2026

CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY

55th ANNUAL MEETING

October 14-17, 2026 • Montreal, QC



Bienvenue !

Thank You, Sponsors!

The Child Neurology Society extends its deepest gratitude to its corporate partners for their ongoing support and commitment, which allows us to advance our mission continuously throughout the year. We also sincerely thank our event sponsors and local hosts whose contributions make our events possible and impactful.

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Child Neurology Society
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childneurologysociety.org

Learning Objectives

The 55th CNS Annual Meeting Scientific Program

The CNS Scientific Program is designed for all people interested in childhood-onset neurological and neurodevelopmental conditions, including those interested in clinical care, research advances, and leadership opportunities in this field.

Accreditation Statement

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the Minnesota Medical Association (MMA) and is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Minnesota Medical Association designates this live activity for a maximum of 28.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

CNS Genetics Summit

The Minnesota Medical Association designates this live activity for a maximum of 4 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Biomedical Writing Workshop

The Minnesota Medical Association designates this live activity for a maximum of 4 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Minnesota Medical Association

Manage your schedule on your mobile device

The app for the 55th CNS Annual Meeting serves as your all-in-one event guide by putting everything you need to know right onto your mobile device.

- Customize your conference experience by creating your schedule in advance.
- Communicate with other attendees during the event.
- Browse and search sessions, speakers, and exhibitors.



The EventPilot Conference App is currently available for free in the Apple Store and Google Play.

Download yours today by scanning the QR codes below.

- After downloading the app, **use the unique code CNS2026**.
- Log in using the four-digit ID found in your registration confirmation email and on your badge.

Apple Store

Google Play



Welcome to Montréal! Bienvenue à Montréal!

Yasmin Khakoo, MD, FCNS, FAAN, FAAP
CNS President

Dear CNS Friends and Colleagues,

It's hard to believe that I have completed the first year of my two-year term as President of the Child Neurology Society (CNS). At the same time, a new President and two new Councilors have been elected.

Having attended several international meetings — including the International Child Neurology Association meeting in Taipei, Taiwan, and the Mexican Society of Pediatric Neurology/Congress of the Ibero-American Academy of Pediatric Neurology in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico — I was thrilled to hear our colleagues' enthusiasm for attending the 55th CNS Annual Meeting in Montréal.

The CNS Annual Meeting is a great way to restore my energy, especially during challenging times marked by diminishing NIH funding and increasing mistrust of the medical profession. The Presidential Symposium, "Beyond Survival: Navigating the Future of Child Neurology," will address the challenges and opportunities facing patients, families and caregivers, clinicians, scientists, and trainees in the brave new world of diagnoses and therapeutics for previously incurable conditions.

The Scientific Selection and Program Planning Committee and CNS office team worked tirelessly to develop a variety of innovative offerings that will appeal to attendees across all levels of training and experience in practice, academia, and industry.

We have brought back the popular Genetics Summit and Biomedical Writing Workshop (advance registration required) on our pre-conference day, Tuesday, October 13. The meeting officially kicks off at 8:00 AM on Wednesday, October 14, with the Kenneth F. Swaiman Opening Address and Awards Presentation. I fondly recall when my own high school daughter received the Bhuwan Garg High School Student Neuroscience Research Prize.

New This Year:

- NeuroNook, a new learning space in the Exhibit Hall, will highlight key abstracts and feature a dedicated session on Wednesday, October 14: "Staying Current with FDA-Approved Neurology Therapies."
- The Child Neurology Advocacy Session on Wednesday, October 14, will feature an update on the CNS advocacy agenda and policy priorities, raising awareness of the policy environment and advancing care for children with neurologic conditions.

Back Again:

- Many opportunities to connect with colleagues and mentors and make new friends. I remember being introduced to a colleague at the 2017 Kansas City meeting. We became lifelong friends and look forward to the Annual Meeting each year, where we pick up right where we left off.
- The Year in Review will highlight advances across multiple specialties over the past year.
- Numerous SIG meetings, which are now CME eligible.

I'd like to turn my attention to service, which provides opportunities for CNS involvement beyond the Annual Meeting. We all have busy lives juggling work, home, family, and friends. I realized that attending CNS meetings and participating in activities throughout the year helped fill my cup when I was nearing burnout.

Ways to Support CNS:

- **Run for office** and raise your hand for a committee appointment. I ran for Councilor for the East in 2017 and was unsuccessful. Thankfully, I didn't get discouraged — and the rest is history!
- **Join** a Child Neurology Community Panel.
- **Attend** CNS calls with LobbyIt and Congressional and Senate staff to help ensure our issues are heard and addressed.
- **Donate.** As our Executive Director and CEO says, "Dues keep the lights on; philanthropy lights the way forward." Your donation can be directed to a specific award fund or wherever the need is greatest.

Thank you to all our members, corporate sponsors, advocacy groups, and the CNS team for making this meeting a success!

Warm wishes for safe travels and a memorable Annual Meeting!

2026 Child Neurology Society Board of Directors

Thank you for your service on behalf of the CNS.



Yasmin Khakoo, MD, FCNS, FAAN, FAAP
President



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Immediate Past President



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Jorge Vidaurre, MD, FCNS
Councilor for the Midwest



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Councilor for the East

Congratulations, 2026 Fellows of the Child Neurology Society

At the Child Neurology Society, we're dedicated to supporting your professional growth and solidifying our position as a leading authority in pediatric neurology. Achieving FCNS status demonstrates your dedication to exceptional patient care and professional excellence. We're excited to present this year's FCNS members:

Sarah Bauer Huang, MD
Poonam Bhatia, MD
Daniel Bonthius, MD, PhD
William Burnette, MD
Mariana Ciobanu, MD
Leon Dure, MD
William D Gaillard, MD
Charles Gay, MD
Suman Ghosh, MD
Grace Gombolay, MD
Susy Jeng, MD
Jean-Baptiste Le Pichon, MD
Tim Lotze, MD
Gayatra Mainali, MD
David Mandelbaum, MD
Ann Neumeyer, MD
Katherine Nickels, MD
Deepa Rajan, MD
Teri Schreiner, MD
Sharief Taraman, MD
Alcy Torres, MD
Marissa Vawter-Lee, MD
Jan Wollack, MD
Lily Wong-Kisiel, MD
Julie Ziobro, MD

Achieving FCNS is a distinguished honor that recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional expertise and a longstanding commitment to advancing the field of child neurology through clinical excellence, education, research, leadership, and service.

Apply to become a Fellow of the CNS:
childneurologysociety.org/careers/active-members/fcns

Congratulations to the 2026 Awardees!

Child Neurology Society Awards

American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Neurology Trainee Travel Grant
Jasmin D. Sanchez, MD

Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award
Nigel Bamford, MD, FANA, FCNS

Bernard D'Souza International Fellowship Award
Daniela Muñoz Chesta, MD, MSc

Bernard D'Souza International Fellowship Award
Areeba Wasim MBBS, FCPS Pediatrics; FCPS Pediatric Neurology; MRCPCH (UK)

Bernard Sachs Award
Mustafa Sahin, MD, PhD

Bhuwan Garg High School Student Neuroscience Research Prize
Lilian Ouyang
Little Rock Central High School

Training Director Award
Rachel Gottlieb-Smith, MD, MHPE

Hower Award
Bruce H. Cohen, MD, FAAN, FCNS

M. Richard Koenigsberger Memorial Scholarship
Bhavan Modi, MD

Martha Bridge Denckla Award
Michael Msall, MD

Philip R. Dodge Young Investigator Award
Danielle Barber, MD, PhD

Roger and Mary Brumback Lifetime Achievement Award
Lawrence Brown, MD

Roger and Mary Brumback Lifetime Achievement Award
Susan Koh, MD

Taeun Chang Outstanding Junior Member Award
Shadi Shams, DO

Taeun Chang Outstanding Junior Member Award
Manouchehr Amanat, MD, MPH

Taeun Chang Outstanding Junior Member Award
Ali Reza Tavasoli, MD

Taeun Chang Outstanding Junior Member Award
Michelle Corkrum, MD, PhD

Taeun Chang Outstanding Junior Member Post-Graduate Award
Quinton Mandle, MD

Pediatric Epilepsy Research Foundation (PERF®) - Child Neurology Society Awards

PERF®- CNS Bridge Grant
Heather Olson, MD, MS

PERF®- CNS Bridge Grant
Kellen Winden, MD, PhD

PERF® - CNS Elterman Research Grant
Anna Dabrowski, MD, PhD

PERF® - CNS Shields Research Grant
Natalie Katz, MD, PhD

Child Neurology Foundation Awards

Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (NND) Summer Research Scholarship
Paulina Hart, 1st Year

Dr. Kenneth F. Swaiman Medical Student Scholarship
Kelly Fisher, 3rd Year
Chelsea Moon, 3rd Year
Ariana Nigoghosian, 2nd Year
Rachel Hellmann Whitaker, PhD, 2nd Year

The Association of Child Neurology Nurses Awards

Claire Chee Award for Excellence in Child Neurology Nursing
Lindsay Simmons, BSN, RN, CNRN

Nurse Practitioner Award for Excellence in Child Neurology Nursing
Stephanie Vitolano, MS, RN, CPNP-PC, CPHON

Ruth Shinnar Education Travel Award
Tracee Ridley-Pryor, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC

Please see the event mobile app for detailed awardee information.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Thursday, October 15

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

Autism
ABA-ndon Ship?: A Debate on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

Clinical Informatics
From Ambient Documentation to EHR Workflows: Practical Clinical Informatics for Child Neurology

Neonatal Neurology
Cases and Controversies in Neonatal Neurocritical Care

Neuro-palliative Care
Serious Illness Communication Skills

Quality
QI in the Wild: Bring Your Chaos, Leave with Clarity

Sleep
Advancing Pediatric Sleep Neurology: Practical Challenges, Collaborative Care, and Future Directions

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
Pediatric Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury: Updates and Research Spotlights

Friday, October 16

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Cerebral Palsy
Integrating Medical, Surgical, and Equipment Strategies in Tone Management

CNS Leadership Development and Mentorship
Growing Leaders at Every Career Stage: Mentorship, Sponsorship, and Pathways to Influence in Child Neurology

Demyelinating Disease
Across the Map: Regional Approaches to Pediatric Demyelinating Disease Management

Epilepsy
D/EE-SWAS: New Name, Same Challenges

Fetal Neurology
Fetal Neurology: Diagnostic and Prognostic Dilemmas

Headache
The Clinical Crossroads: A Joint Approach to the Evaluation and Management of Pediatric ICP-Headache Intersection

International Affairs/Global Health
Addressing Clinical and Educational Gaps in Pediatric Neurology through Implementation of SMART Goals in Latin America

Neurodevelopment Disorders
Facts and Fads: Approaching Misinformation in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

Friday, October 16

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Educational
Growing as a Child Neurology Educator

Neurocritical Care
Acute Care Case-Based Discussion: Is Multimodal Monitoring Helpful?

Neuroimmune Disorders
The Great Debates in Pediatric Neuroimmunology: Perspectives on Current Controversies and Unresolved Questions

Neuromodulation
Neuromodulation Cases Across Modalities: DBS, TMS, and VNS

Neuromuscular
Managing CK on the newborn screen and the early care of patients with Duchenne

NEW this year, SIGs are available for CME.

Please see the event mobile app for SIG locations.

Schedule at a Glance

All meetings/sessions are at the Palais des Congrès

Event location information is listed in the MOBILE app. • Pre-registration and ticketed events required sign-up during registration.

Monday, October 12

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	John M. "Jack" Pellock Resident Seminar on Epilepsy Reception and Dinner (Pre-registration required; REGISTRATION IS FULL)

Tuesday, October 13

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	John M. "Jack" Pellock Resident Seminar on Epilepsy (Pre-registration required; REGISTRATION IS FULL)
12:00 PM - 7:00 PM	CNS Registration
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM	**Biomedical Writing Workshop** (Ticketed event. Lunch at noon included.)
12:00 PM - 4:30 PM	**CNS Genetics Summit: Simplifying Genetic Testing, Accelerating Diagnosis, and the Path Toward Precision Medicine: A Hands-On Educational Workshop** (Ticketed event. Lunch at noon included.)
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Poster Installation

Wednesday, October 14

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	CNS Registration
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
7:00 AM - 7:45 AM	Junior Member/Early Career Lobby Talks
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Kenneth F. Swaiman Opening Address and Awards
8:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Poster Installation
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Program Coordinators of Child Neurology (PCCN) Annual Educational Conference
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Association of Child Neurology Nurses (ACNN) Annual Conference
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Beverage Break
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	**Workshop 1: Botulinum Toxin and Peripheral Nerve Blocks for Headaches** (Pre-registration required.)
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	**Workshop 2: Neurocritical Care: ABCs of Brain Injury, Monitoring and Recovery** (Pre-registration required.)
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	**Workshop 3: Child Neurology QI Lab: Practical Tools & Real-World Examples** (Pre-registration required.)
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	**Workshop 4: Neurodiversity-Affirming Care for Autistic Patients** (Pre-registration required.)
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	**Workshop 5: Do No Harm: Trauma-Informed Communication in Pediatric Epilepsy** (Pre-registration required.)
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Symposium I: Child Neurology Foundation: Connecting Child Neurologists to Community-Based Resources**
11:45 AM - 1:45 PM	Industry-Sponsored Satellite Symposium: A Journey Into the Lived Experience of Dravet Syndrome: Merging Caregiver Experiences and Clinical Science to Outline the Path Forward
11:45 AM - 1:45 PM	Industry-Sponsored Satellite Symposium: From Genome to Diagnosis: The Next Era of Precision Neurology

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

Wednesday, October 14 CONTINUED

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	Child Neurology Advocacy Update
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM	**Child Neurology/NDD Educators Symposium: The Evolving Landscape of Residency Training**
2:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Exhibits and Poster Review
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Beverage Break
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	**Workshop 6: Discovering Mentors in Child Neurology** (Pre-registration required.)
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	**Workshop 7: Difficult Conversations in NDD: Safety and Autonomy** (Pre-registration required.)
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	**Workshop 8: Advancing Research Through Storytelling and Family Partnerships** (Pre-registration required.)
4:15 PM - 6:00 PM	Staying Current with FDA-Approved Neurology Therapies (in NeuroNook - Located in the Exhibit Hall)
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Welcome Reception
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Movement Disorders Video Rounds

Thursday, October 15

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	CNS Registration
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
7:00 AM - 7:45 AM	Junior Member/Early Career Lobby Talks
8:00 AM - 10:15 AM	**Symposium II: CNS Presidential Symposium: Beyond Survival: Navigating the Future of Child Neurology**
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Program Coordinators of Child Neurology (PCCN) Annual Educational Conference
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Association of Child Neurology Nurses (ACNN) Annual Conference
8:15 AM - 9:00 AM	*Annals of the Child Neurology Society (ACNS)* Oversight Meeting
10:15 AM - 10:45 AM	Beverage Break
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	**Martha Bridge Denckla Award Lecture: Michael Msall, MD**
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	**Autism SIG**
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	**Clinical Informatics SIG**
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	**Neonatal Neurology SIG**
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	**Neuro-palliative Care SIG**
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	**Quality SIG**
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	**Sleep SIG**
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	**Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) SIG**
11:15 AM - 1:15 PM	Industry-Sponsored Product Theater: Rett Syndrome Management Your Way: Two Formulations of the First and Only FDA Approved Treatment
11:15 AM - 1:15 PM	Industry-Sponsored Product Theater: Recognizing the Unexpected: Expanding the Differential in Pediatric Neuromuscular Disease

Schedule at a Glance CONTINUED

Thursday, October 15 CONTINUED

11:30 AM - 7:00 PM	Exhibits and Poster Review
12:15 PM - 1:45 PM	Lunch and Visit Exhibit Hall
12:30 PM - 1:45 PM	Afternoon Oral Abstract Presentations (in the NeuroNook - located in the Exhibit Hall)
2:00 PM - 3:15 PM	**Seminar 1: Vaccine Preventable Neurological Diseases**
2:00 PM - 3:15 PM	**Seminar 2: Modernizing Endpoints in Pediatric Neurology Clinical Trials**
2:00 PM - 3:15 PM	**Seminar 3: From Genes to Therapy in Pediatric Movement Disorders**
3:15 PM - 3:45 PM	Beverage Break
3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	**Seminar 4: Artificial Intelligence in Child Neurology: Where Have We Come?**
3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	**Seminar 5: Neuromuscular Therapies: Efficacy, Safety & Endocrine Implications**
3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	**Seminar 6: Developing Brain Connectome: Network Alterations & Clinical Impact**
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM	CNS Annual Business Meeting
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Wine and Cheese Reception
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Evening Oral Abstract Presentations (in the NeuroNook - located in the Exhibit Hall)
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Industry-Sponsored Product Theater: Beyond Medication: Integrating REN into Pediatric Migraine Care
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Industry-Sponsored Product Theater: Modern VNS Therapy for Drug-Resistant Epilepsy: From Advanced Features to Improved Outcomes
7:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Poster Removal

Friday, October 16

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room
6:30 AM - 7:30 AM	Industry-Sponsored Sunrise Exchange: Increasing Awareness of Therapeutic Options for Thymidine Kinase 2 Deficiency (TK2d)
7:30 AM - 6:30 PM	CNS Registration
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
7:00 AM - 7:45 AM	Junior Member/Early Career Lobby Talks
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	*Pediatric Neurology Journal* Editorial Board Meeting
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	**Philip R. Dodge Young Investigator Award Lecture: Danielle Barber, MD, PhD**
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Association of Child Neurology Nurses (ACNN) Annual Conference
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Program Coordinators of Child Neurology (PCCN) Annual Educational Conference
8:30 AM - 9:15 AM	**Bernard Sachs Award Lecture: Mustafa Sahin, MD, PhD**
9:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Beverage Break

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Friday, October 16 CONTINUED

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	**Seminar 7: Pediatric Stroke Readiness: It's Time to Move the Needle!**
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	**Seminar 8: Real-World Immunotherapy Strategies, Pitfalls, and Side Effects**
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	**Seminar 9: Pediatric Neuromodulation: Emerging Evidence to Clinical Care**
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Lunch (Provided)
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Industry-Sponsored Satellite Symposium: Rett Syndrome Across the Disease Continuum: From Natural History to Patient Centered Innovation
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Industry-Sponsored Product Theater: Understanding Mechanism of Disease and Progression in DMD
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Cerebral Palsy SIG**
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**CNS Leadership Development and Mentorship SIG**
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Demyelinating Disease SIG**
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Epilepsy SIG**
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Fetal Neurology SIG**
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Headache SIG**
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**International Affairs / Global Health**
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	**Neurodevelopment Disorders SIG**
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM	**Seminar 10: Metabolic Epilepsies: Navigating "Forbidden" Therapies**
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM	**Seminar 11: Making It Count: Translating Educational Passion into Scholarship**
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM	**Seminar 12: Parental Perspectives on Fetal Counseling**
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	**CNS Clinical Research Annual Workshop: A Practical Roadmap From Research Question to Funded Investigator** (Pre-registration required.)
2:15 PM - 2:45 PM	Beverage Break
2:30 PM - 4:15 PM	**Platform Session 1**
2:30 PM - 4:15 PM	**Platform Session 2**
2:30 PM - 4:15 PM	**Platform Session 3**
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Junior Member/Early Career Forum and Panel Discussions
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Industry-Sponsored Satellite Symposium: Understanding Angelman Syndrome: From Diagnosis to Daily Life
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Industry-Sponsored Product Theater: A Clinical Genome Built with Intention
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Scientific Selection and Program Planning Committee Meeting
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	**Educational SIG**
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	**Neurocritical Care SIG**
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	**Neuroimmune Disorders SIG**
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	**Neuromodulation SIG**
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	**Neuromuscular SIG**
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Closing Reception

Schedule at a Glance CONTINUED

Saturday, October 17

7:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Speaker Ready Room
7:00 AM - 7:45 AM	Junior Member/Early Career Lobby Talks
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CNS Registration
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	**Hower Award Lecture: Bruce H. Cohen, MD, FAAN, FCNS**
8:45 AM - 9:15 AM	Beverage Break
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	**Symposium III: Year in Review**

Exhibits and Poster Review

Wednesday, October 14	
2:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Exhibits and Poster Review
4:15 PM - 6:00 PM	Staying Current with FDA-Approved Neurology Therapies (in NeuroNook - Located in the Exhibit Hall)
Thursday, October 15	
11:30 AM - 7:00 PM	Exhibits and Poster Review
12:30 PM - 1:45 PM	Afternoon Oral Abstract Presentations (in the NeuroNook - Located in the Exhibit Hall)
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Evening Oral Abstract Presentations (in the NeuroNook - Located in the Exhibit Hall)

CME Credit

- CME credits may be claimed at the end of the meeting.
- To request credit, complete the survey form on the CNS Education Center after attending all sessions.
- Once completed, your certificate will be available in your Education Center dashboard.
- CME credit must be claimed by December 31, 2026.
- No CME credits for 2026 will be issued for surveys completed after January 31, 2027.

