multiple EHRA surveys.

H-Index

H-Index: 49

Top 10 Key Publications (Selection)

1. Tilz RR, Chierchia GB, Gunawardene M, et al. Safety and effectiveness of the first balloon-in-basket pulsed field ablation system for the treatment of atrial fibrillation: VOLT CE Mark Study 6-month results. *EP Europace*. 2025;27(4):euaf072.
2. Tilz RR, Feher M, Vogler J, et al. Underreporting of complications following AF ablation—lessons from POTTER-AF 3. *Heart Rhythm*. 2025;22:1472-1479.
3. Beiert T, Knappe V, Zietzer A, Schmidt V, Pürerfellner H, Sommer P, ... Tilz RR; for the POTTER-AF investigators. Influence of proton pump inhibitors on oesophageal fistula after AF ablation: POTTER-AF subanalysis. *EP Europace*. 2025;27(10):euaf212.
4. Tilz RR, Feher M, Vogler J, et al. STYLE-AF: Venous vascular closure vs figure-of-eight suture after AF ablation. *EP Europace*. 2024;26(5):euaf105.
5. Tilz RR, Vogler J, Kirstein B, et al. Fast & Furious PFA: Single-access single-catheter PVI approach. *Circ J*. 2023;87:1722-1726.
6. Tilz RR, Schmidt V, Pürerfellner H, Maury P, Gandjbakhch E, et al. POTTER-AF: Worldwide survey on oesophageal fistula formation after AF ablation. *Eur Heart J*. 2023;44:2458-2469.
7. Kirstein B, Heeger CH, Vogler J, Eitel C, Feher M, Phan HL, ... Tilz RR. Impact of pulsed field ablation on intraluminal oesophageal temperature. *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol*. 2024;35:78-85.
8. Heeger CH, Popescu SŞ, Saracé R, Kirstein B, Hatahet S, Samara O, ... Tilz RR. INDI-FREEZE randomized trial. *EP Europace*. 2022;24:921-927.
9. Heeger CH, Tilz RR. Laser light in the era of pulsed field ablation—still a competitor? *J Interv Card Electrophysiol*. 2024;67:29-30.
10. Lo M, Chierchia GB, Gunawardene M, Tilz RR, et al. Novel balloon-in-basket integrated PFA system: acute results of VOLT CE feasibility/IDE program. *Heart Rhythm*. 2025;Epub ahead of print.





3. Describe previous experience(s) within EHRA, ESC or your National Cardiac Society

I have extensive experience collaborating with national and international cardiac societies through multiple leadership and academic roles.

I am a Fellow of the ESC (FESC), EHRA (FEHRA), and HRS (FHRS) and previously served as a Board Member of the German Cardiac Society (DGK) Working Group on Electrophysiology. As a member of the EHRA Scientific Committee, I initiated and published several EHRA surveys. In addition, I contributed to consensus developments, including the recent EHRA Clinical Consensus Statement on vascular access and closure management for electrophysiological procedures (2025). Furthermore, I have held leading roles and served as first author in joint national consensus documents, including “Analgesedierung in der Kardiologie” and the “Recommendations for lead extraction – Joint recommendations of the DGK and the German Society for Thoracic, Cardiac and Vascular Surgery (DGTHG)”.

I have been actively involved in education, serving as faculty for national EP training programmes such as the Advanced Invasive Electrophysiology Course from the German Cardiac Society as well as for international training programmes such as DAS-CAM. I have led major international scientific initiatives as Principal Investigator for multicentre studies, such as POTTER-AF and STYLE-AF, both featured as Late-Breaking presentations at EHRA.

Moreover, I am a founding member of the #PULSEDAY initiative of the German Heart Foundation, promoting public education and awareness of cardiac arrhythmias, and a founding member of the Austrian Medical Soccer Team, supporting community engagement in cardiovascular health.

Collectively, these activities demonstrate my long-standing commitment to EHRA’s mission and to advancing excellence and collaboration in electrophysiology across Europe and globally.



