

The **Vascular and Heart Surgery Anaesthesia** module is concerned with the anaesthesiological requirements of all patients affected by heart and/or vascular disease requiring surgery, whether adults or children, and makes use of the most advanced surgical techniques. In particular, interventions are carried in the following fields:

- Surgery for disorders of the heart
- Surgery for arrhythmias
- Myocardial revascularisation with arterial ducts
- Valve replacement with decellularised prostheses
- Surgery on the intrathoracic aorta
- Implantation of the latest generation of pacemakers

It provides *anaesthesiological assistance* to patients undergoing high-risk haemodynamic procedures such as *primary PTCA* for the treatment of acute myocardial infarction and endovascular procedures for the correction of congenital (interatrial defect closure, arterial duct closure, treatment for aortic coarctation and pulmonary valve stenosis) or acquired (thoracic, abdominal aorta aneurysm, carotid stenosis) defects. Furthermore, the team has a consultancy role in the cardiovascular medicine department for patients requiring anaesthesiological-reanimation support and/or transferral to intensive care.

At the time of the pre-op anaesthesiological assessment, the level of haemodynamic monitoring, the type of pharmacological treatment pre- and post-op and the type of technological support that is required (IABP, ventricular assistance, haemofiltration, etc.) are determined. The course of treatment during the operation and in intensive care is described to the patient, with special attention for the treatment of post-op pain.