Note: Members and Education Profiles will log in with their CNS log in. All others will log in with their registration email.

WWW.PATHLMS.COM/CNS/COURSES/310541

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

Enhance Your Annual Meeting Experience

Sessions are categorized into a specific track, allowing you to dive deep into your areas of interest. Choose from Clinical Practice, Research Advances, or Leadership and Career Development to tailor your learning journey.

Our sessions are offered in two formats, each designed to support different styles of learning. Seminars follow a didactic format, featuring expert-led structured content. **Workshops use a discussion-based format, where experts guide small-group conversations to encourage active participation and collaborative learning.**

Clinical Practice

Explore data-driven summaries on the latest approaches to diagnosing and managing pediatric neurologic conditions. Learn about the strength of the supporting data and gain insights through illustrative case discussions.

Workshop 1: Botulinum Toxin and Peripheral Nerve Blocks for Headaches

Workshop 2: Neurocritical Care: ABCs of Brain Injury, Monitoring and Recovery

Workshop 4: Neurodiversity-Affirming Care for Autistic Patients

Workshop 5: Do No Harm: Trauma-Informed Communication in Pediatric Epilepsy

Workshop 7: Difficult Conversations in NDD: Safety and Autonomy

Seminar 1: Vaccine Preventable Neurological Diseases

Seminar 3: From Genes to Therapy in Pediatric Movement Disorders

Seminar 4: Artificial Intelligence in Child Neurology: Where Have We Come?

Seminar 5: Neuromuscular Therapies: Efficacy, Safety, and Endocrine Implications

Seminar 7: Pediatric Stroke Readiness: It's Time to Move the Needle!

Seminar 8: Real-World Immunotherapy Strategies, Pitfalls, and Side Effects

Seminar 10: Metabolic Epilepsies: Navigating "Forbidden" Therapies

Seminar 12: Parental Perspectives on Fetal Counseling

Research Advances

Delve into the latest cutting-edge research and discover how these advancements might transform pediatric neurologic care. Topics span basic science, translational neuroscience, clinical research, and public health research, with a focus on future applications in the field.

Workshop 3: Child Neurology QI Lab: Practical Tools & Real-World Examples

Workshop 8: Advancing Research Through Storytelling and Family Partnerships

Seminar 2: Modernizing Endpoints in Pediatric Neurology Clinical Trials

Seminar 6: Developing Brain Connectome: Network Alterations & Clinical Impact

Seminar 9: Pediatric Neuromodulation: Emerging Evidence to Clinical Care

Leadership and Career Development

Engage in discussions about leadership opportunities, career development, and diverse career paths tailored to various career stages and practice types and receive valuable guidance to advance your professional journey.

Workshop 6: Discovering Mentors in Child Neurology

Seminar 11: Making It Count: Translating Educational Passion into Scholarship

Tuesday, October 13

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

John M. "Jack" Pellock Resident Seminar on Epilepsy

(Pre-registration required.)

Supported by

PERF Pediatric Epilepsy Research Foundation

STOKE THERAPEUTICS

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Biomedical Writing Workshop

(Ticketed event. Lunch at noon included.)

DESCRIPTION

This workshop is designed to help less experienced writers improve their manuscripts and deal more effectively with medical journals. Topics include common reasons for manuscript rejections, strategies for creating better manuscripts, useful techniques for overcoming writer's block, and optimal manuscript revision and resubmission. The informal format features numerous examples from previously submitted manuscripts to illustrate opportunities for improvement.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Recognize common reasons for manuscript rejection.
- Develop strategies to improve manuscript quality.
- Know techniques to overcome writer's block.
- More effectively revise manuscripts and respond to reviewers and editors.
- Understand the limitations of artificial intelligence programs and the rules for republication and patient privacy.

IMPACT STATEMENT

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Improving the quality of manuscripts submitted for publication.
- More effectively revising manuscripts following journal peer review.

ORGANIZER

E. Steve Roach, MD
The University of Texas Dell Medical School

12:00 PM - 4:30 PM

CNS Genetics Summit: Simplifying Genetic Testing, Accelerating Diagnosis, and the Path Toward Precision Medicine: A Hands-On Educational Workshop

(Ticketed event. Lunch at noon included.)

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DESCRIPTION

The practice of pediatric neurology is evolving rapidly, with steady progress toward precise genetic diagnosis and targeted therapeutics. Disorders once considered "idiopathic" have been delineated into thousands of monogenic conditions spanning a wide range of neurologic phenotypes, including autism, epilepsy, movement disorders, and inborn errors of metabolism. In this evolving landscape, knowledge of genetic testing has become an essential component of the child neurologist's toolkit, alongside EEG, MRI, and lumbar puncture. Exome and genome sequencing are increasingly recommended as part of the standard diagnostic evaluation by multiple professional societies. As genetic testing becomes more integrated into routine clinical care, there is a growing need for child neurologists to develop practical competence in selecting, ordering, and interpreting these tests.

Now in its second year following a successful inaugural session, this four-hour interactive workshop is designed for child neurology practitioners at all levels, including those in training and in practice, across both academic and non-academic settings. The workshop aims to provide practical, clinically relevant skills that can be directly applied to patient care. While the overall structure of the summit remains similar, the content has been updated to ensure continued value for both new and returning participants. The workshop will also provide opportunities to engage with faculty, including neurogeneticists, genetic counselors, and child neurologists with expertise in genetics.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

The workshop will be divided into three segments: (1) Foundations of Neurogenomics: Participants will review the technical aspects of next-generation sequencing, variant interpretation, inheritance patterns, and approaches to test selection and pre-test counseling. (2) Case-Based Interactive Learning: In small groups with facilitators, participants will work through two clinical cases to determine appropriate use of genetic testing, utilize online tools such as OMIM and ClinVar for interpretation, and practice post-test counseling. (3) Emerging Topics in Lobby-Style Talks: In breakout sessions, participants will explore advances in rare diseases, including advanced diagnostic techniques in exome-negative cases, precision therapeutics, and the global landscape.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Select and order appropriate genetic testing for children with neurological disorders and provide pre-test counseling to patients and families.
- Interpret genetic testing results and provide post-test counseling to patients and families.
- Discuss emerging topics in neurogenomics, including long read sequencing, precision therapeutics such as ASOs and gene therapies, and global perspectives in rare diseases.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session will help participants identify changes they can make in their practice related to:

- Ordering appropriate genetic testing for diagnostic evaluation of neurological disorders in children.
- Interpreting and counseling patients and families about genetic testing results.
- Incorporating emerging advances in neurogenomics, including novel sequencing approaches, targeted therapies, and global perspectives, into clinical practice.

SUMMIT DIRECTORS

Kuntal Sen, MD
Children's National Hospital

Louis Dang, MD, PhD
University of Michigan

EDUCATION LEADS

Rachel Gottlieb-Smith, MD, MHPE
University of Michigan

Jeffrey Strelzik, MD
Children's National Hospital

Section 1: Foundations of Neurogenomics

Lacey Smith, CGC
Boston Children's Hospital

Jennifer Harmon, MD, PhD
Wake Forest University

Section 2: Case-Based Interactive Learning

Amy Goldstein, MD
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Amitha Ananth, MD
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Section 3: Emerging Topics in Lobby-Style Talks

a. When Exomes Are Negative: What's Next? Radhika Dhamija, MD (Mayo Clinic); Sho Yano, MD, PhD (University of Chicago); Wei-Liang Chen, MD (Children's National Hospital)

b. ASO Trials and Novel Delivery Platforms: What Does It Take to Treat a Single Patient? Annapurna Poduri, MD, MPH (Boston Children's Hospital); Deepa Rajan, MD (University of Pittsburgh Medical Center); Jennifer Bain, MD, PhD (Columbia University)

c. Gene Therapy Is Done — Now What? Surveillance in Neuromuscular Disorders: Peter Kang, MD (University of Minnesota); Arpita Lakhotia, MD (University of Louisville); Samuel Mackenzie, MD, PhD (University of Rochester Medical Center)

d. Rare Diseases and Genomics Beyond Borders: Are We Leaving Parts of the World Behind? Jorge Vidaurre, MD (Nationwide Children's Hospital); Shane Quinonez, MD (University of Michigan); Andres Jimenez Gomez, MD (Baylor College of Medicine)

ADDITIONAL FACULTY

Kristina Julich, MD (Dell Medical Center); Sophia Ceulemans, CGC (GeneDx); Margie Ream, MD, PhD (Nationwide Children's Hospital)

Wednesday, October 14

7:00 AM - 7:45 AM

Junior Member/Early Career Lobby Talks

See page 50 for the full schedule of talks.

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Kenneth F. Swaiman Opening Address and Awards

Join us as we officially open the 55th Annual Meeting of the Child Neurology Society with the Kenneth F. Swaiman Opening Address and Awards. This gathering celebrates the spirit of leadership, excellence, and service across the child neurology community. The program will feature opening remarks from CNS President Dr. Yasmin Khakoo, followed by the presentation and announcement of several prestigious awards recognizing outstanding contributions to clinical care, research, education, and humanism in medicine. Awards presented or announced during this ceremony include:

- Junior Member Awards
- Bernard D'Souza International Fellowship Awards
- Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award
- Training Director Award
- ACNN Nurse Practitioner Excellence Award in Child Neurology Nursing
- ACNN Claire Chee Award for Excellence in Child Neurology Nursing
- ACNN Ruth Shinnar Education Travel Award
- Child Neurology Foundation Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (NDD) Summer Research Scholarship
- Child Neurology Foundation Dr. Kenneth F. Swaiman Medical Student Scholarships
- PERF®-CNS Bridge Grant Awards
- PERF®-CNS Elterman Research Grant Award
- PERF®-CNS Shields Research Grant Award
- Roger and Mary Brumback Lifetime Achievement Awards

This meaningful event honors the legacy of Dr. Kenneth F. Swaiman, CNS's founding president, and highlights the individuals shaping the future of child neurology today.

All attendees are welcome.

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Workshop 1: Botulinum Toxin and Peripheral Nerve Blocks for Headaches

(Pre-registration required.)

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

Procedural headache medicine has been an established component of headache management for many years and continues to expand as a key area of modern clinical practice. This introductory hands-on workshop will acquaint participants with interventional approaches using onabotulinumtoxinA (BoNT A) and occipital and trigeminal nerve block injections for headache management. The session will review the evidence, indications, and clinical rationale for incorporating these procedures into the care of young adults. In addition to technique-focused instruction, the workshop will address practical aspects of implementing procedural headache care in practice, including strategies for navigating payer authorization processes, accessing resources for documentation and workflow integration. Facilitators will demonstrate protocols, injection sites, and technique considerations, and participants will have the opportunity to practice elements of BoNT A administration and nerve block injections under guided supervision.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Explain the indications and rationale for the use of onabotulinumtoxinA (BoNT-A) and peripheral nerve block injections for headache treatment.
- Demonstrate how to perform BoNT-A and nerve block injections on a mannequin head model.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me to identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Counseling patients regarding the risks and benefits of procedural options for headache management.
- Expanding knowledge on procedural options for headache management for my patients and navigating systemic barriers to this advanced treatment.

ORGANIZER

M. Cristina C. Victorio, MD, FAAN, FAHS
Akron Children's Hospital

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

DISCUSSION LEADERS

Heidi Blume, MD, MPH
University of Washington, Seattle Children's Hospital

Marielle Kabbouche-Samaha, MD, FAAN, FAHS
Cincinnati Children's Hospital

Alma Bicknese, MD, MS
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Ana Marissa Lagman-Bartolome, MD, FRCPC, FAHS
Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, London, Canada

Daniel Noam Lax, MD
Montefiore Medical Center

Reena Rastogi, MD, FAHS
Phoenix Children's Hospital

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Workshop 2: Neurocritical Care: ABCs of Brain Injury, Monitoring and Recovery

(Pre-registration required.)

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

The overarching goal of pediatric neurocritical care is to improve outcomes for children with life-threatening neurologic illness by preventing secondary brain injury. Importantly, the delivery of neurocritical care does not begin at the doors of the pediatric intensive care unit, but rather at the onset of the patient's clinical symptoms. Foundational neuroprotective principles must be applied early, starting in the prehospital setting and continuing through the emergency center, inpatient wards, and intensive care unit.

This session will be an interactive workshop presenting a practical, systems-based approach to pediatric neurocritical care through three complementary topics. The workshop will use a case-based approach to cover the basics of neurocritical care, including the following principles: (1) The ABCs of acquired brain injury, outlining foundational principles of acute neurologic support and emphasizing early stabilization, cerebral perfusion and prevention of secondary brain injury, and applying neuroprotective strategies before ICU admission; (2) Advanced neuromonitoring, highlighting how tools such as continuous EEG, intracranial pressure monitoring, and cerebral oxygenation, among others, can identify neurologic deterioration before it becomes clinically apparent; and (3) Long-term neurodevelopmental recovery, reviewing common neurodevelopmental and cognitive sequelae following acquired brain injury, the importance of early rehabilitation and multidisciplinary care planning, and incorporating outcome assessments into neurocritical care practice and research.

Through this case-based approach and integrated discussion, this session will equip clinicians with actionable strategies to recognize evolving brain injury, apply neurocritical care principles early, and optimize both short- and long-term outcomes for critically ill children.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Apply the ABC framework to the early management of acquired brain injury across care settings.
- Utilize neuromonitoring to identify neurologic deterioration and prevent secondary injury.
- Integrate long-term neurodevelopmental considerations into acute neurocritical care decision-making.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- The approach to a critically ill patient is to apply principles of neurocritical care.
- The use of neuromonitoring modalities in the care of patients in the neurocritical care unit may impact clinical outcomes.
- Understanding the spectrum of neurodevelopmental outcomes of patients requiring neurocritical care and support for patients and families requiring neurocritical care.

ORGANIZER

Kristen Fisher, DO
Texas Children's Hospital

DISCUSSION LEADERS

Dana Harrar, MD
Children's National Hospital

Raquel Farias-Moeller, MD
Children's Wisconsin

Sarah Risen, MD
Texas Children's Hospital

Daniel Davila Williams, MD
Texas Children's Hospital

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Workshop 3: Child Neurology QI Lab: Practical Tools & Real-World Examples

(Pre-registration required.)

Research Advances

DESCRIPTION

Quality improvement (QI) skills are essential for pediatric neurologists seeking to improve care delivery, patient outcomes, and system performance, yet many clinicians struggle to translate QI concepts into practical action. This interactive, hands-on workshop is designed to demystify QI and provide participants with tools they can immediately apply in clinical practice. Using brief didactics, a small group format, and case-based activities, participants will apply core improvement principles to real-world pediatric neurology scenarios. Attendees will practice developing aim statements, selecting appropriate process, outcome, and balancing measures, and using foundational QI tools such as process mapping, driver diagrams, and Plan–Do–Study Act (PDSA) cycles. Participants will leave equipped with the confidence and tools to initiate a pediatric neurology-focused improvement project at their home institution.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Describe key principles of quality improvement and how they apply to pediatric neurology clinical practices.
- Confidently operationalize essential QI skills (e.g., process maps, driver diagrams, PDSA cycles) in real-world clinical scenarios.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Systematically evaluating a quality problem.
- Applying quality improvement tools to improve outcomes.

ORGANIZER

Thara Bala, MD, MHA, FAAP
Texas Children's Hospital

DISCUSSION LEADER

Thara Bala, MD, MHA, FAAP
Texas Children's Hospital

Anup Patel, MD, FAAN, FEES
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Kelsey Merison, MD
Akron Children's Hospital

Sara Molisani, MD, MHQS
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Brandy Fureman, PhD, FAES
Epilepsy Foundation of America

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Workshop 4: Neurodiversity-Affirming Care for Autistic Patients

(Pre-registration required.)

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

Child neurologists frequently evaluate and provide care for autistic patients across age groups and practice settings. Despite this, education and training for child neurologists on topics critical to the delivery of high-quality, neurodiversity affirming care for this population are limited. Clinical care that is inclusive and affirming requires knowledge beyond diagnostic criteria and common comorbidities. This knowledge includes an understanding of disability culture, disability history in medicine, and the neurodiversity movement. Additionally, awareness of ableism and socially constructed norms, as well as narrative and cultural humility toward the lived experiences of the autistic community, are essential. This interactive session will review three important topics, offering concrete clinical pearls and an opportunity for important dialogue for practicing child neurologists.

We will review the history of eugenics in the diagnosis and treatment of autism to better contextualize and understand our cultural biases, language, and clinical practices. We will also review neurodiversity-affirming clinical practices surrounding the use of neurodiversity-affirming language and communication considerations for autism-related counseling. Educational practices for teaching trainees will also be addressed. Finally, we will review current controversies surrounding therapeutics for autism, including leucovorin, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), and stem cell therapy. We will explore considerations surrounding both our interprofessional and patient-facing responses to these therapies.

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES
As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Describe neurodiversity-affirming language and practices.
- Better respond to requests for controversial therapies for autism and engage in shared decision-making with autistic individuals and their families.

LEARNER OUTCOMES
This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Addressing requests for alternative therapeutics in autism.
- Language use surrounding autism.

ORGANIZER
Talia Shear, MD
Ann & Robert H Lurie Children's Hospital

DISCUSSION LEADERS
Talia Shear, MD
Ann & Robert H Lurie Children's Hospital

Diana Cejas, MD, MPH
University of North Carolina/Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities

Maya Ayoub, MD, EdM
UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital

Taryn Liu, DO, MPH
Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Workshop 5: Do No Harm: Trauma-Informed Communication in Pediatric Epilepsy

(Pre-registration required.)

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION
This interactive, case-based workshop will engage attendees in guided small-group discussion of clinical scenarios that illustrate key principles of trauma-informed communication across the pediatric epilepsy care journey. The workshop will emphasize practical problem-solving, shared learning, and communication skills that clinicians can apply immediately in clinical practice. In addition to in-person table discussion, participants will access supplementary workshop materials through a dedicated interactive webpage designed specifically for the session (e.g., Padlet).

The webpage will include short expert video perspectives, curated resources, and prompts to support real-time engagement, allowing participants to deepen their discussion, review key concepts, and interact with content during and after the session. Faculty will rotate and facilitate discussion among tables, model effective language, and help participants translate the cases into concrete communication approaches for use with patients and families. The discussions will center on broader themes using real-life vignettes:

1. Initial diagnosis and uncertainty.
2. Discussing escalation of treatment and surgery.
3. Responding when treatment does not go as hoped.
4. Supporting caregivers who are overwhelmed, fearful, or retraumatized.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Recognize signs of pediatric medical traumatic stress in children with epilepsy and caregivers.
- Apply trauma-informed communication strategies when discussing treatment escalation and epilepsy surgery to reduce distress and improve family engagement.

LEARNER OUTCOMES
This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Reducing medical traumatic stress in families affected by epilepsy.
- Improving how I communicate about epilepsy surgery and other high-stakes treatment decisions.

ORGANIZER
Monika Jones, JD
Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Alliance

DISCUSSION LEADERS
Mary Lou Smith, PhD, CPsych
University of Toronto and The Hospital for Sick Children

Lauren Treat, MD
Children's Hospital Colorado and the University of Colorado School of Medicine

Monica Lemmon, MD
Duke University School of Medicine

Audrey Vernick
Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Alliance

Monika Jones, JD
Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Alliance

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Symposium I: Child Neurology Foundation: Connecting Child Neurologists to Community-Based Resources

DESCRIPTION

This symposium explores how pediatric neurologists can better support children and families by strengthening connections to community resources and services. Through expert presentations and interactive breakout discussions, participants will examine barriers to care, family safety and legal considerations, and the mental health needs of caregivers. The session highlights practical strategies, real world examples, and available resources to improve access, reduce caregiver burden, and foster more inclusive, family centered care, concluding with actionable next steps and opportunities for ongoing collaboration.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Identify key barriers to accessing care for children with neurologic conditions and describe strategies pediatric neurologists can use to better integrate community resources into clinical practice.
- Apply practical approaches to support family safety, legal needs, and caregiver mental health, including connecting families to appropriate community-based services and supports.

IMPACT STATEMENTS

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Improving access to care by integrating community resources and addressing gaps in communication with patients and families.
- Supporting family safety, legal considerations, and caregiver mental health through appropriate referrals and resource connections.

Improving Access to Care
Alison Christy, MD, PhD
Providence Health and Services

Family Safety and Legal Considerations
Christina Briscoe, MD, EdM
Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School

Mental Health Support for Families and Caregivers
Brad Thompson, MA, LPC-S
The Hali Project/Child Neurology Foundation

Community Social Work and Support Services
Kim Hindery, MEd
Child Neurology Foundation

11:45 AM - 1:45 PM

Satellite Symposium - Industry Sessions

Refer to page 57 for more details about the sessions.

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM

Child Neurology Advocacy Update

DESCRIPTION

This session will provide an update on the CNS advocacy agenda and current policy priorities affecting child neurology, with a focus on key issues shaping the policy environment and opportunities to advance care for children with neurologic conditions.