4. Why are you motivated to join the EHRA Executive Board (250 words max)?

My motivation to join the EHRA Executive Board stems from a deep commitment to advancing cardiac electrophysiology through innovation, education, and international collaboration. As Director of a leading department of rhythmology with more than 25 physicians and a multidisciplinary scientific team, I am acutely aware of the professional and academic needs of younger colleagues. Supporting their growth, promoting scientific excellence, and connecting people across institutions are central to my mission.

I actively promote and connect young physicians and scientists, encouraging their engagement in the DGK nucleus, EHRA, and through educational platforms such as DAS-CAM. Fostering this new generation of rhythmologists is essential for a sustainable and innovative future in our field.

As a founding member of the #PULSEDAY initiative of the German Heart Foundation, which has since been adopted by EHRA and APHRS, I am particularly dedicated to raising awareness for cardiac arrhythmias among the general population. Education and outreach remain key to improving prevention, early diagnosis, and patient empowerment.

Through numerous international collaborations within both the EHRA and APHRS frameworks, including short- and long-term fellowships, I have learned the value of global partnership and knowledge exchange.

As an EHRA Executive Board member, I would work to further strengthen young physician mentorship, scientific collaboration, and public awareness initiatives—connecting people, ideas, and communities to advance patient-centered rhythmology across the world.



5. How will you combine your EHRA position with your daily clinical/research workload?

Balancing additional professional responsibilities is always a challenge; however, I am fully prepared to integrate the duties of an EHRA leadership role with my ongoing clinical and academic responsibilities. As director of the Department of Rhythmology, I have established a strong and well-structured team including consultant electrophysiologists, junior physicians, research fellows, specialised nurses, study coordinators, and administrative support. This enables me to delegate responsibilities effectively and ensures continuity in patient care, research activities, and teaching, even as I take on additional commitments.

Throughout my career, I have successfully combined a high-volume clinical practice, active research portfolio, and international faculty roles at leading meetings. I continue to perform electrophysiological procedures well above the 30% clinical activity threshold expected. My role as a long-standing proctor for complex AF and VT ablation procedures, combined with mentoring of numerous fellows, has prepared me to understand and represent the needs of clinicians, trainees, and researchers within the EHRA community. With this infrastructure and experience, I am confident I can fulfil my EHRA responsibilities at the highest level without compromising clinical excellence or scientific productivity.



6. Please list your conflicts of interest

- Direct personal payments (speaker fees, honoraria, advisory board fees, consultancy, investigator...)
 - **RT has received honoraria for lectures from Pfizer, Abbott, Biosense Webster, Boston Scientific, Doctrina Med, cme4u, Medtronic, Radcliff Cardiology, and Wikonect.**
 - **He has received honoraria for advisory board participation and consulting from Boston Scientific, Biosense Webster, Capvision, Guidepoint, Haemonetics, Medtronic, Philips, and Abbott. His institution has received research funding or participated in clinical trials sponsored by Biotronik, Abbott, Boston Scientific, Medtronic, Lifetech, and Johnson & Johnson. He has also received travel grants from Biosense Webster, Abbott, Boston Scientific, Medtronic, and Philips.**
 - All x <10 K€/year, only Abbott: x 10-50 K€/year
- Payments to your institution (speaker fees, honoraria, advisory board fees, consultancy, activities executed by your department for the sponsor or investigator initiated and funded by an unconditional grant from the sponsor...)
 - Abbott
 - Investigator initiated studies:
 - <10 K€/ year 10-50 K€/year 50-100 K€/year x >100 >K€/year
- Receipts of royalties for intellectual property: NONE

Add as many as necessary

Position of influence declaration:

- Direct substantial shareholding or direct financial interest in healthcare, media, education companies or companies in relationship (suppliers or in competition with ESC or in contradiction with ESC mission)
- Employment in healthcare institution (part time or full time)
- Membership or affiliation to political/pressure group associations related to the field of cardiology
- Any potential interest related to the position applied for
- Nothing to declare
- More info at <https://www.escardio.org/The-ESC/About/Policies/esc-declaration-and-management-of-conflict-of-interest-policy>