

ASCENT 2026

Annual Scientific Congress and Exchange for Next Generation InTerventionalists

1-2 August 2026 | Caravelle Saigon Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Introduction

Held on 1-2 August 2026 at the Caravelle Saigon Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, ASCENT 2026 brought together 23 physicians from seven countries across Asia for two days of scientific exchange and case-based learning. Centered on the theme “**Simplify the Complex**,” the annual educational programme featured four faculty presentations and ten case competition presentations this year.



Day 1 Overview

The first day covered a broad range of complex PCI scenarios, including cardiogenic shock, bifurcation disease, heavily calcified lesions and coronary perforation. By alternating expert lectures with real-world case discussions, the programme encouraged participants to compare treatment strategies and apply key concepts to challenging clinical situations.



Opening the scientific programme, Dr. Vu Hoang Vu shared insights into contemporary PCI trends and unmet clinical needs, highlighting the growing importance of imaging-guided decision-making and individualized treatment planning. Discussions on emerging treatment approaches, including bioresorbable scaffolds and hybrid DES-DCB strategies, reflected the shift towards increasingly strategy-driven interventions.

This theme was further reinforced by Dr. Lam Lap Tin, who reviewed the benefits of intravascular imaging and IVUS-guided PCI. Drawing on clinical evidence and real-world experience, he demonstrated how imaging can improve lesion assessment, optimize procedural planning and support better treatment outcomes.

Together, both presentations underscored that successful PCI begins with understanding the lesion before selecting the treatment approach.



Effective lesion preparation was another recurring theme. Dr. Mohamed Nazrul shared real-world experience with Scoreflex® TRIO in complex and calcified lesions, illustrating the role of effective lesion preparation as part of a broader PCI strategy. Dr. Randal Low further discussed the role of drug-coated balloons (DCB) in complex PCI, emphasizing that optimal lesion preparation remains a key determinant of procedural success.

In the case competition, winner Dr. Tom Chan presented a challenging Impella-supported PCI in a patient with cardiogenic shock, highlighting the importance of procedural planning and lesion preparation even in high-risk scenarios. Joint winner Dr. Yeh Jian-Kuan showcased the management of severe coronary calcification, while Dr. Wira Kimahesa Anggoro shared a coronary perforation case that highlighted the value of IVUS in identifying covered stent failure and guiding subsequent treatment decisions.

Across the faculty lectures and case discussions, a common message emerged: imaging guides decision-making, lesion preparation remains critical, and the right procedural strategy is often more important than any single device or technology.



Day 2 Overview

Building upon the lessons from Day 1, the second day shifted focus towards practical frameworks for approaching complex PCI. During the Innovative Device Symposium, participants explored structured methodologies designed to support procedural planning and execution across a wide range of lesion subsets.



The 3P Strategy provided a practical framework for approaching complex PCI — emphasizing preparation, positioning and understanding the procedural terrain before treatment.

Meanwhile, the “A.S.E.” approach highlighted the benefits of using IVUS for full assessment of the vessel to plan for the best strategies to engage complex anatomies with confidence and achieve optimal results with patient safety. An update on the SonoScape HD IVUS System and latest technology catheters was also provided, followed by Q&A discussions.

The programme concluded with a certificate and awards ceremony, recognizing outstanding case presentations and celebrating the collaborative spirit that defined ASCENT 2026.



ASCENT provided a valuable platform for physicians from across Asia to exchange experiences, discuss real-world challenges and learn from diverse treatment approaches. Attendees particularly appreciated the interactive case discussions, practical insights from faculty and opportunities for peer-to-peer learning.

By combining scientific exchange, case-based education and regional collaboration, ASCENT continues to support the development of the next generation of interventional cardiologists and advance best practices in contemporary PCI across Asia.