TOPICS WILL INCLUDE

- Current CNS advocacy priorities and policy initiatives
- Key policy developments affecting child neurology
- Advocacy opportunities to raise awareness and support children with neurologic conditions
- Strategies for advancing access to high-quality neurologic care

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Child Neurology/NDD Educators Symposium: The Evolving Landscape of Residency Training

DESCRIPTION

The Child Neurology Educators Symposium is a dynamic and interactive forum designed for those dedicated to the training and professional development of future child neurologists and neurodevelopmental disability (NDD) specialists. This year's symposium will begin with high-yield updates on activities within child neurology/NDD medical student and resident education,

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followed by an overview of osteopathic training relevant to the recruitment of DO residency applicants. This will be followed by engaging presentations aimed at understanding the evolution and future of child neurology residency requirements. The session will conclude with small-group breakout sessions and roundtable discussions highlighting a broad range of educational interests, including preclinical curricula, residency recruitment, assessment in the use of artificial intelligence, and osteopathic training. This year's program is a can't-miss experience for anyone who wants to stay ahead of changes in child neurology training.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the recent evolution of child neurology residency training that includes non-pediatrics board-eligible pathways and the potential for the ACGME Shaping GME process to change the landscape of child neurology requirements.
- Define unique features of osteopathic education and similarities to allopathic medical education.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Curriculum planning for child neurology/NDD residents
- Evaluation of residency applicants from osteopathic schools.

I. Rapid Fire Updates on Child Neurology/NDD Education

Welcome and Match Update
Margie Ream, MD, PhD, CNEC Chair
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Child Neurology Residency Consortium Update
Robert Thompson Stone, MD
University of Rochester

Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Update
Miya Asato, MD
Kennedy Krieger Institute

Education Special Interest Group Update
John A. Pugh, MD, PhD
Albany Medical Center, Bernard and Millie Duker Children's Hospital

Chris Barton, MD
University of Louisville, School of Medicine, and the Norton Children's Neuroscience Institute

Medical Student Outreach Update
Adam Wallace, MD
University of Wisconsin

Child Neurology-specific RITE Exam
Sudha Kessler, MD, MSCE
Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania

CNCDP-K12 Update
Brad Schlaggar, MD, PhD
Kennedy Krieger Institute

II. Clarity to Foster Inclusion: A History of Osteopathic Medical Education and Licensure

Gretta A. Gross, DO, MEd
Executive Vice President and Chief Assessment Officer, National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners

III. Child Neurology Training Past, Present and Future

History of Child Neurology Training: How We Got to Where We Are Today
Alison Christy, MD, PhD
Providence Health and Services, Portland, Oregon

Non-American Board of Pediatrics Eligible Pathways
Robert Thompson Stone, MD
University of Rochester

The ACGME Neurology Review Committee and Shaping GME
Christopher Boes, MD
Chair, Review Committee for Neurology, Mayo Clinic

Louise Castile, MS
Executive Director, Review Committee Neurology, ACGME

IV. Round Table Discussions

Osteopathic Education
Gretta A. Gross, DO, MEd
Executive Vice President and Chief Assessment Officer, National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners

Paul Youssef, DO
Mayo Clinic

Jackson Mittlesteadt, DO
Child Neurology Resident, PGY3, Nationwide Children's Hospital

Jacob Hanson, DO
Child Neurology Resident, PGY1, University of Minnesota

Residency Application Review and Recruitment Best Practices
Margie Ream, MD, PhD, CNEC Chair
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Meeryo Choe, MD
UCLA Department of Pediatrics

Training and Assessing Residents in the Use of AI
Jeffrey Strelzik, MD
Children's National Hospital

Jaclyn Martindale, DO, FAAN, FCNS
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Incorporating Child Neurology in Preclinical Curriculum
John A. Pugh, MD, PhD
Albany Medical Center, Bernard and Millie Duker Children's Hospital

Rachel Gottlieb-Smith, MD, MHPE
University of Michigan

2:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Exhibits and Poster Review

Refer to page 14 for more details.

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Workshop 6: Discovering Mentors in Child Neurology

(Pre-registration required.)

Leadership and Career Development

DESCRIPTION

Leadership and career development are fundamental to the growth of child neurologists and to the future of child neurology (CN). Identifying an appropriate mentor and/or sponsor is central to this endeavor and is not always possible at one's own institution. This session is informed by the seminal CNS Leadership and Mentorship SIG meeting in 2024 and the leadership workshop held at the CNS 2025 Annual Meeting. At the SIG meeting and workshop, members outlined several gaps in leadership and sustained mentorship opportunities in the field of CN. Broadly, these gaps included a lack of knowledge about available leadership programs, difficulty for members at large in accessing mentors beyond their institutions, and a lack of advocacy initiatives within CN. The CNS 2025 workshop sought to address these gaps and was very well received by attendees.

This workshop will continue to address these gaps by providing a formalized, interactive approach for attendees to learn about multiple opportunities for leadership development at the early- to mid-career stage and to meet other society members who have been involved in leadership and advocacy and are interested in serving as mentors. Additionally, these individuals were specifically selected because they can facilitate connections to other society members who can serve as mentors. In turn, this session will begin to create a much-needed network of mentors, mentees, and leaders in CN.

A panel of six members will represent leadership and career development engagement within the Child Neurology Society, the American Academy of Neurology (AAN), the American Neurological Association (ANA), training leadership, and other medical-related organizations. This session aims to empower child neurologists with the knowledge and tools to advance their leadership skills and advocate for themselves and for a wide range of pertinent initiatives in the field of CN.

This session will also focus on leadership and sponsorship, highlighting the important distinction between mentorship and sponsorship and exploring practical ways mentees and mentors can work together to increase sponsorship opportunities. Examples include a mentor redirecting a speaking invitation to a junior colleague, inviting mentees to join relevant committees, and sharing information about opportunities such as resident and fellow section board positions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Develop a better understanding of how they can advance in leadership and mentorship roles throughout their careers regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity, including applying for and participating in leadership opportunities and programs in the CNS and other allied medical organizations.
- Develop a connection with CNS members they may otherwise never get to meet and who can provide mentorship they may not be able to obtain at their institution or practice.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Developing leadership skills, including how to identify leadership opportunities that can advance my career development.
- Advancing my career through peer mentorship within the Child Neurology Society (CNS).

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ORGANIZERS

Rujuta B. Wilson, MD, MS
UCLA Tarjan (UCEDD) Center

Jonathan Strober, MD, FCNS
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital

DISCUSSION LEADERS

Soe S. Mar, MD, MBBS, MRCP
Washington University in St. Louis

Azara Singh, MD
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Jaclyn Martindale, DO, FAAN, FCNS
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Madeline Chadehumbe, MD, FAAN
Neuroabilities

Alison Christy, MD, PhD, FCNS
Providence Health and Services

Miya Bernson-Leung, MD, EdM, FAAN
Boston Children's Hospital

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Workshop 7: Difficult Conversations in NDD: Safety and Autonomy

(Pre-registration required.)

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

Adolescents and adults with neurodevelopmental disabilities (NDD) face elevated risks during life transitions, particularly around personal safety, abuse prevention, menstrual management, reproductive health counseling, and decision making supports. Clinicians are often asked to provide guidance on sensitive, high-stakes issues (sexual health, contraception, medication effects, capacity, guardianship) but may lack structured, practical tools and comfort in broaching these aspects of clinical care. This interactive workshop equips pediatric neurologists and trainees with an actionable, trauma-informed, rights-respecting approach to supporting safety, health, and autonomy across the transition to adulthood for patients with NDD.

Using case-based small-group discussion, participants will practice: (1) Naturalistic safety transition planning (home, community, school, work); (2) Screening and response pathways for exploitation and abuse; (3) Menstrual care and contraception counseling that accounts for communication differences, sensory needs, and medication interactions; and (4) Decision-making supports along the spectrum from supported decision-making to guardianship, including how to document capacity considerations and collaborate with families and interprofessional teams. Participants will leave with a practical "clinic-ready" toolkit: sample counseling language, a safety planning checklist, a transition readiness structure, and a framework to balance protection with autonomy, especially for individuals with complex communication, behavioral challenges, or higher support needs.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Apply a structured, trauma-informed framework to counsel adolescents and young adults with neurodevelopmental disabilities on safety planning, abuse prevention, and reproductive and menstrual health while respecting autonomy and communication differences.
- Differentiate and implement decision-making supports (supported decision-making, partial alternatives, and guardianship) and document capacity-related considerations using practical language that balances protection with patient rights.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- How I counsel and plan for menstrual care, contraception, and reproductive autonomy for patients with neurodevelopmental disabilities: Yes / No.
- How I assess and document safety risks, abuse prevention pathways, and decision-making supports (including supported decision-making and guardianship): Yes / No.

ORGANIZER

Christina Briscoe, MD, EdM
Boston Children's Hospital

DISCUSSION LEADERS

Tuba Rashid Khan, MD, MPH, EdM
Boston Children's Hospital

Christina Briscoe, MD, EdM
Boston Children's Hospital

Jessica Solomon Sanders, MD
University of Colorado School of Medicine

Seth M. Keller, MD, FAAN
Neurology Associates of South Jersey

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Workshop 8: Advancing Research Through Storytelling and Family Partnerships

(Pre-registration required.)

Research Advances

DESCRIPTION

The return on investment in pediatric research is the profound impact on individual children and families, as well as society at large. The hope that research will improve our patients' outcomes in the future is directly tied to scientific funding and the infrastructure necessary for basic, translational, and clinical research in pediatric neurology. In the current information ecosystem, the narrative of pediatric researchers and people with lived experiences can cut through all the noise.

The purpose of this session is to center storytelling as a vehicle to drive innovation, collaboration, impact, and the dissemination of research. Through highlighting partnerships with families and family-led organizations, we will share stories that illustrate how lived experience can promote alignment between communities and academicians and accelerate progress in pediatric neurology research to transform our care. Our speakers and panel discussion will emphasize how storytelling can be used as a tool at all phases of the research life cycle and as a fulcrum for advocacy.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Understand the necessity of engaging people with lived experience throughout the research life cycle.
- Describe how storytelling and community-informed research amplify impact.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Committing to community-engaged research and dissemination.
- Reflecting on how I can use stories to advocate for research funding, policy, and the sustainability of science.

ORGANIZER

Dawn Gano, MD, MAS, FRCPC
University of British Columbia and BC Children's Hospital

DISCUSSION LEADERS

Dawn Gano, MD, MAS, FRCPC
University of British Columbia and BC Children's Hospital

Yolaine Dupont, BA
PVNH Support & Awareness

Betsy Pilon, BA
Hope for HIE

Paul Gross, BSc
Cerebral Palsy Research Network

4:15 PM - 6:00 PM

Staying Current with FDA-Approved Neurology Therapies (in NeuroNook - located in the Exhibit Hall)

DESCRIPTION

As a part of the new NeuroNook located in the exhibit hall, this dedicated series will highlight recent FDA-approved therapies relevant to pediatric-onset neurologic conditions. Brief, live presentations will focus on drugs approved by the FDA within the past five years, including therapies currently approved for adult use that may have relevance to patients with pediatric-onset neurologic conditions.

Programs will feature therapies across key areas of pediatric neurology, including:

- Migraine and headache
- Neuroimmunologic and demyelinating conditions (including NMOSD and MS)
- Epilepsy
- Neuromuscular conditions

Presentations will provide concise updates on clinical efficacy and safety, approved indications and potential applicability to pediatric-onset conditions, mechanisms of action, and the potential impact on pediatric neurology patient care.

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Welcome Reception

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Movement Disorders Video Rounds

DESCRIPTION

This session presents a curated selection of video cases illustrating the breadth of pediatric-onset movement disorders encountered in clinical practice. Each case is introduced through a focused video presentation, followed by expert faculty commentary highlighting key elements of phenomenology, differential diagnostic considerations, and distinguishing clinical features.

Through guided analysis of real-world examples, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of abnormal movements in children and the clinical reasoning used to classify them. Confirmed diagnoses are provided after discussion, allowing participants to integrate observed findings with final outcomes.

Designed for clinicians and trainees, this session offers a structured opportunity to refine diagnostic skills, enhance recognition of complex movement patterns, and engage with leaders in pediatric movement disorders.

ORGANIZER

Keith A. Coffman, MD
Mayo Clinic

Thursday, October 15

7:00 AM - 7:45 AM

Junior Member/Early Career Lobby Talks

See page 50 for the full schedule of talks.

8:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Symposium II: CNS Presidential Symposium: Beyond Survival: Navigating the Future of Child Neurology

DESCRIPTION

This symposium is in part a celebration of new diagnostics and therapeutics in child neurology. We will also address challenges facing our patients, caregivers/families, clinicians, researchers, and trainees in this exciting new era. Survivorship is well described in the pediatric oncology world but remains aspirational for many child neurologists who trained in the late 20th century. The speakers will update the audience on their respective areas of expertise and offer solutions for how we will care for patients with previously deadly conditions. We will also discuss survivorship of the child neurology workforce in the context of research, clinical excellence, and training programs, especially in the setting of federal funding cuts and an unprecedented era of disinformation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Understand the development and use of novel agents in pediatric neurologic conditions.
- Apply new educational technology to usher in the next generation of child neurologists.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Diagnosis and management of children with previously incurable neurologic conditions who now have potentially lifesaving treatment options.
- Understanding that child neurology educational opportunities are rapidly changing and what the future holds for novel teaching modalities such as machine learning and artificial intelligence.

Survivorship in Child Neurology: What We Can Learn from Pediatric Oncology
Yasmin Khakoo, MD, FCNS, FAAN, FAAP
MSK Kids at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer/Weill Cornell Medical College, NY, NY

When Hope Rewrites the Future: Navigating Survivorship and Family Dynamics in the Era of Transformative Neuromuscular Therapies
Jonathan B. Strober, MD, FCNS
UCSF, Benioff Children's Hospital, San Francisco, CA

"Lifting as We Climb" — Cultivating the Future of Child Neurology Through Academic Development
Annapurna Poduri, MD, MPH
Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School

Who's Watching the Kids: Maintaining and Expanding Our Child Neurology Workforce Through Inspired Education and Innovation
Rana R. Said, MD FAAN
UT Southwestern, Dallas, TX

New Therapies for the Leukodystrophies
Keith Van Haren, MD
Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA

When 'Time is Brain': Survivorship in Pediatric Stroke
Nomazulu Dlamini, MBBS, MSc, PhD
Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Martha Bridge Denckla Award Lecture: Michael Msall, MD

Supported by

Kennedy Krieger

Why Functioning Matters in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities: Collaborative Strategies for Engagement and Intervention

Michael Msall, MD
Professor of Pediatrics, UChicago Medicine Faculty Physician, specializing in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics,
Comer Children's Hospital
Chicago, Illinois

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

Special Interest Groups Meetings (SIGS)

Autism

ABA-ndon Ship?: A Debate on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

LEADER
Callie Hocker, MD

DESCRIPTION
The Autism SIG meeting will begin with introductions of leadership and attendees, fol-lowed by a debate-style discussion focused on a topic relevant to the management of pa-tients with autism spectrum disorder. This year's topic will be applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy. The debate will feature an affirmative team led by a member of SIG leadership and an opposition team led by another member of leadership. A third SIG leader will moder-ate the discussion, with key arguments from each side documented on a poster board for the group. Teams will be assigned in advance and provided designated time for audience participation to contribute to each team's discussion. The session will conclude with a wrap-up discussion led by SIG leadership members, summarizing the debate and highlight-ing key takeaways.

Clinical Informatics

From Ambient Documentation to EHR Workflows: Practical Clinical Informatics for Child Neurology

LEADER
Mikael Guzman, MD, PhD

DESCRIPTION
This will be the inaugural Clinical Informatics SIG meeting, bringing together CNS members interested in practical, pediatric neurology–focused informatics. The session will begin with brief introductions and an attendee survey to capture participants' roles, institutional EHR environments, experience with informatics/AI, and priorities for future SIG program-ming. The first discussion block will focus on ambient clinical documentation, AI scribes, and AI-generated chart or visit summaries. Using facilitator prompts rather than slides, at-tendees will compare early institutional experiences, perceived benefits, implementation barriers, consent and privacy considerations, documentation quality, clinician oversight, and pediatric-specific concerns, including caregiver-patient-clinician conversations.

The second discussion block will focus on pediatric neurology workflows within Epic and other large vendor EHRs. Topics will include pre-visit questionnaires, seizure and develop-mental history templates, SmartPhrases/structured note tools, order panels, clinical deci-sion support, patient-message workflows, after-visit summaries, care plans, registries, and opportunities for cross-institutional tool sharing. The meeting will conclude by identifying shared needs, volunteers, and 3–5 SIG priorities for the coming year, including future virtual discussions, resource exchange, and potential collaborative evaluation projects.

Neonatal Neurology

Cases and Controversies in Neonatal Neurocritical Care

LEADER
Nina Natarajan, MD

DESCRIPTION
The Neonatal SIG will engage attendees through clinical case presentations by child neu-rology trainees, highlighting complex diagnostic challenges. This will be followed by an ex-pert debate on a timely topic in neonatal neurology, moderated by the SIG organizers.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

Neuro-palliative Care

Serious Illness Communication Skills

LEADER
Talia Shear, MD

DESCRIPTION
This SIG meeting will focus on building community and teaching practical pediatric neu-ropalliative care skills, specifically in the area of serious illness communication. This year's session will review tangible, evidence-based communication strategies that attendees can incorporate into clinical practice. Attendees will then have the opportunity to practice these skills, including using NURSE statements to respond to emotion and crafting a serious ill-ness headline.

Quality

QI in the Wild: Bring Your Chaos, Leave With Clarity

LEADER
Thara Bala, MD, MHA

DESCRIPTION
This interactive Special Interest Group (SIG) session is designed to move beyond theory and focus on the real-world challenges of quality improvement (QI) in child neurology. The session will begin with a brief overview of SIG activities and highlights from the recent QI workshop, including key lessons learned and practical takeaways. The majority of the ses-sion will be dedicated to collaborative problem-solving. Participants are invited to bring a current QI project, idea, or challenge and engage in facilitated discussions with peers. Through small-group and large-group dialogue, attendees will have the opportunity to share experiences, exchange strategies, and receive feedback from colleagues facing similar issues. This session emphasizes practical solutions, shared learning, and community building. By creating a supportive environment for open discussion, the SIG aims to help participants refine their QI efforts, overcome barriers, and leave with actionable ideas they can apply in their own clinical settings.

Sleep

Advancing Pediatric Sleep Neurology: Practical Challenges, Collaborative Care, and Future Directions

LEADER
Amy Licis, MD

Robert Stowe, MD

DESCRIPTION
The renewed Sleep SIG will focus on opportunities to strengthen collaboration and educa-tion within the child neurology community. The session will begin with brief introductions and an overview of the goals for restarting the Sleep SIG. Facilitated roundtable discussions will then explore participants' clinical experiences, institutional resources, barriers to care, educational needs, and opportunities for multicenter collaboration, mentorship, advocacy, and trainee engagement.

Discussion topics will include the evaluation and management of common sleep disorders encountered by child neurologists, integration of sleep medicine into neurology practice, sleep-related epilepsy concerns, inpatient and outpatient sleep testing challenges, and emerging research directions. Time will also be dedicated to identifying priorities for future SIG activities, including networking, collaborative projects, educational programming, and communication strategies throughout the year. The overall structure is designed to maxim-ize attendee participation, encourage practical idea-sharing, and foster a sustainable, active community of clinicians, educators, and researchers interested in pediatric sleep neurolo-gy.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Pediatric Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury: Updates and Research Spotlights

LEADER
Rachel Pearson, MD

Alcy Torres, MD

DESCRIPTION
Review abstracts of traumatic brain injury (TBI)-related research being presented at CNS. The following abstracts have been submitted for this year's conference:

A. *Concussion Education with Community Partners: A Collaboration with Large Urban School District Nurses to Promote Concussion Management in High School Settings* (E Watson, B Thomas, E Chow, T Rubin, B Shane, M Choe, T Babikian)

B. *Optimizing outcomes after Pediatric Concussion: Updates to the Living Guideline for Pedi-atric Concussion* (J Sanchez, J Dawson, R Zemek, CC Giza)

C. *Hockey Concussion Reporting and Return-to-Play Determinants Scale to Highlight External Influences on NCAA Hockey Reporting* (C McGinnis, G Rivas-Martinez, AR Torres)

D. *The Concussion Coalition: Medical Student-Led Concussion Care for Underserved Detroit High School Athletes* (C McGinnis, C Kramm, J Summers, G Doree, Mitchel Williams)

E. *A Meta-Analysis of Cephalohematoma Resulting from Mechanical Birth Trauma: An Update on Relevant Risk Factors* (C McGinnis, G Rivas-Martinez, Alina Rivadeneira-Limongi, AR Torres)

Discuss sports neurology fellowship programs offered throughout the United States and Canada, including progress toward accreditation. Discussion led by Meeryo Choe, MD.

Facilitated discussion and networking to establish collaborations in research, education, and clinical opportunities.

11:15 AM - 1:15 PM

Product Theater - Industry Sessions

Refer to page 57 for more details about the sessions.

11:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Exhibits and Poster Review

Refer to page 14 for more details.

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM

Afternoon Oral Abstract Presentations (in the NeuroNook - located in the Exhibit Hall)

12:30 PM–12:45 PM

AOP-1 • Donald L. Gilbert, MD
Long-Term Safety and Effect of Ecopipam, a Selective Dopamine D1 Receptor Antagonist, in Children, Adolescents, and Adults with Tourette Syndrome

12:45 PM–1:00 PM

AOP-2 • Fabien Bakdache, PharmD, MSc
Efficacy and Safety of Ocrelizumab Compared with Fingolimod in Pediatric-Onset Relapsing-Remitting MS: Results of the Phase III OPERETTA 2 Study

1:00 PM–1:15 PM

AOP-3 • Eoin P. Flanagan, MB, BCh
Safety and efficacy of satralizumab in patients with relapsing myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody-associated disease (MOGAD): Results from the Phase 3 METEOROID trial

1:15 PM–1:30 PM

AOP-4 • Elizabeth M. Berry-Kravis, MD
Interim Safety and Efficacy of NGN-401, a Novel Regulated AAV9 Gene Therapy, from a Phase 1/2 Study in Rett Syndrome

1:30 PM–1:45 PM

AOP-5 • Elsa Rossignol, MD, MSc, FRCP
Multi-Domain Functional Gains Following TSHA-102 Gene Therapy Across the Rett Syndrome Lifespan: Safety and Efficacy Results from the REVEAL Part A Phase 1/2 Trial of TSHA-102 in Pediatric and Adolescent/Adult Cohorts

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

Seminar 1: Vaccine Preventable Neurological Diseases

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

This session will present a clinical refresher on neurological complications from vaccine-preventable diseases, including measles encephalitis and subacute sclerosing panencephalitis, acute necrotizing encephalopathy from influenza, and bacterial meningitis. The objective is to review neurological complications of vaccine-preventable infections, which are becoming increasingly common in an era of vaccine hesitancy.

We will highlight the current epidemiology of these diseases, declining vaccine uptake, and the typical presenting signs and symptoms of these infections. The second part of the session will focus on what we know about neurological complications from vaccines, using Guillain-Barré syndrome and vaccine-associated paralytic polio as examples. This brief review will include discussion of vaccine monitoring systems in the United States and other countries, including the legal framework surrounding vaccine injury compensation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Recognize neurological complications of infectious diseases.
- Understand the role of vaccine safety monitoring in detecting neurological complications from vaccines.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

LEARNER OUTCOMES
This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Vaccine education with my patients.
- Vaccine advocacy with my colleagues.

ORGANIZER
Daniel Freedman, DO
Dell Medical School

Neurological Complications Related to Vaccinations
Daniel Freedman, DO
Dell Medical School

Influenza-Associated Acute Necrotizing Encephalopathy
Molly Wilson-Murphy, MD
Boston Children's Hospital

Vaccine Preventable Neurological Diseases
Jennifer McGuire, MD
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

MODERATOR
Aaron Nelson, MD
NYU Grossman School of Medicine

PANELIST
Max Wiznitzer, MD
UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

Seminar 2: Modernizing Endpoints in Pediatric Neurology Clinical Trials

Research Advances

DESCRIPTION
Drug development for pediatric neurologic disease faces unique scientific, regulatory, and practical challenges, particularly when selecting clinical trial endpoints that are both clinically meaningful and feasible to evaluate in rare, heterogeneous populations. This session will explore how endpoints — predefined measures of assessment such as seizure frequency reduction, changes in motor or developmental scales, or time to loss of function — have been used to support recent pediatric neurology approvals, as well as how innovative, patient-centered approaches to endpoint development can better reflect disease biology, real-world experience, and treatment benefit.

The session will begin with a review of endpoints used to support FDA approvals for neurologic disorders in children, highlighting common approaches across epilepsy, neuromuscular, and neurodegenerative disorders. Building on this foundation, we will examine how established endpoints can be applied more broadly across disease subtypes and consider the rationale for harmonizing outcome measures in related conditions to improve efficiency and interpretability while maintaining clinical relevance. A key focus will be the FDA's perspective on the use of novel endpoints for approval. Attendees will gain insight into how the FDA evaluates new clinical outcome assessments, biomarkers, and digital or performance-based measures, including evidentiary expectations, validation considerations, and strategies for early regulatory engagement. Practical examples will illustrate pathways for introducing novel endpoints into clinical research programs for new therapies. Finally, we will explore the use of intra-patient data collected from pre- and post-investigational treatment to support evaluation of effectiveness.

Topics will include longitudinal analyses, integration of natural history data, and within-patient comparisons to assess treatment impact on disease progression. Emphasis will be placed on how these approaches can enhance the feasibility of rigorous clinical trials in ultra-rare diseases, streamline trial conduct through innovative designs such as master protocols, and ultimately generate evidence to inform regulatory decision-making on the safety and effectiveness of investigational therapies in pediatric neurologic disease.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Evaluate established and emerging clinical endpoints used in pediatric neurology clinical trials, including the regulatory considerations for applying existing endpoints across disease subtypes and for introducing novel endpoints.
- Apply principles of longitudinal, intra-patient data analysis to the design and interpretation of pediatric neurology clinical trials to support robust assessments of drug effectiveness in rare and heterogeneous populations.

LEARNER OUTCOMES
This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Recognizing and understanding clinically meaningful outcome measures used in pediatric neurology trials.
- Applying principles of trial design, including the use of longitudinal patient data, to better evaluate and discuss investigational therapies with patients and families.

ORGANIZER
Elizabeth Duke, MD
Children's National Hospital / Canal Row Advisors

Opportunities and Considerations for Expanding Endpoints Across Neurologic Disorders
Elizabeth Duke, MD
Children's National Hospital / Canal Row Advisors

FDA Perspective: Novel Endpoint Development in Pediatric Neurology
Emily Freilich, MD
U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Leveraging Intra-Patient Longitudinal Data for Efficacy Assessment in Pediatric Neurology Clinical Trials
Andrea Gropman, MD
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

PANELISTS
John M. Schreiber, MD, FAES
Children's National Hospital

Kim Hindery, MEd
Child Neurology Foundation

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

Seminar 3: From Genes to Therapy in Pediatric Movement Disorders

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION
Pediatric movement disorders increasingly require an integrated understanding of genetics, neurodevelopment, metabolic pathways, and interventional therapeutics. This seminar brings together three complementary perspectives to provide a clinically relevant and actionable update for child neurologists. The first presentation explores the mechanistic and clinical intersection between movement disorders and epilepsy in children, highlighting shared pathways and their implications for diagnosis and management. The second provides a global and metabolic perspective, emphasizing conditions more prevalent in regions with high consanguinity and the impact of genetic architecture and resource variability on clinical care. The third reviews current evidence for deep brain stimulation in childhood-onset movement disorders, with a focus on patient selection, long-term outcomes, and multidisciplinary care models.

Together, these presentations offer a cohesive framework to enhance diagnostic accuracy, refine therapeutic decision making, and support equitable, context-sensitive care for children with complex movement disorders.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Apply an integrated diagnostic approach to pediatric movement disorders by incorporating genetic, neurodevelopmental, metabolic, and electrophysiological insights into clinical reasoning.
- Recognize key clinical phenotypes and shared mechanisms at the intersection of epilepsy and movement disorders and use these insights to guide evaluation and management.
- Evaluate metabolic and genetic causes of movement disorders, including those more prevalent in high-consanguinity or resource-variable settings, and implement targeted, context-sensitive diagnostic strategies.
- Assess and implement evidence-based therapeutic strategies, including appropriate selection and multidisciplinary management of candidates for advanced interventions such as deep brain stimulation.

LEARNER OUTCOMES
This educational session will support participants in identifying changes they can make in their practice related to:

- Improving the accuracy and efficiency of diagnostic evaluations for pediatric movement disorders, particularly in cases with overlapping epilepsy, genetic, or metabolic features.
- Expanding the use of mechanism-informed and context-sensitive diagnostic pathways, including greater consideration of population-specific and resource-related factors.
- Optimizing management strategies through earlier identification of candidates for advanced therapies such as deep brain stimulation and improved coordination of multidisciplinary care.
- Enhancing equity in clinical care by incorporating global perspectives and adapting management approaches to diverse patient populations and healthcare settings.

ORGANIZER
Carolina Gorodetsky, MD, MSc
Hospital for SickKids, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Deep Brain Stimulation in Childhood-Onset Movement Disorders
Carolina Gorodetsky, MD, MSc
Hospital for SickKids, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

Epilepsy–Dyskinesia Syndromes
Darius Ebrahimi Fakhari, MD, PhD
Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard University, MA, USA

Metabolic Movement Disorders: A MENA Perspective
Brahim Tabarki Melaiki, MD, FBPN, BBPN
King Salman Specialized Hospital – Taif, Saudi Arabia

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

Seminar 4: Artificial Intelligence in Child Neurology: Where Have We Come?

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

Artificial Intelligence (AI) was first presented as a formal didactic topic at the Child Neurology Society Conference in 2023, with the proclamation, "You Can Run but You Can't Hide: Artificial Intelligence Is Here." Three years later, this seminar examines the extent to which AI is being incorporated into day-to-day clinical practice in child neurology, highlighting both the benefits of AI applications and emerging pitfalls. Speakers will discuss the use of AI for medical documentation, the development of machine learning tools for the diagnosis of dystonia in children with cerebral palsy, the utility of explainable AI in clinical practice, and will conclude with a discussion of EEG tools at various stages of incorporation into clinical practice.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- List ways in which AI tools may be incorporated into clinical practice.
- Describe how AI tools may improve clinician performance.
- Describe potential perils of incorporating AI tools into clinical practice.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Utilization of AI tools for medical documentation.
- Utilization of AI tools for clinical diagnosis.

ORGANIZER

Andrew Knox, MD, MS
Institution University of Wisconsin, Madison

Improving Physician Wellness? - AI and the Medical Record
Zachary Grinspan, MD, MS
Weill Cornell Medicine

Improving Diagnostic Accuracy? - AI and diagnosis of dystonia in Cerebral Palsy
Bhooma Aravamuthan, MD, DPhil
Washington University School of Medicine

Improving Clinical Care? - the Role of Explainable AI
Grace Gombolay, MD
Emory University School of Medicine

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

Seminar 5: Neuromuscular Therapies: Efficacy, Safety & Endocrine Implications

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

Tremendous advances have occurred in the treatment of pediatric neuromuscular diseases. Hereditary diseases such as Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) and spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) have multiple FDA-approved treatments. This session will summarize the efficacy and safety profiles of gene-modifying and gene-replacement therapies for neuromuscular disease. The information will b e relevant to neuromuscular specialists who are prescribing these medications as well as neurologists who may be asked to provide advice regarding potential complications that may arise. Gene-replacement therapies in particular require prompt and targeted investigations to ensure that patient safety and outcomes are optimized. Endocrine complications are increasingly recognized in neuromuscular disease.

Paracrine signaling between bone and muscle plays an important role in maintaining optimal health and function of each tissue. In the context of muscle loss or inflammation, dysfunctional paracrine signaling from muscle impacts gene expression and cell division within bone. Bone health is further compromised by corticosteroids that are often given in high doses for many months (in SMA or DMD, post-gene-replacement therapy) or as a chronic treatment (long-term corticosteroids in DMD). We will discuss how to optimize bone health prior to treatment initiation and how to monitor bone and adrenal complications. Knowledge of symptoms and management of adrenal insufficiency is essential for all physicians using corticosteroid therapy for their patients.

Recommendations will be provided on how to safely wean corticosteroids to promote normal return of endogenous adrenal function, as well as how to transition from one corticosteroid to another or from one dosing regimen to another (e.g., daily to intermittent dosing). Key differences in corticosteroids (prednisone, deflazacort, and vamorolone) will be discussed, emphasizing the unique mineralocorticoid receptor antagonism seen with vamorolone.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the reported benefits of disease-modifying therapies for neuromuscular disorders and identify, diagnose, and manage associated adverse effects.
- Recognize, monitor, and manage bone and adrenal complications associated with high-dose and chronic corticosteroid therapy.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Recognizing and appropriately investigating early signs of adverse events associated with gene-modifying and gene-replacement therapies.
- Assessing, monitoring, and managing bone and adrenal complications associated with corticosteroid therapy.

ORGANIZER

Hugh McMillan, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, University of Ottawa, Canada

Genetic Therapies for Neuromuscular Disease: Effects and Safety Considerations
Hugh McMillan, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, University of Ottawa, Canada

Optimizing Bone Health in Neuromuscular Disease
Melissa Fiscaletti, MD, MSc (Epi), FRCPC
CHU Sainte Justine, Université de Montréal

Preventing and Managing Adrenal Insufficiency and Adrenal Crisis
Anne-Marie Sbrocchi, MD, FRCPC
McGill University Health Centre & Shriner's Hospital

PANELIST

Aravindhan Veerapandiyan, MD
Arkansas Children's Hospital

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

Seminar 6: Developing Brain Connectome: Network Alterations & Clinical Impact

Research Advances

DESCRIPTION

This seminar will highlight the use of advanced quantitative neuroimaging methods to map alterations in brain connectivity in pediatric neurologic and neurodevelopmental disorders. This session will begin with an overview of the impacts of neonatal brain injury and critical illness on the maturation of brain networks and how these insights are shaping the field of neonatal neurocritical care. The second presentation will focus on brain connectivity changes following pediatric stroke and how targeted rehabilitation interventions can modulate brain networks to support functional recovery.

This session will conclude with recent research examining connectivity patterns in neurodevelopmental disorders and their implications for developing more effective, personalized treatments. Through this seminar, attendees will learn how mapping brain connectivity alterations can advance our ability to predict outcomes and develop more effective and individualized interventions across pediatric neurologic disorders.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Understand current research regarding alterations in brain connectivity in pediatric neurologic and neurodevelopmental disorders.
- Identify how mapping brain connectivity may provide insights into new treatment interventions.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Diagnosis and counseling of families around neurodevelopmental disorders and understanding and optimizing outcomes.
- Providing neurologic and neurodevelopmental care for infants and children at high risk for neurodevelopmental impairments.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

ORGANIZER
Thiviya Selvanathan, MD, PhD, FRCPC
University of British Columbia & BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

Setting the Stage: Session Dynamics
Steven Miller, MDCM, MAS, FRCPC, FRSC
University of British Columbia & BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

Impacts of Neonatal Brain Injury and Critical Illness on Brain Network Maturation
Thiviya Selvanathan, MD, PhD, FRCPC
University of British Columbia & BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

Brain Network Plasticity and Outcomes After Pediatric Stroke
Adam Kirton, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Alberta Children's Hospital & University of Calgary

Brain Connectivity Patterns in Neurodevelopmental Disorders
Evdokia Anagnostou, MD, FRCPC
Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital & University of Toronto

MODERATOR
Steven Miller, MDCM, MAS, FRCPC, FRSC
University of British Columbia & BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

5:00 PM - 5:30 PM

CNS Annual Business Meeting

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Wine and Cheese Reception

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Evening Oral Abstract Presentations (in the NeuroNook - located in the Exhibit Hall)

5:30 PM – 5:45 PM

EOP-1 • M. Scott Perry, MD
Zorevunersen demonstrates potential as a disease-modifying therapy in patients with Dravet syndrome: A matched-adjusted indirect comparison between natural history and patients receiving zorevunersen

5:45 PM – 6:00 PM

EOP-2 • Joseph Sullivan, MD
Safety and Efficacy of ETX101, an Investigational AAV9-based Gene Therapy for SCN1A+ Dravet Syndrome: Interim Results from the POLARIS Phase 1/2 Clinical Trials

6:00 PM – 6:15 PM

EOP-3 • Brian Moseley, MD
Fenfluramine Treatment in CDKL5 Deficiency Disorder: Phase 3 Primary Efficacy and Safety Results by Age

6:15 PM – 6:30 PM

EOP-4 • Mary-Jean Fanelli, MD
Efficacy of arimoclomol combined with miglustat at months 3, 6, 9 and 12 of the double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled NPC002 trial

6:30 PM – 6:45 PM

EOP-5 • Deepa S. Rajan, MD
Treatment with UX111 reduced cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) heparan sulfate (HS) exposure and stabilized or improved functioning in children with MPS IIIA

6:45 PM - 6:52 PM

EOP-6 • Daniela Muñoz-Chesta, MD
Deep Brain Stimulation for Refractory Childhood-Onset Generalized Dystonia: The Largest Reported Experience in South America

6:52 PM – 7:00 PM

EOP-7 • Areeba Wasim, MBBS, FCPS Pediatrics, FCPS Pediatric Neurology, MRCPCH(UK)
Pediatric Stroke in Inborn Errors of Metabolism: Clinical Characteristics, Neuroimaging Features and Short-Term Outcomes from two Specialised Centers

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Product Theater - Industry Sessions

Refer to page 57 for more details about the sessions.

Friday, October 16

6:30 AM - 7:30 AM

Sunrise Exchange - Industry Session

Refer to page 57 for more details about the session.

7:00 AM - 7:45 AM

Junior Member/Early Career Lobby Talks

See page 50 for the full schedule of talks.

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

Philip R. Dodge Young Investigator Award Lecture: Danielle Barber, MD, PhD

Perinatal HIE: Microglia, Multicenter Registries, and the Miles Beyond

Danielle Barber, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor in Child Neurology at the University of Colorado and Children's Hospital Colorado
Aurora, CO

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

Bernard Sachs Award Lecture: Mustafa Sahin, MD, PhD

mTOR at the Crossroads of Brain Development and Disease: Lessons from Tuberous Sclerosis Complex

Mustafa Sahin, MD , PhD
Neurologist-in-Chief, Department of Neurology; Managing Director, Rosamund Stone Zander and Hansjoerg Wyss Translational Neuroscience Center; Director, Translational Research Program
Boston, Massachusetts

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Seminar 7: Pediatric Stroke Readiness: It's Time to Move the Needle!

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

The American Heart Association (AHA)'s 2026 Guidelines for Acute Ischemic Stroke includes pediatric stroke for the first time ever, with new recommendations regarding thrombolytics and thrombectomy in children. Although acute stroke therapies are now a recommended option for children, pediatric stroke remains underrecognized, and many child neurologists feel ill-equipped to manage this high-stakes neurological emergency. As a result of delayed diagnosis, there are often missed opportunities for acute interventions. Studies have identified multiple barriers that contribute to delayed diagnosis of childhood stroke, including lack of awareness, higher frequency of stroke mimics than actual stroke among children, need for MRI to diagnose acute ischemic stroke, relative scarcity of pediatric stroke centers, and absence of pre-hospital and ED care pathways for children with focal neurological deficits. Timely and accurate diagnosis of pediatric strokes is essential for the success of acute interventions like endovascular thrombectomy (EVT) and thrombolysis. Moreover, recent changes in adult stroke care present new challenges for pediatric stroke. The 2026 AHA guidelines finally address the use of tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) in children, but many adult stroke centers have transitioned to a new and improved thrombolytic agent, Tenecteplase (TNK).

This session will review updates from the past 10+ years on pediatric stroke readiness with a focus on three areas: (1) How child neurologists can engage pre-hospital and emergency department clinicians to improve pediatric stroke recognition and assessment; (2) Utilization of acute neuroimaging to differentiate stroke from stroke-mimics, reviewing the role of CT and MR as well as the utility and limitations of perfusion studies in the pediatric population; and (3) Hyperacute interventions including thrombolysis with t-PA or TNK and EVT. Attendees will feel more comfortable helping their hospitals implement the 2026 AHA guidelines related to pediatric stroke. We will also discuss gaps in the research and emerging areas of inquiry.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Utilize acute neuroimaging that can be helpful in distinguishing acute stroke from stroke mimics,
  apply current evidence in the treatment of acute pediatric stroke, and encourage best practices in their home institutions that align with the American Heart Association's 2026 Acute Ischemic Stroke Guidelines.
- Identify key gaps in the literature on acute management of pediatric stroke and be familiar with ongoing and emerging studies that aim to provide further evidence to guide acute pediatric stroke care in the future.

LEARNER OUTCOMES
This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- The implementation of pediatric code stroke protocols and care pathways for hyperacute imaging.
- The use of hyperacute interventions for stroke, including thrombolytics and endovascular thrombectomy, in the pediatric population.

ORGANIZER
Rachel Pearson, MD
Rady Children's Health, Orange County and the University of California, Irvine

Engaging Pre-hospital and Emergency Department Clinicians to Improve Pediatric Stroke Recognition and Assessment
Rachel Pearson, MD
Rady Children's Health, Orange County and the University of California, Irvine

Neuroimaging in Acute Pediatric Stroke
Sarah Lee, MD
Stanford School of Medicine

Hyperacute Interventions in Pediatric Stroke
Maria Milagros (Mili) Galardi, MD
University of Utah

PANELISTS
Lisa Pabst, MD
Primary Children's Hospital and the University of Utah

Stuart Fraser, MD
The University of Texas McGovern Medical School at Houston

Samyami Chowdhury, BSc(hons), MBCh, MRCPCH(UK), CCT
McMaster University and McMaster Children's Hospital

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Seminar 8: Real-World Immunotherapy Strategies, Pitfalls, and Side Effects

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION
Immunotherapy is now routine across pediatric neurology, yet day-to-day practice is often constrained by limited comparative evidence, heterogeneous protocols, payer/infusion logistics, and uncertainty about dosing, monitoring, and long-term risk. This session provides a practical, cross-disease framework for how to dose, sequence, and troubleshoot immunotherapies, with an explicit focus on dosing strategies, side effects, safety monitoring, and real-world implementation. Using case-based, high-yield examples from three immune-mediated or immune-modulated conditions — Aicardi–Goutières syndrome (Laura Adang), Down syndrome regression disorder (Jonathan D. Santoro), and neurological complications of chemotherapy and CAR-T therapy (Jasia Mahdi) — as well as three small case presentations on familial hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (Milena Andzelm), acute necrotizing encephalitis (Jonathan D. Santoro), and Phelan–McDermid syndrome neuropsychiatric regression (Milena Andzelm), faculty will compare common therapeutic agents (steroids, IVIG, plasma exchange, rituximab/anti-CD20 therapies, cytokine- and JAK-pathway–targeted therapies) and address pragmatic questions clinicians face.

These include selecting induction versus maintenance regimens and tailoring to severity, relapse risk, and comorbidities; weight-based versus fixed dosing, interval optimization, and "treat-to-target" concepts; infection risk mitigation (screening, vaccines, prophylaxis) and laboratory/clinical monitoring; managing infusion reactions, cytopenias, hypogammaglobulinemia, thrombotic risk, endocrine and bone effects, neuropsychiatric effects, and rare serious adverse events; and ethical and system-level challenges, including shared decision-making, special populations, and multidisciplinary coordination. Attendees will leave with actionable "next day" tools: dosing pearls, monitoring checklists, and a structured approach to balancing benefit, risk, and feasibility in diverse clinical settings.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Apply a cross-disease, practical framework to select, dose, and sequence common immunotherapies in pediatric neurology (e.g., corticosteroids, IVIG, plasma exchange, anti-CD20 therapies, and targeted agents), including strategies for induction versus maintenance, escalation/de-escalation, and interval optimization based on severity, relapse risk, and comorbidities.

- Integrate disease-specific dosing and safety considerations for autoimmune encephalitis, Down syndrome regression disorder, Aicardi–Goutières syndrome, and Phelan–McDermid syndrome/interferonopathies into everyday practice by implementing standardized pre-treatment screening (infection risk, vaccines, baseline labs), infusion planning, longitudinal monitoring schedules, and structured approaches to preventing and managing adverse effects (infusion reactions, cytopenias, hypogammaglobulinemia, thrombotic risk, endocrine and bone effects, and serious infections).

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Standardizing immunotherapy induction and maintenance of dosing and interval strategies (including escalation and de-escalation) for common pediatric neuroimmunology indications.
- Improving immunotherapy safety workflows — pre-treatment screening (infection risk/vaccines), infusion planning, laboratory monitoring schedules, and proactive management of adverse effects (e.g., infusion reactions, cytopenias, hypogammaglobulinemia, thrombotic risk, and serious infections).

ORGANIZER

Jonathan D. Santoro, MD
Children's Hospital Los Angeles and the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

Aicardi Goutières Syndrome
Laura A. Adang, MD, PhD
Division of Neurology, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Down Syndrome Regression Disorder
Jonathan D. Santoro, MD
Children's Hospital Los Angeles and the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

Neurological Complications of Chemotherapeutics and CAR-T Therapies
Jasia Mahdi, MD
Texas Children's Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine

Case Presentations
Milena Andzelm, MD, PhD
Department of Neurology, Boston Children's Hospital

Jonathan D. Santoro, MD
Children's Hospital Los Angeles and the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

MODERATOR

Milena Andzelm, MD, PhD
Department of Neurology, Boston Children's Hospital

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Seminar 9: Pediatric Neuromodulation: Emerging Evidence to Clinical Care

Research Advances

DESCRIPTION

Rapid advances in neuromodulation are creating new therapeutic avenues in pediatric neurology: techniques like transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS), and vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) leverage the developing brain plasticity to target disorders ranging from epilepsy to cerebral palsy (CP) and perinatal stroke. This session will convene experts to discuss new cutting-edge therapies and their integration into patient care. Dr. Amy Viehoever will talk about a DBS therapy for children with movement disorders, followed by Dr. Adrianna Giuffre discussing Non-invasive Neuromodulation for Perinatal Stroke and Epilepsy. Dr. Claire-Marie Rangon will discuss innovative auricular VNS strategies to support vagus nerve-driven Microbiota homeostasis in children with neurodevelopmental disorders. The session will conclude with a panel discussion (featuring Drs. Angela Hewitt, Alexander Rotenberg, and Dr. Irina Duff) focusing on future directions in pediatric neuromodulation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Learn about the current research evidence for neuromodulation therapies in pediatric cerebral palsy, perinatal stroke, epilepsy, and ADHD.
- Evaluate patient selection criteria, safety considerations, and expected outcomes when applying neuromodulation therapies in pediatric practice.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Evaluating current evidence and identifying appropriate pediatric candidates (CP, stroke, epilepsy, ADHD) for each neuromodulation modality.
- Integrating neuromodulation strategies into clinical care by applying research findings to individualized treatment planning and interdisciplinary management for children with neurological disorders.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

ORGANIZER/MODERATOR
Irina Duff, MD, PhD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Emerging Uses for Deep Brain Stimulation in Movement Disorders and Pediatric Neurology
Amy Viehoever, MD, PhD
Washington University in St. Louis

Non-invasive Neuromodulation in Perinatal Stroke and Epilepsy
Adrianna Giuffre, PhD
University of Calgary

Hacking the Vagus Nerve-driven Microbiota Homeostasis to Improve the Outcomes in Neurodevelopmental Disorders
Claire-Marie Rangon, MD, PhD
Child Neurology, One Clinic, Paris, France

PANELISTS
Angela Hewitt, MD, PhD
University of Rochester

Alexander Rotenberg, MD, PhD
Boston Children's Hospital

Irina Duff, MD, PhD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Satellite Symposium - Industry Session
Product Theater - Industry Session

Refer to page 57 for more details about the sessions.

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Special Interest Group Meetings (SIGS)

Cerebral Palsy

Integrating Medical, Surgical, and Equipment Strategies in Tone Management

LEADER
Max Wallace, MD

DESCRIPTION
This session will focus on practical tone management strategies for children with cerebral palsy, a top priority identified in last year's SIG survey. Management of abnormal tone in CP often requires a combination of medical, surgical, and equipment-based interventions. Child neurologists have variable familiarity and comfort with the expanding range of available treatment options and how best to incorporate them into individualized care plans. Using a case-based, interactive format, participants will rotate through small-group stations to review the indications, limitations, and practical considerations of these treatment modalities. Both general principles and the more nuanced aspects of these treatments will be discussed. Participants will collaborate to develop comprehensive treatment plans tailored to patients' functional goals and family priorities. The session will conclude with a discussion of SIG news, updates, and plans for the coming year.

CNS Leadership Development and Mentorship

Growing Leaders at Every Career Stage: Mentorship, Sponsorship, and Pathways to Influence in Child Neurology

LEADER
Mikael Guzman Karlsson, MD, PhD

DESCRIPTION
This interactive, discussion-driven SIG session convenes CNS members across all career stages to advance leadership development in child neurology. Following a brief welcome and overview of the Leadership SIG's mission, attendees will be seated at round tables intentionally mixed across career stages. Each table will select a volunteer host (or a recruited co-facilitator, where available) using printed instructions, allowing the session to run effectively with or without designated facilitators.

Participants will begin by completing a brief leadership self-assessment to identify their current roles, leadership goals, skill-development needs, and gaps in mentorship, sponsorship, coaching, or institutional support. Three facilitated table activities will follow. First, small groups will distinguish mentorship, sponsorship, and coaching while identifying which forms of support are most valuable at different career stages. Second, groups will work through common leadership pathways and barriers, including entering CNS leadership, making strategic yes/no decisions, building equitable structures, identifying sponsors, and translating local leadership into national roles. Third, each table will generate two to three actionable ideas for future SIG programming or CNS-wide resources, which will be recorded on idea cards.

The session will conclude with each table sharing its top idea, a brief prioritization exercise, sign-up opportunities for follow-up workgroups, and an invitation to join the SIG's CNS Connect community. Printed prompts and worksheets will support full participation without the need for slides or microphones.

Demyelinating Disease

Across the Map: Regional Approaches to Pediatric Demyelinating Disease Management

LEADER
Alexandra Kornbluh, MD

DESCRIPTION
This SIG meeting offers a lively, interactive exploration of diagnostic and treatment practice patterns for pediatric multiple sclerosis, pediatric myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody–associated disease, and pediatric neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder. The program will use a series of targeted polling questions addressing diagnostic evaluations, acute and maintenance therapies, escalation strategies, and insurance- or resource-driven adaptations. Real-time polling will reveal regional, institutional, and individual practice variation, generating immediate data to drive discussion.

For contentious topics, paired representatives from differing practice environments will present contrasting approaches and the clinical reasoning behind them, fostering debate and comparative learning. Attendees will also have the opportunity to present selected challenging cases aligned with poll themes for group discussion, allowing participants to hear diverse perspectives and practical insights from across the country. Facilitators will synthesize poll results and discussion to highlight areas of consensus, key differences, and opportunities for harmonization or further study.

Designed to broaden perspectives beyond local practice patterns, this session will provide dynamic engagement, peer-to-peer learning, and actionable insights for clinicians at every career stage — including trainees, general child neurologists, and pediatric neuroimmunologists — interested in how real-world care for pediatric demyelinating disorders varies across practice settings.

Epilepsy

D/EE-SWAS: New Name, Same Challenges

LEADER
Laura Kirkpatrick, MD

DESCRIPTION
This session will help attendees understand the new definition of D/EE-SWAS and its diagnostic criteria while exploring the nuances and limitations of the diagnosis. Once a diagnosis of D/EE-SWAS has been established, selecting the appropriate treatment course remains challenging because of the limited evidence base. Treatment paradigms and the current best available evidence will be reviewed, with highlights from the recent RESCUE-ESES trial as well as historical and novel surgical options. The session will also review neurophysiological biomarkers in D/EE-SWAS, with an emphasis on the spike-wave index and ongoing efforts to improve interrater reliability. Finally, future directions in collaborative, multicenter research consortia will be discussed as a means of aligning clinical and research paradigms, with D/EE-SWAS serving as a model for other rare pediatric epilepsy disorders.

Fetal Neurology

Fetal Neurology: Diagnostic and Prognostic Dilemmas

LEADER
Charu Venkatesan, MD

Dawn Gano, MD

DESCRIPTION
The Fetal Neurology SIG will focus on discussing prognostic and diagnostic dilemmas in fetal neurology through a case-based approach highlighting counseling approaches and clinical challenges. Case presentations will be followed by panel discussions with open Q&A to engage all attendees and encourage collaborative discussion. Cases will be finalized at a later date and will follow a theme-based approach highlighting specific fetal neurologic diagnoses. Presentations will include cases from different centers and presenters, including trainees and fellows in fetal neonatal neurology, followed by facilitated, focused discussion. Cases will emphasize approaches to standard practice while highlighting prognostic and diagnostic dilemmas to provide a comprehensive learning experience for attendees. The SIG meeting will also provide opportunities for member networking, sharing relevant articles and educational resources, and planning of SIG activities throughout the year, including webinars and collaborative projects.

Headache

The Clinical Crossroads: A Joint Approach to the Evaluation and Management of Pediatric ICP-Headache Intersection

LEADER
M.Cristina Victorio, MD

Shawn Aylward, MD

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

DESCRIPTION
Headache is a common reason for pediatric neurology referral; however, a clinical challenge arises when headache disorder phenotypes, such as migraine, overlap with secondary headaches caused by altered CSF dynamics, such as intracranial hypertension (IH). We propose combining two separate SIG meetings to highlight the clinical need, diagnostic gaps, and value of bringing these SIGs together. In the pediatric population, this intersection frequently leads to clinical pitfalls, including: (1) delayed diagnosis of IH among patients with headaches with migraine-like features or pre-existing migraine, and (2) overtreatment and unnecessary procedures among patients with primary headache disorders who present with atypical symptoms. In addition, significant gaps remain in the management of persistent headaches after elevated intracranial pressure has been successfully treated or among patients who progress to chronic migraine.

International Affairs/Global Health

Addressing Clinical and Educational Gaps in Pediatric Neurology through Implementation of SMART Goals in Latin America

LEADER
Mubeen Rafay, MBBS

Alcy Torres, MD

DESCRIPTION
The CNS-International Affairs Committee SIG, in 2024–2025, identified multiple systemic barriers affecting clinical care, education, and research across LMICs. The current SIG will propose actionable strategies to improve child neurology training within the Latin American (LATAM) region. The program is designed to be practical and interactive, emphasizing strategies to empower child neurologists working in LMICs, including Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haiti, and Uruguay. Speakers with extensive experience in international collaborative projects will highlight specific clinical and educational priorities identified by LATAM providers and discuss initiatives designed to achieve these educational goals.

Speakers will focus on approaches to building clinical and research capacity through tailored mentorship, resource sharing, and support from prominent child neurology associations, including CNS and AINP. Participants will learn about specific working groups within the committee that target regional needs based on local clinical and educational priorities, including the development of materials translated into Spanish. Finally, the SIG will emphasize SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) to address the unique sociocultural and economic realities of the LATAM landscape. This collaborative effort will culminate in a strategic roadmap to advance pediatric neurology infrastructure and care delivery across the region and globally.

Neurodevelopment Disorders

Facts and Fads: Approaching Misinformation in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

LEADER
Lexi Franks, MD

DESCRIPTION
Families of autistic children are often inundated with conflicting information, and the desire to help a loved one can make even the most well-informed parent vulnerable to misinformation. This session approaches this reality with empathy and a neurodevelopmental perspective, recognizing that pseudoscience thrives not because people are gullible, but because the systems designed to guide them often fall short. Together, we will examine the current landscape of fringe theories and unproven interventions, including vitamin and supplement “cures,” detoxification protocols, and stem cell transplants. We will explore methodological red flags that distinguish weak research from sound evidence and empower attendees to provide informed, evidence-based guidance to families.

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Seminar 10: Metabolic Epilepsies: Navigating “Forbidden” Therapies

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION
Metabolic epilepsies represent a uniquely challenging subset of childhood-onset seizure disorders in which early recognition and targeted treatment can be transformative — but missteps in management can also precipitate serious metabolic harm. While advances in newborn screening, genomics, and biochemical profiling have expanded diagnostic opportunities, these conditions are still frequently missed or diagnosed late, particularly when seizures occur beyond the neonatal period or in the absence of overt metabolic crises. A central challenge in caring for patients with metabolic epilepsies is the nuanced use of antiseizure medications. Many commonly prescribed ASMs are considered relatively contraindicated or even “forbidden,” as we have been taught, in specific metabolic disorders due to their potential to worsen mitochondrial function, disrupt intermediary metabolism, or precipitate metabolic decompensation.

At the same time, rigid avoidance of these agents may leave patients undertreated, particularly when seizures are refractory or life-threatening. In practice, clinicians are often faced with difficult decisions about when the theoretical risk of an ASM must be weighed against the immediate neurologic danger of uncontrolled seizures. This session will focus on how to navigate these therapeutic gray zones. Using propionic acidemia, citrullinemia (urea cycle disorders), and vitamin-responsive epilepsies as exemplar conditions, speakers will explore which medications are truly contraindicated, which are conditionally restricted, and when careful use of a traditionally avoided drug may be justified. Emphasis will be placed on practical strategies for risk mitigation, including dose selection, metabolic co-therapies, and appropriate laboratory and clinical monitoring. Through case-based discussions, this session will equip child neurologists with a more sophisticated framework for recognizing metabolic epilepsies, interpreting metabolic and neurophysiologic data, and making informed, safety-conscious treatment decisions, moving beyond simple "avoid" lists toward precision-based, patient-centered epilepsy care.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Identify clinical, neurophysiologic, and biochemical aspects of metabolic epilepsies and key red flags that should prompt metabolic evaluation, even outside the neonatal period.
- Differentiate truly contraindicated versus conditionally restricted antiseizure medications in common metabolic epilepsies and apply a risk–benefit framework to determine when the use of a traditionally "forbidden" drug may be clinically justified.
- Implement safe and effective seizure management strategies in metabolic disorders by integrating disease-specific therapies, judicious antiseizure medication selection, and appropriate metabolic, nutritional, and laboratory monitoring to minimize the risk of decompensation.
- Emphasize the importance of a team approach in the treatment of refractory metabolic epilepsies.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- The management of refractory epilepsy in patients with inborn errors of metabolism when standard antiseizure medications are contraindicated.
- Applying precision-based treatment strategies for genetically and metabolically driven epilepsies.

ORGANIZER/MODERATOR

Andrea Gropman, MD
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Forbidden but Necessary? Treating Refractory Epilepsy in Inborn Errors of Metabolism
Phillip Pearl, MD
Boston Children's Hospital

When Contraindications Collide with Clinical Reality
Wei-Liang Chen, MD
Children's National Hospital

Navigating Contraindications: Treating Refractory Epilepsy in Inborn Errors of Metabolism
Sarah Weatherspoon, MD
LeBonheur Children's Hospital

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Seminar 11: Making It Count: Translating Educational Passion into Scholarship

Leadership and Career Development

DESCRIPTION

Teaching lies at the heart of child neurology, yet many clinician teachers face challenges translating their educational passion into recognized scholarship for dissemination and academic advancement. This session is designed specifically for child neurology teachers and residents who wish to harness their teaching activities — not just to inspire learners, but also to drive their professional growth. The session will offer actionable strategies to convert everyday teaching experiences, curriculum development, and mentorship into scholarly output that advances the field and supports career progression. Topics will include framing educational activities such as scholarly projects, developing rigorous curricula, designing meaningful assessments, and navigating the best avenues for dissemination through publications and conferences.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

Additionally, we will discuss educational scholarships in lower-resource settings. The session blends didactic content with hands-on discussion, and a substantial portion of the session will be interactive, allowing participants to discuss their current work and brainstorm ways in which it can support promotion goals. Recognizing that collaboration is a key element of success in educational scholarship, this session will provide opportunities to meet future collaborators in child neurology education. Whether you are designing a new curriculum or program, mentoring trainees, or seeking to publish educational innovations, this session will equip you to "make it count" for both your learners and your career.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Develop an approach to converting child neurology teaching activities into scholarship and program building in diverse settings.
- Identify practical, individualized next steps toward academic promotion as clinician-teachers in child neurology.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Converting teaching activities into scholarships.
- Considering how my teaching activities can factor into academic promotion at my institution.

ORGANIZER/MODERATOR

Asif Doja, MD
Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario

Turning Everyday Educational Problems into Scholarly Gold
Rachel Gottlieb-Smith, MD, MHPE
University of Michigan

Robert Thompson Stone, MD
University of Rochester

Educational Scholarship Considerations in Lower Resourced Settings
Jo Wilmshurst, MD
Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital/University of Cape Town, South Africa

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Seminar 12: Parental Perspectives on Fetal Counseling

Clinical Practice

DESCRIPTION

Fetal neurology consultations are challenging for a multitude of reasons. These include (a) inherent variability in neurodevelopmental outcomes, (b) limitations in fetal brain anatomy evaluation due to continued development and maturation of brain structures, (c) limited outcome studies available in the literature, (d) challenges inherent in multidisciplinary team interactions with patients, and (e) barriers to access fetal care center specialists in a timely manner due to geographical, socioeconomic, financial, cultural, and literacy hurdles. With continued growth in this field within child neurology, it is imperative that we examine parent perspectives on counseling to inform provider practice.

This session is geared toward exploring parental perspectives in fetal consultation so that providers can improve their practice when engaging in fetal consultations. Speakers will include fetal neurologists and parents. Dr. Venkatesan will discuss challenges in counseling in the field of fetal neurology. Dr. Agarwal will present data from a recent multicenter study that surveyed parents with a fetal neurological diagnosis regarding their fetal care experience and perspectives for future outcomes. Ms. Mary Kay Ballasiotes is a parent who underwent fetal counseling for ventriculomegaly over 25 years ago. She founded the International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke for pediatric stroke education and advocacy for families. Dr. David Richards is a physician and a parent with a more recent parental perspective on fetal neurology counseling after a prenatal diagnosis of corpus callosum malformation and malformation of cortical development. Their experiences will also illustrate progress in fetal neurology counseling while highlighting areas that can be improved.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Identify challenges in fetal neurology counseling.
- Understand parental perspectives through the fetal and postnatal journey.

LEARNER OUTCOMES
This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Counseling practices in fetal neurology.
- Enhancing multidisciplinary care to optimize patient care, including identifying and mitigating barriers to care and counseling.

ORGANIZER
Charu Venkatesan, MD, PhD
Children's Mercy Kansas City

Challenges in Fetal Neurology Counseling
Charu Venkatesan, MD, PhD
Children's Mercy Kansas City

Parental Perspectives on Fetal Neurology Counseling
Sonika Agarwal, MBBS, MD, FAAN
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Navigating Uncertainty with a Prenatal Diagnosis: Parental Perspectives of a Physician Parent
David Richards, MD
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

PANELIST
Mary Kay Ballasiotes
Founder/Executive Director, International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

CNS Clinical Research Annual Workshop: A Practical Roadmap From Research Question to Funded Investigator

(Pre-registration required.)

DESCRIPTION
The Child Neurology Society (CNS) Clinical Research Annual Workshop provides trainees, junior faculty, and aspiring clinician-scientists with a practical, end-to-end roadmap for launching and sustaining a clinical research career in child neurology. Across four focused talks and structured discussion, faculty will guide participants through the full early-career arc: generating clinically grounded research questions, embedding research into a busy clinical practice, identifying and matching funding mechanisms to your career stage, and taking concrete first steps as a junior investigator.

Talk 1 addresses how to translate clinical observations and unmet needs at the bedside into meaningful, feasible, and novel research questions, using validated frameworks such as PICO and FINER. Talk 2 examines pragmatic models, including practice-based research networks, registry-based studies, learning health systems, and quality-improvement pipelines that allow child neurologists to integrate research with everyday clinical care. Talk 3 demystifies the funding landscape, including NIH (NINDS, NICHD, NIMH), foundation, and institutional pilot mechanisms, and walks through the anatomy of a successful proposal and common pitfalls that lead to triage. Talk 4 closes with a candid, practical roadmap for junior investigators: clarifying research identity, building a mentorship and sponsorship team, negotiating protected time, choosing early projects (secondary data analysis, registries, multicenter collaborations), and applying for K-series and foundation career-development awards.

The workshop emphasizes actionable, evidence-based guidance instead of abstract discussion, with case examples drawn from pediatric neurology subspecialties (e.g., epilepsy, neuromuscular disease, neurodevelopmental disorders, rare disease). A facilitated panel discussion and Q&A period at the end of the session will give participants the opportunity to bring their own questions, projects, and career challenges to a group setting.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Formulate clinically grounded, feasible research questions in child neurology using established frameworks (e.g., PICO, FINER) and translate bedside clinical observations into testable hypotheses appropriate to available data, resources, and career stage.
- Identify appropriate funding mechanisms and career-development pathways across federal (NIH/NINDS, NICHD, NIMH), foundation, and institutional sources, and apply concrete strategies for mentorship, protected time, and integration of research into clinical workflows.

LEARNER OUTCOMES
This educational session helped me identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Generating, refining, and pursuing clinical research questions that emerge from my own patient care and clinical observations.
- Building a sustainable clinical research career through targeted funding strategies, deliberate mentorship and sponsorship, and the integration of scholarly activity into routine clinical practice.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

ORGANIZERS/MODERATORS
Alexander Li Cohen, MD, PhD, FCNS, FAAN
Boston Children's Hospital / Harvard Medical School

Rose Gelineau-Morel, MD
Children's Mercy Kansas City

Identifying Your Research Question
Audrey C. Brumback, MD, PhD
Yale University

Incorporating Research into Clinical Practice
Jean-Baptiste Le Pichon, MD, PhD, FAAP
Children's Mercy Kansas City

Finding and Securing Research Funding
Grace Gombolay, MD, MSc, FAAN, FCNS
Emory University/Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

First Steps as a Junior Investigator
Bhooma Aravamuthan, MD, DPhil, FAAN, FCNS
Washington University in St. Louis

2:30 PM - 4:15 PM

Platform Sessions 1, 2, and 3

Platform Session 1

2:30 PM–2:45 PM

PL1-1 • Jasmin D. Sanchez, MD
Optimizing Outcomes After Pediatric Concussion: Updates to the Living Guideline for Pediatric Concussion

2:45 PM–3:00 PM

PL1-2 • Maria Manuela Sierra-Breton, MD
Determinants of Mortality and Neurological Sequelae in Pediatric Central Nervous System Infections: A Cohort Study from a Middle-Income Country

3:00 PM–3:15 PM

PL1-3 • Katerina Bernardi, MD
Sustained Benefit with GPi Deep Brain Stimulation in GNAO1-Related Disorder

3:15 PM–3:30 PM

PL1-4 • Manouchehr Amanat Yazdi, MD, MPH
Impact of Rapid Whole-Genome Sequencing on Diagnostic Yield and Clinical Decision-Making in Acute Pediatric Neurology

3:30 PM–3:45 PM

PL1-5 • Adeline Vanderver, MD
PLP1-Related Disorders: Genotype Classification and Clinical Associations

3:45 PM–4:00 PM

PL1-6 • Francesco Gavazzi, MD, PhD
Delineation of Functional Trajectories in TUBB4A-Related Leukodystrophy: A Step Towards Clinical Trial Readiness

4:00 PM–4:15 PM

PL1-7 • Isaac Kwame Atuahene, MD
Bridging the Diagnostic Gap: Clinical Predictors of Pediatric Neurodevelopmental Disorders in Resource-Limited Settings

Platform Session 2

2:30 PM–2:45 PM

PL2-1 • Laura Saucier, MD, MSc
Up-Front Rituximab Reduces Relapse Risk in Pediatric-Onset Opsoclonus Myoclonus Ataxia Syndrome

2:45 PM–3:00 PM

PL2-2 • Rohan Singh, MS-II
Cerebrospinal Fluid T-Cell Activation Correlates with Clinical Severity and Diagnostic Abnormalities in Down Syndrome Regression Disorder

3:00 PM–3:15 PM

PL2-3 • Shadi Shams, DO
Characteristics of Epilepsy in Patients with Down Syndrome: A Retrospective Cohort Study

3:15 PM–3:30 PM

PL2-4 • Adam L. Numis, MD
Epilepsy-Associated Gene Variants Are Not Associated with Acquired Epilepsy Risk After Acute Provoked Neonatal Seizures

3:30 PM–3:45 PM

PL2-5 • John R. Mytinger, MD
A Prognostic Biomarker for Refractory Epilepsy After Infantile Epileptic Spasms Syndrome – Validation of the 2021 BASED Score

3:45 PM–4:00 PM

PL2-6 • Warren D. Lo, MD
Seizure Status Modifies Response to Motor Rehabilitation in Perinatal Arterial Ischemic Stroke: The I-ACQUIRE Trial

4:00 PM–4:15 PM

PL2-7 • Victoria D'Amours, BSc

Impairments, Epilepsy, and Imaging in Dyskinetic Cerebral Palsy vs. Spastic Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy: A Retrospective Study

Platform Session 3

2:30 PM–2:45 PM

PL3-1 • Habibah Agianda, MD, MMSc
Clinical Utility of Plasma Neurofilament Light Chain as a Prognostic Biomarker in KIF1A-Associated Neurological Disorder (KAND)

2:45 PM–3:00 PM

PL3-2 • Mohamad A. Mikati, MD
Gene Supplementation Therapy Provides Long-Term Rescue of the Alternating Hemiplegia of Childhood Phenotype in the ATP1A3D801N/+ Mouse Model

3:00 PM–3:15 PM

PL3-3 • Sampathkumar Rangasamy, PhD
Nuclease-Free AAVHSC15 HR-Mediated Exon Replacement of Mecp2 Rescues Survival and Neurologic Phenotype in the R306C Mouse Model of Rett Syndrome

3:15 PM–3:30 PM

PL3-4 • Zoe Piccus, PhD
Small-Molecule Therapeutics for AP-4-Related Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia

3:30 PM–3:45 PM

PL3-5 • Joshua L. Bonkowsky, MD, PhD
Microglial Transplant: Novel Treatment for Vanishing White Matter Leukodystrophy

3:45 PM–4:00 PM

PL3-6 • Ali Reza Tavasoli, MD
Biallelic ADORA1 Variants Cause Childhood-Onset Epilepsy Through Impaired Basal Adenosine A1 Receptor Signaling

4:00 PM–4:15 PM

PL3-7 • Asmaa Toumi, PhD
Functional Impacts of Autism-Associated TRIO Variants on GABAergic Interneurons

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Junior Member/Early Career Forum and Panel Discussions

See page 50 for the full schedule of talks.

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Satellite Symposium - Industry Session
Product Theater - Industry Session

Refer to page 57 for more details about the sessions.

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Special Interest Group Meetings (SIGS)

Educational

Growing as a Child Neurology Educator

LEADER

John A. Pugh, MD, PhD

Chris Barton, MD

DESCRIPTION

Join us for the revamped Educational SIG as we launch an exciting initiative to bring together educators across all levels, including medical students, residents, and faculty involved in educator development. Whether you are a clerkship director, program director, teaching faculty member, or simply passionate about education, this SIG aims to foster a collaborative community committed to advancing educational excellence in child neurology and NDD. During this session, we will outline our vision and new structure for the SIG, explore opportunities for professional development as a child neurology educator, and brainstorm and workshop new initiatives for the coming year through individualized breakout workgroups. Our goal is for the SIG to serve as the educators' home within the CNEC — a place to connect with like-minded colleagues, share ideas, energy, and enthusiasm, and advance this foundational mission together.

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

Neurocritical Care

Acute Care Case-Based Discussion: Is Multimodal Monitoring Helpful?

LEADER
Divakar Mithal, MD, PhD

DESCRIPTION
Treatment of severe neurologic disease may require evaluation of patients who do not have a reliable neurologic examination. In these settings, acute management may involve non-invasive monitoring of neurologic functions. In addition to vital signs, advanced tools such as continuous EEG, NIRS, TCD, and PoCUS provide additional information to support clinical decision-making, although the utility of these modalities remains unclear. Using real-life cases submitted by members of the SIG, we will evaluate the utility of multimodal monitoring in the acute care setting. Participants will engage in discussion to explore how different combinations of these tools can be deployed and to appreciate the variability in practice across different clinical settings.

Neuroimmune Disorders

The Great Debates in Pediatric Neuroimmunology: Perspectives on Current Controversies and Unresolved Questions

LEADER
Melissa Wright, MD

DESCRIPTION
The field of pediatric autoimmune neurology/neuroimmunology is rapidly evolving. Because pediatric neuroinflammatory disorders are rare and the evidence base remains limited, clinicians frequently face complex diagnostic and therapeutic decisions in the absence of definitive data or a clear understanding of disease pathophysiology.

This highly interactive session will explore some of the most challenging and clinically relevant controversies and unresolved questions in pediatric autoimmune neurology. Using a case-based, small-group discussion format, attendees will examine challenging diagnoses and clinical scenarios, particularly those in which more than one reasonable approach to diagnosis and management exists.

Participants will be divided into small groups facilitated by experts who will guide discussion and encourage attendees to share their perspectives and experiences. Each group will discuss the available evidence, its limitations, and how uncertainty influences clinical decision-making. The groups will then reconvene for a moderated large-group discussion highlighting areas of consensus and ongoing disagreement. The goal of this session is to promote collaborative discussion, broaden participants' understanding of how experts navigate uncertainty, and foster a balanced, adaptable approach to caring for children with complex autoimmune neurologic disorders in this rapidly evolving field.

Neuromodulation

Neuromodulation Cases Across Modalities: DBS, TMS, and VNS

LEADER
Angela Hewitt, MD, PhD

Stuart Fraser, MD

DESCRIPTION
Neuromodulation therapies are increasingly being incorporated into pediatric neurology practice for a broad range of neurologic disorders, yet selecting the appropriate therapy for an individual patient requires careful consideration of the underlying disease, available evidence, expected outcomes, and safety profile. This interactive case-based session will build upon the preceding seminar, Pediatric Neuromodulation: Emerging Evidence to Clinical Care, by illustrating how current evidence is applied to real-world clinical decision-making. Through representative cases spanning vagus nerve stimulation (VNS), transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), and deep brain stimulation (DBS), participants will gain practical insight into patient selection, multidisciplinary management, and therapeutic outcomes across diverse pediatric neurologic conditions.

Expert faculty will present illustrative cases highlighting different neuromodulation modalities: Dr. Irina Duff (Johns Hopkins University) will discuss VNS for refractory adolescent headache, Dr. Keith Starnes (Mayo Clinic) will present the use of TMS for childhood epilepsy, and Dr. Amy Robichaux Viehoever (Washington University in St. Louis) will discuss effective versus poor outcomes using DBS to treat secondary dystonia and cerebral palsy. Following each presentation, panel discussion and audience engagement will focus on the rationale for therapy selection, procedural and safety considerations, clinical outcomes, and ongoing challenges in integrating neuromodulation into pediatric practice. This session is designed to translate emerging evidence into practical clinical application and foster discussion among clinicians interested in advancing neuromodulation therapies for children with neurologic disease.

Neuromuscular

Managing CK on the Newborn Screen and the Early Care of Patients With Duchenne

LEADER
Peter Kang, MD

DESCRIPTION
In December 2025, DHHS added Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) to the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP), facilitating earlier access to therapies and supportive care with the goal of improving long-term outcomes. Creatine kinase muscle-type (CK-MM) levels are used to screen for DMD. New York and Ohio introduced CK-based newborn screening in October 2019 (as a pilot study) and April 2024, respectively. We will outline the newborn screening protocols in these states, including follow-up for positive and inconclusive results, and review the status of DMD newborn screening in other states. We will discuss how early diagnosis is changing the care and monitoring of infants and toddlers with DMD and review an ongoing study aimed at improving natural history data in this population.

Because CK-MM is a marker of muscle damage but is not specific to DMD, or even to myopathies in general, the addition of DMD to the RUSP means that newborn screening will identify infants with a variety of conditions associated with elevated CK levels. We will highlight cases illustrating the diagnostic odyssey following identification of an elevated CK level on newborn screening and review considerations in the management of infants with elevated CK who test negative for DMD.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Closing Reception

Saturday, October 17

7:00 AM - 7:45 AM

Junior Member/Early Career Lobby Talks

See page 50 for the full schedule of talks.

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM

Hower Award Lecture: Bruce H. Cohen, MD, FAAN, FCNS

Supported by

Akron Children's

Finding Opportunities and Other Muses

Bruce Cohen, MD, FAAN, FCNS
Director, NeuroDevelopmental Science Center; Philip H. Maynard Chair in NeuroDevelopmental Science Fund; Chairman, American Academy of Neurology Advocacy Committee; Pediatric Neurologist
Akron, Ohio

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Symposium III: Year in Review

DESCRIPTION
With exciting advancements in child neurology in the areas of clinical care, research, new medications, gene therapies, and emerging technologies, this session provides a broad overview across pediatric neurology subspecialties. Experts in the field will highlight important developments from the past year with a focus on studies and clinical updates most relevant to the general child neurologist. Topics will include epilepsy, neuroimmunology, diversity, equity, and inclusion

SESSIONS highlighted in purple are designated for CME credit. The agenda and amount of CME credits available are subject to change.

(DEI)/social determinants of health (SOH), neonatal neurology, neuromuscular medicine, neurogenetics, movement disorders, headache, neurodevelopment, neuro-oncology, global pediatric neurology, stroke and neurocritical care, neuropalliative care, and education. Studies discussed will include multicenter consortia and clinical trials and leaders across organizations will present notable abstracts from other professional societies relevant to our membership. This symposium will provide an update on the most relevant and high-impact studies shaping the field of child neurology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this educational session, participants will be able to:

- Identify high-impact studies that have been published in child neurology in the past year.
- Discuss novel therapies and treatments available for pediatric neurological disorders.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This educational session helped me to identify changes I could make in my practice related to:

- Evidence-based practices for management of pediatric neurological diseases.
- Discussing important studies in pediatric neurology.

ORGANIZERS/MODERATORS

David S. Wolf, MD, PhD
Emory University School of Medicine

Sucheta Joshi, MD, MS, FAAP, FAES
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

SPEAKERS

Epilepsy
Michael Ciliberto, MS, MD, FAES
University of Iowa

Neuroimmunology
Harlori K. Bains, MD
Phoenix Children's

DEI/Social Determinants of Health (SOH)
Jorge Alberto Vidaurre, MD
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Neonatal Neurology
Hannah C. Glass, MDCM, MAS
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital

Neuromuscular
Erin E. Neil Knierbein, DO
University of Michigan

Neurogenetics
Sam Mackenzie, MD, PhD
University of Rochester

Movement Disorders
Laura Tochen, MD
Children's National Hospital

Headache
Eric Strong, MD
Geisinger Medical Center

Neurodevelopment
Lisa Emrick, MD
Baylor College of Medicine

Neuro-Oncology
Nicole Ullrich, MD, PhD
Boston Children's Hospital

Global Pediatric Neurology
Mubeen F. Rafay, MBBS, FCPS, MSc
Children's Hospital Winnipeg

Stroke & Neurocritical Care
Namrata D. Patel, MD, MS
Medical College of Wisconsin

Neuropalliative Care
Rhandi Christensen, MD, PhD, FRCPC
The Hospital for Sick Children

Education
Ruba Al-Ramadhani, MD
UPMC Children's Hospital

CNS Junior Members/Early Career Events

Dear Junior and Early Career Members,

Welcome to the Child Neurology Society Annual Meeting!

We are thrilled to have you join us for what promises to be an exciting and enriching experience. As emerging professionals in the field of child neurology, your presence here not only underscores your commitment to advancing our understanding and treatment of neurological disorders in children but also enhances the collective knowledge and enthusiasm of our community.

This year's meeting has been thoughtfully designed with you in mind. We understand the unique challenges and opportunities that come with being early in your career. We are dedicated to supporting your growth by providing you with valuable insights, practical skills, and networking opportunities that are crucial for your professional development.

For information on the Junior Member/Early Career offerings, please see the event mobile app.

We'd like to highlight the Junior/Early Career Forum with CNS President, Dr. Yasmin Khakoo, coming to speak to you directly about issues that are important for Junior membership. Right after the forum, we'll have panel discussions for picking residency programs, fellowships, and your first job. We will also look for ideas from you for next year!

We encourage you to take full advantage of our poster sessions and networking events. These gatherings provide an excellent platform for you to present your work, exchange ideas with peers, and engage in meaningful discussions with leaders in the field.

Sincerely,

The Co-chairs of the Junior Member/Early Career Committee:

Ana G. Cristancho, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor
Division of Child Neurology
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Paul E. Youssef, DO
Assistant Professor of Neurology
Division of Child & Adolescent Neurology
Mayo Clinic

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14		
Lobby Talks		
7:00 AM – 7:15 AM	**Networking at the Annual Meeting**	Ariel Lyons-Warren, MD, PhD Texas Children's Hospital
7:15 AM – 7:30 AM	**How to Be a Good Mentee**	Laura Gilbert, DO, MBA Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
7:30 AM – 7:45 AM	**Build and Tailor CV to Desired Job**	Maddie Kahan, MD Children's Hospital Los Angeles
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15		
Lobby Talks		
7:00 AM – 7:15 AM	**Transitioning to Private Practice**	Conor Ryan, MD Noran Neurology / Children's Minnesota
7:15 AM – 7:30 AM	**Transitioning to Industry**	Joe Sullivan, MD UCSF Pediatric Epilepsy
7:30 AM – 7:45 AM	**Transitioning to Admin Roles**	Mollie Phillip, MD Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16		
Lobby Talks		
7:00 AM – 7:15 AM	**Learn About Consulting/Advisory Boards**	Alex Fay, MD, PhD UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals
7:15 AM – 7:30 AM	**Podcasts and Social Media in 2026**	Sam Mackenzie, MD, PhD University of Rochester Medical Center
7:30 AM – 7:45 AM	**Multifaceted Career**	Archana Pasupuleti, MD, M.B.A. Children's National Hospital
Junior Member/Early Career Forum and Panel Discussions		
4:30 PM – 5:15 PM	**Junior Early Career Forum Session with Yasmin Khakoo, MD, FCNS, FAAN, FAAP**	Paul E. Youssef, DO Mayo Clinic Ana G. Cristancho, MD, PhD Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
5:15 PM – 6:00 PM	**Panel 1: How to Choose a Residency**	Khushboo Saha, MBBS Resident at UT Southwestern Medical Center Hunter Sheckley, MD Resident at University of Michigan Medical School Agnes Donnelly, MD Resident at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
5:15 PM – 6:00 PM	**Panel 2: How to Choose a Fellowship**	Alizah Patterson, MD Fellow at Kennedy Krieger Institute Mary Karalius, MD UCSF Pediatric Neurology Riley Kessler, MD Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
5:15 PM – 6:00 PM	**Panel 3: How to Choose Your First Job**	Sonal Bhatia, MBBS, MD Medical University of South Carolina Ana G. Cristancho, MD, PhD Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Kriti Bhayana, MD Cleveland Clinic Foundation Katie Ihnen, MD Cincinnati Children's Hospital Dhristie Bhagat, MD Weill Cornell Medicine | NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17		
Lobby Talks		
7:00 AM – 7:45 AM	**Finances 101**	Alexander Cohen, MD, PhD Boston Children's Hospital

ACNN
ASSOCIATION OF CHILD NEUROLOGY NURSES

Annual Conference Schedule

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 - Friday, October 16, 2026
Montréal, Québec, Canada, at the Palais des Congrès de Montréal

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026		
8:00 AM - 8:10 AM	**Welcome and Opening Remarks**	Rasha Srouji, DNP, CPNP, CNRN
8:10 AM - 9:30 AM	**Keynote Address: Strength Based Nursing Model — A Value Driven Approach**	Laurie N. Gottlieb, RN, PhD
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	**Leading Change: Preparing Teams for Pediatric Neuroscience Care**	Katelyn Beam, CRNP-PC/AC Veronica Zielinski, MSN, RN, ACCNS-P, CPN Caitlin Keiter, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	**Break**	
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	**Pediatric Neurology Workforce**	Tara Pezzuto, DNP, APRN-BC, PNP
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	**Lunch**	
12:30 PM - 1:15 PM	**Updates in U.S. Newborn Screening for Neuromuscular Diseases**	Samantha Weaver, DNP, CRNP, CPNP-AC, AGN-BC
1:15 PM - 2:00 PM	**From Idea to Implementation: The Creation and Application of a Clinical Pathway for Use of a Cerebroventricular Access Device (CAD) to Deliver Cerliponase Alfa Infusions**	Taylor Schwab, BSN, RN, CPN, AMB-BC Jennifer Momot, BSN, RN, CPN
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	**Autism in Pediatric Neurology: A Practical Nursing Framework for Identification, Evaluation, and Management**	Tuba Rashid-Khan, MD, MPH, Ed.M
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026		
8:00 AM - 8:10 AM	**Opening Remarks**	Beck Reyes, MSN, CPNP, CNRN
8:10 AM - 9:10 AM	***Kathy O'Hara Memorial Address:* The Hidden Grief of Childhood Epilepsy Recognizing Loss, Uncertainty, and Chronic Sorrow in Children and Families**	Maria Zak, MN, NP
9:10 AM - 10:00 AM	**Impact of Social Determinants on Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Referrals**	Christiana Peterson, BA, BSN, RN Mary Wingert, MSN, RN, CPN Aymee Steidl, MSN, MA, RN
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	**Break**	
10:15 AM - 11:00 AM	**Interdisciplinary Pathway for EEG Monitoring in Children with Behavioral Concerns**	Veronica Zielinski, MSN, RN, ACCNS-P, CPN Katelyn Beam, CRNP-PC/AC Caitlin Keiter, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	**Feasibility of a 12-Week Self-Management Intervention for Adolescent Headache (SMI-AH) in a Rural Adolescent Population**	Suzy Mascaro Walter, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, CNRN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026 CONTINUED		
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	**Awards Ceremony and Business Meeting**	Rasha Srouji, DNP, CPNP, CNRN
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	**Lunch**	
12:45 PM - 1:30 PM	**Maximizing RN Scope of Practice in Ambulatory Pediatric Neurology**	Emilia Spalding, BSN, RN, PHN, CNRN
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	**Vestibular Disorders in Children with Dizziness: A Nursing Approach**	Kate Mysak, MS, RN, CPNP, CNRN
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026		
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM	**VNS Training and Updates**	Susanna Fenstermacher, CPNP
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	**Building a Neuromuscular Gene Therapy Program: Lessons Learned**	Crystal Walker, RN, MSN, CPNP-PC Misty Ledbetter, RN, CPN
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	**Break**	
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	**Understanding Updates to the Genetic Disorder Formally Known as Neurofibromatosis Type 2**	Racheal Bingham, DNP, CPNP-PC, CPON
11:15 AM - 12:00 PM	**Setting an Advocacy Agenda for Children Living with Neurological Disease**	Scott Turner, APRN, DNP, FAHS
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	**Lunch**	
12:45 PM - 1:30 PM	**The Spectrum of Leigh Syndrome - Insights from a Longitudinal Natural History Study**	Shannon Kruk, RN, BSN
1:30 PM - 2:15 PM	**Supporting Transition to Adult Neurology Care**	Jennifer A. Disabato, DNP, CPNP-PC, AC
2:15 PM - 3:00 PM	**Poster Presentations**	
	Low Glycemic Index Diet and Vestibular Migraine Frequency and Severity	Kate Mysak, MS, RN, CPNP, CNRN
	Understanding Rett Syndrome: Diagnosis, Clinical Care, and Emerging Therapies	Emily Wignall, MSN, CRNP, FNP-BC
	Supporting Transition to Adult Neurology Care	Jennifer A. Disabato, DNP, CPNP-PC, AC
	Depression in Pediatric Epilepsy Patients in the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit: A Quality Improvement Project	Jennifer Hubbard, DNP, CPNP-AC
3:00 PM	**Closing Remarks**	Rasha Srouji, DNP, CPNP, CNRN

Annual Educational Conference Agenda
October 14 - 16, 2026

Coordinator Bootcamp
The information covered is targeted for newer coordinators and will provide a solid refresher for experienced coordinators. Experienced coordinators should attend as input is always appreciated.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026		
8:30 AM - 8:50 AM	**Breakfast**	
8:50 AM - 9:00 AM	**Opening Remarks**	Adam Finney President, Program Coordinators of Child Neurology Teri Behnke Vice-President, Program Coordinators of Child Neurology
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	**Annual Program Calendar**	Carly Russo Medical College of Wisconsin Milwaukee, WI
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM	**PEC**	Adam Finney University of Colorado Aurora, CO
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	**Break**	
10:15 AM - 10:45 AM	**ACGME Updates/Requirements**	Teri Behnke University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	**PD/PC Roundtable Discussion**	Adam Finney University of Colorado Aurora, CO
11:45 AM - 12:15 PM	**ABPN Completion**	Jacquelyn Crombie Boston Children's Hospital Boston, MA
12:15 PM - 1:00 PM	**Lunch**	
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	**P.A.C.E Palette**	Toni Davison University of Alabama at Birmingham Birmingham, AL

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026		
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	**Breakfast**	
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	**Feedback**	Jacquelyn Crombie Boston Children's Hospital Boston, MA
9:45 AM - 10:30 AM	**Resident Panel/Social Media**	Carly Russo Medical College of Wisconsin Milwaukee, WI
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	**Break**	
10:45 AM – 11:45 AM	**Managing Multiple Programs**	Melissa Gittings, C-TAGME Oregon Health & Science University Portland, OR Tania Mays, MPA, C-TAGME Phoenix Children's Hospital Phoenix, AZ
11:45 AM – 12:00 PM	**Parking Lot**	Adam Finney University of Colorado Aurora, CO
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	**Lunch**	
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	**Beyond Coordination: Redefining the Pediatric Neurology GME Coordinator Role in a New Era of Medical Education**	Eburrell Brisker-Richardson, MHA Baylor College of Medicine Houston, TX
2:00 PM – 2:45 PM	**Building a Team: Integrating New Team Members**	Tania Mays, MPA, C-TAGME Phoenix Children's Hospital Phoenix, AZ
2:45 PM – 3:00 PM	**Break**	
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM	**PC Burnout**	Rebecca Strickland Medical University of South Carolina Charleston, SC Toni Davison University of Alabama at Birmingham Birmingham, AL
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM	**Wellness Activity**	Toni Davison University of Alabama at Birmingham Birmingham, AL
4:00 PM – 4:15 PM	**Parking Lot Discussion/Closing Comments**	Adam Finney President, Program Coordinators of Child Neurology
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	**Program Coordinator Social Event**	

Annual Educational Conference Agenda
October 14 - 16, 2026

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026		
8:30 AM – 8:55 AM	**Breakfast**	
8:55 AM – 9:00 AM	**Welcome**	Adam Finney President, Program Coordinators of Child Neurology
9:00 AM – 9:45 AM	**Navigating ACGME Site Visit**	Jacquelyn Crombie Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA
9:45 AM – 10:30 AM	**Imposter Syndrome**	Melissa Gittings, C-TAGME Oregon Health & Science University Portland, OR
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	**Break**	
10:45 AM – 11:45 AM	**Using AI to Fix Your CCC**	Jenn Link, C-TAGME Mayo Clinic Florida/Nemours Children's Health Saint Johns, FL
11:45 AM – 1:30 PM	**Mentor Lunch**	
1:30 PM – 2:15 PM	**Trainee Psychological Safety**	Laura Konopka University of Colorado Aurora, CO
2:15 PM – 3:00 PM	**Maximizing Resident Continuity Clinic**	Priscilla Harlan University of Colorado Aurora, CO
3:00 PM – 3:45 PM	**Resident Recruitment**	Stephanie Hansbury Boston Children's Hospital Boston, MA
3:45 PM – 4:15 PM	**Parking Lot Discussion/Closing Comments**	Adam Finney President, Program Coordinators of Child Neurology

Satellite Symposium

Wednesday, October 14

From Genome to Diagnosis: The Next Era of Precision Neurology

11:45 AM - 1:45 PM

PRE-REGISTRATION LINK:
https://www.baylorgenetics.com/cns-2026-registration/

DESCRIPTION
Advances in genomic technologies are reshaping the diagnostic landscape in pediatric neurology, yet many patients remain undiagnosed due to limitations of conventional testing approaches. We will explore how integrating whole genome sequencing (WGS) with complementary technologies such as repeat expansion analysis, RNA sequencing, and structural variant detection improve diagnostic yield and clinical insight. We will begin with an overview of Baylor Genetics' unique WGS platform, followed by expert-led clinical discussions highlighting complex neurological presentations, the identification of repeat expansion disorders associated with epilepsy and the diagnosis and management of ReNU syndrome from both the clinician's and patient advocacy perspectives. Evolving trends in payer coverage and access to genomic testing will be addressed, providing practical insights into implementation in today's clinical environment. The program will conclude with an interactive panel discussion focused on real-world application and future directions in pediatric neurology.

FACULTY

Beyond Standard Whole Genome Sequencing: How Multimodal Genomics Expands Diagnostic Yield in Neurology

SPEAKER
Matthew Walsh, MMSc, CGC | Medical Science Liaison at Baylor Genetics | mwalsh@baylorgenetics.com

Repeat Expansion Disorders in Epilepsy: Clinical Insights and the Evolving Role of Whole Genome Sequencing

SPEAKER
Dr. Amitha Ananth | Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics University of Alabama at Birmingham/ Pediatric Neurologist and Geneticist

ReNU Syndrome: From Genomic Diagnosis to the Patient Journey — Clinical and Family Perspectives

SPEAKER
Dr. Jennifer Bain | Associate Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics at Columbia University Medical Center

Jessica Margrill | President / Co-founder at ReNU Syndrome United

The Evolving Coverage Landscape for Whole Genome Sequencing in Pediatric Neurology

SPEAKER
Dr. Chad Moretz | Director, HEOR at Baylor Genetics

Q&A and Panel Discussion:

MODERATOR
Jason Chibuk | VP, Clinical Engagement at Baylor Genetics

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE
Baylor Genetics

Wednesday, October 14

A Journey Into the Lived Experience of Dravet Syndrome: Merging Caregiver Experiences and Clinical Science to Outline the Path Forward

11:45 AM - 1:45 PM

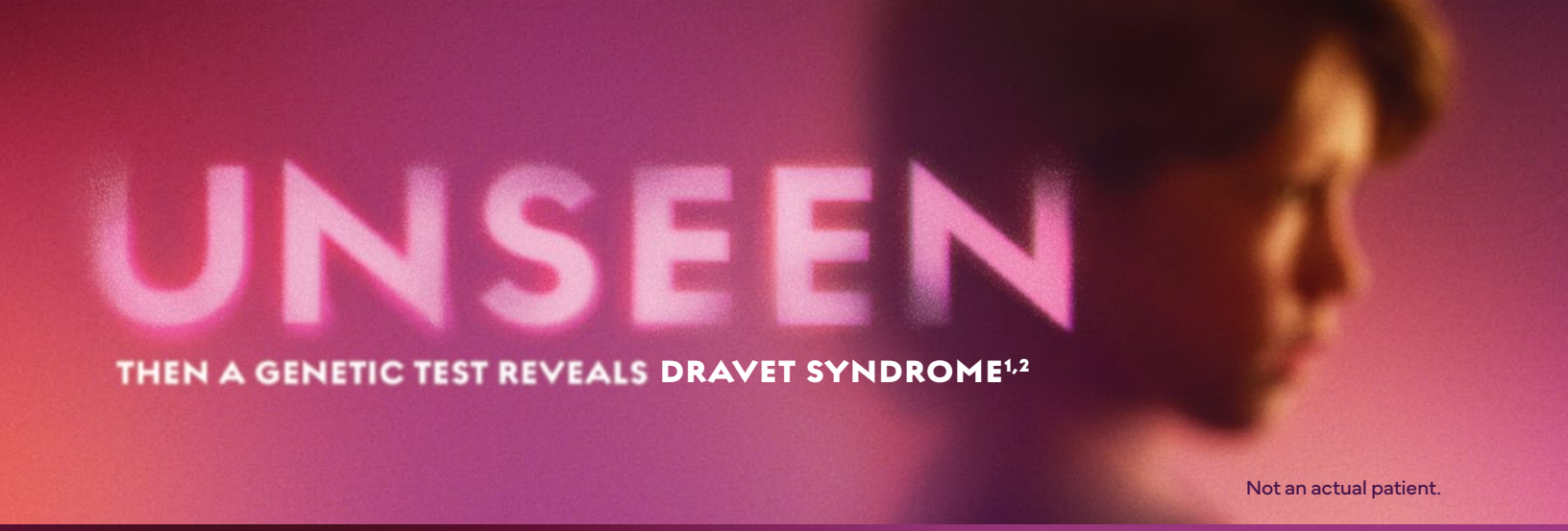
PRE-REGISTRATION LINK:
http://www.medscape.org/sympo/dravet-patient-journey

DESCRIPTION
Current care for Dravet syndrome focuses primarily on seizures, but nonseizure symptoms often have an equal, if not greater, impact on patients' and families' quality of life.

Step beyond traditional learning and into the real world of Dravet syndrome from the caregivers' perspective. This innovative program puts YOU at the intersection of clinical expertise and authentic patient and caregiver experiences, equipping you with insights and strategies that will reshape the way you care for your patients with Dravet syndrome.

OBJECTIVES
Based on immersive, small-group Patient Journey Stations, dive deep into 3 powerful case studies mirroring real-world practice. You will:

- Hear the real voices of caregivers
- Engage directly with faculty and colleagues for the exchange of ideas
- Ask questions in an informal setting
- Experience interactive, live panel discussions that bridge caregiver perspectives with clinical excellence



DID YOU KNOW

OVER **90%** of Dravet syndrome cases are caused by pathogenic loss-of-function *SCN1A* variants?[3-5]

FOLLOW THE PATHWAY FROM GENE DISRUPTION TO DEVELOPMENTAL DEFICITS[6,7]

EXPLORE THE CONNECTION AT BOOTH

#501

Visit ScreenDravetSyndrome.com to learn more.

SCN1A, sodium voltage-gated channel alpha subunit 1.

References: 1. Andrade DM, Lira VST, Qaiser F, Ali QZ, Valente K, Lomax LB. Genetic epilepsies: clinical pearls for early career epileptologists. *Epilepsy Behav.* 2025;17:110575. doi:10.1016/j.yebeh.2025.110575 **2.** Silvennoinen K, Puvirajasinghe C, Hudgell K, et al. Late diagnoses of Dravet syndrome: How many individuals are we missing? *Epilepsia Open.* 2021;6(4):770-776. doi:10.1002/epi4.12525 **3.** Li W, Schneider AL, Scheffer IE. Defining Dravet syndrome: an essential pre-requisite for precision medicine trials. *Epilepsia.* 2021;62(9):2205-2217. doi:10.1111/epi.17015 **4.** Gertler TS, Calhoun J, Laux L. A single-center, retrospective analysis of genotype-phenotype correlations in children with Dravet syndrome. *Seizure.* 2020;75:1-6. doi:10.1016/j.seizure.2019.12.009 **5.** Balestrini S, Scheffer IE. Ameliorating seizures in Dravet syndrome: a review of newly approved and investigational drugs, RNA and gene-based therapies. *CNS Drugs.* 2026;40(4):535-548. doi:10.1007/s40263-026-01276-x **6.** Sullivan J, Deighton AM, Vila MC, et al. The clinical, economic, and humanistic burden of Dravet syndrome - a systematic literature review. *Epilepsy Behav.* 2022;130:108661. doi:10.1016/j.yebeh.2022.108661 **7.** Wu YW, Sullivan J, McDaniel SS, et al. Incidence of Dravet syndrome in a US population. *Pediatrics.* 2015;136(5):e1310-e1315. doi:10.1542/peds.2015-1807

STOKE THERAPEUTICS

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FACULTY

MODERATOR

Elaine C. Wirrell, MD
Chair and Professor of Child and Adolescent Neurology
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota

Kelly G. Knupp, MD
Professor of Pediatrics and Neurology
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
Aurora, Colorado

Linda C. Laux, MD
Lorna S. and James P. Langdon Professor of Pediatric Neurology
Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

CME DESIGNATION

Medscape, LLC designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE

Stoke Therapeutics

Friday, October 16

Rett Syndrome Across the Disease Continuum: From Natural History to Patient Centered Innovation

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

PRE-REGISTRATION LINK:
www.tayshagtx.com/2026-cns-symposium

DESCRIPTION

This 60-minute industry-sponsored satellite symposium will provide pediatric neurologists with a comprehensive overview of Rett syndrome, from disease pathophysiology and unmet medical need to emerging clinical developments. The session will feature three expert faculty who will explore evolving insights from Rett syndrome natural history studies, discuss how novel learnings from natural history data are being leveraged to develop a patient-centric Rett Syndrome Developmental Milestone Assessment (RS-DMA), and present emerging clinical experience with TSHA-102 gene therapy from the REVEAL clinical program. The program is designed for a broad child neurology audience, including clinicians who may have limited familiarity with recent advances in Rett syndrome and gene therapy. The session will be recorded to develop enduring educational content.

FACULTY

Elsa Rossignol, MD, FRCPC, MSc
Pediatric Neurologist
Clinical Associate Professor, Departments of Neurosciences and Pediatrics
Université de Montréal and Centre Universitaire Hospitalier Sainte-Justine
Montréal, Quebec, Canada

Tessa Clarkson, PhD
Co-founder & CEO
Psychlomere
Littleton, CO, USA

Jeffery L. Neul, MD, PhD
Professor of Pediatrics, Pharmacology, and Special Education, Pediatric Neurology
Vanderbilt Kennedy Center, Department of Pediatrics
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Nashville, TN, USA

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE

Taysha Gene Therapies, Inc.

Friday, October 16

Understanding Angelman Syndrome: From Diagnosis to Daily Life

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

PRE-REGISTRATION LINK:
https://ultragenyx.swoogo.com/CNS2026symposium

DESCRIPTION

This symposium offers a unique opportunity to gain complementary perspectives on Angelman syndrome from internationally recognized experts alongside a parent caregiver, providing a comprehensive view of the condition from both clinical and lived-experience viewpoints.

OBJECTIVES

- Recognize the early signs of Angelman syndrome, a rare neurodevelopmental disorder
- Gain insights into the clinical management of individuals with Angelman syndrome
- Understand the profound burden of disease and its impact on patients and families
- Explore current approaches to management of the disorder

Through expert clinical insights and a firsthand caregiver perspective, this symposium will provide practical knowledge that can help improve recognition, care of individuals with Angelman Syndrome, and family support.

Satellite Symposium CONTINUED

FACULTY
Elizabeth Berry-Kravis, MD, PhD
Professor of Pediatrics, Neurological Sciences and Biochemistry
Rush University Medical Center
Chicago, Illinois, USA

Jennifer Bain, MD, PhD
Associate Professor, Neurology and Pediatrics
Columbia University Medical Center
New York, New York, USA

Noah Firestone
Chairperson, Foundation for Angelman Syndrome Therapeutics (FAST) Canada
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE
Ultragenyx

Sunrise Exchange

Friday, October 16

Increasing Awareness of Therapeutic Options for Thymidine Kinase 2 Deficiency (TK2d)

6:30 AM - 7:30 AM

PRE-REGISTRATION LINK:
https://bit.ly/44TTbai

DESCRIPTION
Thymidine kinase 2 deficiency (TK2d) is an ultrarare autosomal recessive disorder that results in a myopathic form of mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) depletion. It has been estimated that the minimum prevalence of TK2d is 600 patients in the United States with a maximum of 2700. Due to its rarity, most clinicians are unfamiliar with this disease, but early recognition and diagnosis of TK2d is becoming increasingly important as novel therapies are being developed. Most patients with mitochondrial myopathies see an average of 8 clinicians over 8 to 10 years from the onset of symptoms before receiving a diagnosis. This can result in significant mortality and morbidity.

OBJECTIVES
- Outline the relationship between the pathophysiological pathways underlying TK2d and its clinical presentations
- Describe diagnostic strategies to identify patients with TK2d
- Identify the limitations of current treatment paradigms for patients with TK2d
- Analyze clinical trial data for agents for TK2d

CME DESIGNATION
- Physicians' Education Resource®, LLC, is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.
- Physicians' Education Resource®, LLC designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
- Physicians' Education Resource®, LLC is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider #16669, for 1.0 Contact Hour.

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE
UCB Pharmaceuticals

Product Theater

Thursday, October 15

Rett Syndrome Management Your Way: Two Formulations of the First and Only FDA Approved Treatment

11:15 AM - 1:15 PM

PRE-REGISTRATION LINK:
https://cvent.me/rEWAR2

DESCRIPTION
Mix up your routine by joining us and hearing more about Rett syndrome care with a peer expert and a caregiver who will be sharing their experience with DAYBUE® and DAYBUE® STIX.

FACULTY
Sarah Chagnon, MD

Jeff (Caregiver)

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE
Acadia Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Thursday, October 15

Recognizing the Unexpected: Expanding the Differential in Pediatric Neuromuscular Disease

11:15 AM - 1:15 PM

DESCRIPTION

Children with progressive muscle weakness and overlapping clinical features may present a diagnostic challenge. This session will explore the clinical presentation of thymidine kinase 2 deficiency (TK2d) in pediatric patients, a rare and often fatal mitochondrial myopathy. The discussion will focus on when early-onset TK2d should enter the differential diagnosis and review the importance of timely genetic testing and treatment considerations.

FACULTY

Jennifer Yang, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Neurosciences, Child Neurology
Neuroimmunology & Genetic White Matter Disorders
Co-Director, Neurometabolic and Mitochondrial Disease Clinic
Rady Children's Hospital San Diego | UC San Diego

Samantha Weaver, D.N.P., CRNP-AC, AGN-BC
Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neurology
Co-Director UAB/COA Muscular Dystrophy Association Program
UAB Heersink School of Medicine

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE

UCB, Inc. 1950 Lake Park Dr, Smyrna, GA 30080, United States.

Thursday, October 15

Modern VNS Therapy for Drug-Resistant Epilepsy: From Advanced Features to Improved Outcomes

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

PRE-REGISTRATION LINK:

https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=889189&

DESCRIPTION

Modern VNS Therapy systems incorporate advanced capabilities that may be underutilized. Emerging real-world evidence now provides insight into the impact of contemporary VNS management strategies, including features such as autonomic triggered closed loop response (AutoStim™) and scheduled titration. This session will review findings from the recently completed Comprehensive Outcomes with Real-world Evidence (CORE) study, a global analysis of more than 800 patients with drug-resistant epilepsy treated with VNS Therapy. Focusing on the pediatric subgroup, faculty will explore clinical outcomes, real-world programming practices, and data-driven approaches to titration that may influence patient outcomes and optimize therapy effectiveness.

FACULTY

James Wheless, MD
Professor and Chief of Pediatric Neurology, University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Le Bonheur Chair in Pediatric Neurology, University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Director, Neuroscience Institute and Le Bonheur Comprehensive Epilepsy Program, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

Muhammad Zafar, MD
Director, Pediatric Epilepsy Monitoring Unit and Clinical Neuropharmacology, Associate Professor in Pediatrics and Neurology, Duke University Hospital

Kathryn Nichol, PhD, MBA
Global VP Medical Affairs, LivaNova Inc.

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE

LivaNova USA, Inc.

Thursday, October 15

Beyond Medication: Integrating REN into Pediatric Migraine Care

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

DESCRIPTION

Migraine is one of the most prevalent and disabling neurologic conditions in children and adolescents, yet treatment options remain limited and often rely on pharmacologic therapies. Many available treatments have not been specifically studied in pediatric populations, and concerns regarding tolerability, adherence, and medication overuse continue to present challenges.

Join Dr. Frank Berenson and Dr. Rashmi Rao for an interactive, case-based discussion exploring a paradigm shift in pediatric migraine management through Nerivio®, a noninvasive, drug-free therapy that uses remote electrical neuromodulation (REN). Together, they will review the burden of pediatric migraine, current treatment approaches, and the science behind REN, including activation of the body's endogenous pain regulation system through conditioned pain modulation (CPM).

Through real-world patient cases and clinical evidence, the faculty will discuss integrating Nerivio into the pediatric treatment toolbox, highlighting its role as both an acute and preventive therapy for patients aged 8 years and older. The session will also address practical implementation strategies, including patient selection,

Product Theater CONTINUED

cognitive behavioral therapy and GIER, coverage and reimbursement considerations, product demonstration, and educational resources to support successful adoption in clinical practice.

FACULTY
Frank Berenson, MD, FAHS
Institution: South East Center for Headaches | PANDA Neurology & Atlanta Headache Specialists

Rashmi R. Rao, MD, FAHS
Institution: Associate Professor of Neurology, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center | Manning Family Children's

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE
Theranica USA, Inc.

Friday, October 16

Understanding Mechanism of Disease and Progression in DMD

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

DESCRIPTION
Join ITF Therapeutics for an Industry Forum presentation on the mechanisms of disease that drive progression in Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD). Dr. Wooten of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will discuss unmet needs in DMD and treatment approaches that target key disease pathways. An interactive Q&A will follow. Lunch will be served during the presentation.

FACULTY
Nathaniel Wooten, MD

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE
ITF Therapeutics

Friday, October 16

A Clinical Genome Built with Intention

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

PRE-REGISTRATION LINK:
https://AmbryCNS2026.eventbrite.com

DESCRIPTION
Join Ambry Genetics and our guest speaker, Thelma Alessandra Sugrañes, MD, FACMG from Nicklaus Children's Hospital for an insightful discussion focused on utilization of clinical genome testing in the setting of a pediatric neurology practice. Dr. Sugrañes will explore the importance of equitable access to testing and how to reduce disparities by using pangenome. You'll learn how clinical genetic testing can provide answers for patients and how Ambry's Patient for Life Program retests the patient's genome as new gene-disease relationships are identified. Finally, we'll review additional studies that can be used in negative cases, including long-read and other multiomics, in the attempt to find a diagnosis for every patient.

SPEAKER
Thelma Alessandra Sugrañes, MD, FACMG from Nicklaus Children's Hospital

FUNDING/GRANT SOURCE
Ambry Genetics

View the Online Exhibit Hall









Palais des Congrès de Montréal
Level 2 Montréal, QC



Exhibitors

CNS CORPORATE MISSION PARTNER

Acadia Pharmaceuticals Inc. (#200)

Acadia turns scientific promise into meaningful innovation that makes a difference for underserved neurological and rare disease communities around the world. Our commercial portfolio includes the first and only FDA-approved treatments for Parkinson's disease psychosis and Rett syndrome.

AiLife Diagnostics (#707)

AiLife Diagnostics, Inc. offers comprehensive genetic testing for inherited and somatic disorders. Clinical and research services include single-variant-gene testing, gene panels, as well as exome, genome, long-read, and RNA sequencing. The lab also offers AilisNGS®, an end-to-end Laboratory Information and NGS Interpretation System, for use by clinicians and researchers.

CNS CORPORATE ANNUAL PARTNER

Ambry Genetics (#401)

Ambry Genetics delivers comprehensive genomic testing designed to solve complex pediatric neurological conditions. Our exome and genome sequencing, complemented by RNA analysis and disease-focused panels, help clinicians uncover answers faster and provide clinically actionable insights to support earlier diagnosis and more informed care decisions for children and their families. Visit ambrygen.com to learn more.

American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc. (ABPN) (#303)

The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology serves the public interest and the professions of psychiatry and neurology by promoting and assessing the competence of psychiatrists and neurologists and by establishing standards for initial and continuing certification programs.

Atlantic Health (#708)

Atlantic Health provides high-quality, personalized care for over half of New Jersey, parts of Pennsylvania, and New York. A workforce of over 24,000 team members and 7,779 affiliated physicians is dedicated to building healthier communities. We offer over 550 sites of care and advance the science of medicine through groundbreaking research.

CNS CORPORATE ANNUAL PARTNER

Baylor Genetics (#500)

Baylor Genetics is a leading diagnostic genomics partner offering a full spectrum of comprehensive genetic tests and diagnostic services, from clinical-grade genomic sequencing to expert interpretation, including Whole Genome Sequencing, Whole Exome Sequencing, and focused panels

EVENT SUPPORTER

Beren Therapeutics (#1318)

Beren understands the needs of patient communities, healthcare providers, and health systems in order to identify, develop, and provide access to transformative medicines. We are relentlessly focused on the development of cyclodextrin-based therapeutics for conditions characterized by impaired cholesterol trafficking, including Niemann-Pick disease type C (NPC) and other neurodegenerative conditions.

EVENT SUPPORTER

BioMarin Pharmaceutical (#507)

BioMarin is a world leader in developing and commercializing innovative therapies for rare diseases driven by genetic causes. With a 20+ year history, BioMarin remains steadfast in its original mission — to bring new treatments to market that will make a big impact on small patient populations. Visit biomarin.com to learn more.

BridgeBio (#312)

BridgeBio exists to develop transformative medicines for genetic conditions. Millions of people worldwide living with genetic conditions lack treatment options, often because drug development for small patient populations can be commercially challenging. We aim to bridge the gap between advancements in genetic science and meaningful medicines for underserved patient populations.

Calico Life Sciences (#1319)

Calico Life Sciences LLC ("Calico") is a clinical-stage biotechnology organization focused on aging and age-related diseases. At the CNS Annual Meeting, Calico will share scientific information regarding disorders associated with a maladaptive integrated stress response, including Vanishing White Matter disease, with a focus on disease biology and ongoing clinical research.

Catalyst Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (#407)

Catalyst is committed to developing and commercializing novel medicines for patients living with rare and difficult-to-treat neurological diseases.

CeGaT Corporation (#310)

A CAP/CLIA-certified laboratory headquartered in Germany and Chicago, USA. Since 2009, a world-leading provider of genetic diagnostics for rare diseases and hereditary disorders. ExomeXtra® – Our proprietary exome platform provides 100–120x coverage, including clinically relevant intronic and intergenic regions, mitochondrial DNA, pharmacogenomics, and genome-wide CNV detection. Also, leading Whole-Genome Sequencing is available.

Ceribell (#307)

Ceribell offers the first and only FDA-cleared seizure detection algorithm to cover ages 1+, enabling continuous non-convulsive seizure monitoring, real-time alerts, remote access, and streamlined reporting that empowers neurologists to efficiently expand EEG coverage without overextending their team.

Child Neurology Foundation (#409)

Child Neurology Foundation: The Child Neurology Foundation serves as a collaborative center of education, resources, and support for children and their families living with neurologic conditions and facilitates connection with medical professionals who care for them.

Children's Hospital Colorado (#508)

The Neuroscience Institute at Children's Hospital Colorado is recognized across the country and world for our care of babies, kids, and young adults with all types of neurological disorders. Our nationally recognized experts specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of rare and common diseases of the brain, spine, and nerves.

Children's National (#705)

Children's National in Washington, D.C., is ranked among the nation's top 10 pediatric hospitals by U.S. News & World Report and recognized in all specialties. Our Neurology and Neurosurgery Programs — among the largest and most comprehensive worldwide — are consistently ranked in the top 10.

CHRISTUS Children's (#603)

Welcome to the world of exceptional care for your little ones at CHRISTUS Children's in San Antonio. We have evolved into a comprehensive network of pediatricians' offices, freestanding emergency centers, multispecialty clinics, and Centers for Maternal and Fetal Care spanning San Antonio and New Braunfels

Exhibitors

Cincinnati Children's (#511)

Cincinnati Children's Division of Neurology is a nationally ranked pediatric neurology program caring for children and young adults with complex neurological conditions. Our multidisciplinary team delivers advanced diagnostics, innovative therapies, and personalized care through more than 20 specialized programs, serving patients from across the country and around the world.

Curant Rare (#712)

Curant Rare is redefining rare disease care by combining high-touch specialty pharmacy services, real-world clinical intelligence, and personalized patient support. Built on more than 25 years of outcomes-driven experience, Curant Rare connects patients, providers, and manufacturers to improve access, adherence, and life-changing treatment outcomes.

DNM1 Epilepsy (#804)

DNM1 Epilepsy Foundation is a patient-led nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating research, advancing therapeutic development, and connecting the global DNM1 community. DNM1 Developmental and epileptic encephalopathy (DNM1-DEE) is a rare neurogenetic disorder caused by pathogenic variants in the DNM1 gene that encodes the dynamin-1 protein.

Egetis Therapeutics US, Inc. (#313)

Egetis has a product in development for the treatment of MCT8 deficiency, a rare disease that presents with a combination of neurological symptoms and signs of thyrotoxicosis. The booth aims to increase disease awareness among pediatric neurologists.

First Choice Neurology (#211)

First Choice Neurology is the largest private practice, physician-owned neurology group in the United States, with more than 60 Care Centers in multiple Florida counties and services at 45+ major hospitals. Our Florida neurology group has Adult Neurologists and Pediatric Neurologists with various subspecialty training.

Fulgent Genetics (#515)

Fulgent Genetics is a full-service genomic testing company built around a foundational technology platform. Through our diverse testing menu, Fulgent is focused on transforming patient care in pediatric neurology, as well as in oncology, anatomic pathology, infectious and rare diseases, and reproductive health.

GeneDx (#601)

At GeneDx, we believe that everyone deserves personalized, targeted medical care — and that it all begins with a genetic diagnosis. Fueled by one of the world's largest rare disease data sets, our exome and genome tests translate complex genomic data into clinical answers. It all starts with a single test.

Harmony Biosciences (#711)

Harmony Biosciences is dedicated to developing innovative therapies for people living with rare neurological diseases. Rooted in empathy and driven by science, we are building a pipeline of innovative solutions with the potential to empower patients and their communities to truly thrive.

Hope for HIE (#402)

Hope for HIE is the premier nonprofit advocacy and support organization for neonatal and pediatric-acquired Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy — advancing awareness, advocacy, education, research, and support for a global community of over 15,000 families.

Immedica Pharma US Inc. (#612)

Immedica is a pharmaceutical company committed to a mission of providing innovative therapies in core therapeutic areas to make a meaningful difference in patients' lives. In the US, our portfolio focuses on genetic, metabolic, and neurologic diseases, including Ztalmy (ganaxolone) oral suspension CIV and Loargys (pegzilarginase-nbln) for eligible patient populations.

IntraBio (#1233)

IntraBio is a leader in the discovery and development of innovative novel drugs for rare neurodegenerative diseases with high unmet medical needs.

EVENT CONTRIBUTOR

Ionis Pharmaceuticals (#1237)

For more than three decades, Ionis has united groundbreaking science and technology with relentless passion to discover and deliver RNA-targeted medicines enabling better futures for people living with serious diseases. We have multiple marketed medicines and an innovative late- and mid-stage pipeline across neurology, cardiology, and rare diseases.

CNS CORPORATE ANNUAL PARTNER

ITF Therapeutics (#400)

ITF Therapeutics was established in January 2024 as the U.S. affiliate of Italfarmaco Group to develop and commercialize treatments for rare diseases. With deep expertise across regulatory, commercial operations, access, and community partnerships, we focus on delivering proven therapies with urgency, ambition, and compassion to each rare disease community we serve.

EVENT CONTRIBUTOR

Jazz Pharmaceuticals Inc. (#1213)

Jazz Pharmaceuticals is a global biopharmaceutical company whose purpose is to innovate to transform the lives of patients and their families. We are dedicated to developing life-changing medicines for people with serious diseases — often with limited or no therapeutic options. Please visit jazzpharmaceuticals.com for more information.

Kye Pharmaceuticals (#513)

Slenyto™ (extended-release melatonin) is the first and only prescription melatonin available in Canada. Slenyto is indicated for the treatment of insomnia in children and adolescents with ASD and/or SMS.

Labcorp (#714)

Labcorp is a global leader of innovative and comprehensive laboratory services. We provide insights and advance science to improve health and improve lives through our unparalleled diagnostics and drug development laboratory capabilities. Learn more about us at labcorp.com.

Larimar Therapeutics (802)

Larimar Therapeutics, based in the Philadelphia area, is committed to discovering and developing treatments for complex rare diseases, with an initial focus on Friedreich's ataxia. Its proprietary protein replacement therapy platform is intended to deliver missing proteins inside cells to treat devastating rare diseases.

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital (#806)

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital treats more than 500,000 children annually through community programs, regional clinics, and a 290-bed hospital. The Le Bonheur Neuroscience Institute is recognized as one of the nation's top neuroscience programs by U.S. News & World Report. Our team includes leaders in research and international neurological associations.

LivaNova (#700)

The VNS Therapy system is indicated for use as an adjunctive therapy in reducing the frequency of seizures in patients 4 years of age and older with partial-onset seizures that are refractory to antiepileptic medications.

Make-A-Wish Foundation of America (#613)

Make-A-Wish creates life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. When a wish comes true, it creates strength, hope, and transformation in a child and a community.

Exhibitors

MECP2 Duplication Foundation (#710)

The MECP2 Duplication Foundation serves families facing a MECP2 Duplication Syndrome (MDS) diagnosis by providing information, increasing awareness of the disorder, and funding cutting-edge research. We want to support you and your patients! Learn more at mecp2d.org.

Medexus Pharmaceuticals Inc. (#510)

Medexus Pharmaceuticals is a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on improving patient outcomes across key therapeutic areas, including oncology, hematology, dermatology, and rare diseases, through innovative prescription and OTC solutions.

Medical University of South Carolina - Department of Pediatrics (#215)

The MUSC Department of Pediatrics is recruiting Pediatric Neurologists to join our growing Division of Pediatric Neurology. Visit our booth to learn about career opportunities, academic medicine, research collaboration, teaching, leadership development, and providing exceptional neurological care to children throughout South Carolina and beyond.

EVENT SUPPORTER

Natera (#607)

Natera's cell-free DNA tests help inform more personalized health care decisions. Zenith™ genomics provides the most complete analysis for patients suspected of rare disease. Early testing is crucial to stop the diagnostic odyssey, guide early intervention, and provide families with the prognostic clarity they need.

natera

Nationwide Children's Hospital (#606)

Nationwide Children's is ranked in the top 10 best children's hospitals for Neurology and Neurosurgery by U.S. News. Unique areas of focus include epilepsy, movement disorders, spinal muscular atrophy, and muscular dystrophy, including groundbreaking clinical and translational research. We are also top 10 in NIH funding among freestanding children's hospitals.

Neuren Pharmaceuticals (#611)

Neuren develops drug therapies for rare, serious neurodevelopmental disabilities caused by genetic disorders or brain injury, where no or limited approved treatment options exist. The currently enrolling phase 3 placebo-controlled Koala study is evaluating NNZ-2591, an investigational treatment, in children 3–12 years old with Phelan-McDermid Syndrome.

Neurofibromatosis Society of Ontario (#413)

The Neurofibromatosis Society of Ontario is a CRA-registered nonprofit run entirely by volunteers. We support families affected by Neurofibromatosis, collaborate with clinical and research professionals, help fund research, and provide education to physicians and the public to promote awareness, early recognition, and diagnosis of Neurofibromatosis.

Neurogene Inc. (#111)

Neurogene is a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing life-changing genetic medicines for devastating neurological diseases. Using a biology-first approach, optimized delivery, and proprietary EXACT™ transgene regulation technology, Neurogene is advancing its lead gene therapy asset, NGN-401, as a potential best-in-class, one-time gene therapy for Rett syndrome.

Ochsner Children's Hospital (#800)

Build something meaningful at Ochsner Children's Hospital. Ochsner Children's is growing, and we're recruiting a Pediatric Neurologist and Epileptologist to join our collaborative team at the No. 1 children's hospital in New Orleans, as recognized by U.S. News & World Report. Stop by to explore the opportunity and see what your future at Ochsner could look like.

Orchard Therapeutics (#608)

Orchard has played a central role in the evolution of this technology from a promising idea to a potentially life-transforming reality. Today, we carry forward our history of visionary science to imagine new possibilities for people and families affected by genetic and other severe diseases.

Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Alliance (#411)

We are the only caregiver-led, science-driven organization with lived experiences of the pediatric epilepsy surgery journey. We empower our families with research, support services, and impactful programs before and after surgery.

Pendopharm (#104)

Pendopharm is a Canadian specialty pharmaceutical company dedicated to developing, in-licensing, and commercializing innovative products that address unmet medical needs in rare diseases, gastroenterology, sports medicine & orthopedics, neurology, and cardiology.

Praxis Precision Medicines (#1215)

Praxis Precision Medicines is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company translating insights from genetic epilepsies into the development of therapies for CNS disorders characterized by neuronal excitation-inhibition imbalance. Praxis has established a diversified, multimodal portfolio with four late-stage programs across epilepsy and movement disorders.

PreventionGenetics (#703)

PreventionGenetics, a wholly owned subsidiary of Exact Sciences Corp., is a CLIA- and ISO 15189:2012-accredited laboratory that delivers high-quality genetic testing at fair prices with exemplary service to patients, researchers, and clinicians around the world.

Primary Children's Hospital (#614)

The Intermountain Children's Health Brain and Spine program — a nationally ranked and outcomes-leading collaboration between Intermountain Primary Children's Hospital and University of Utah Health — features 45+ specialists across a broad range of subspecialties, treating 14,000+ complex patients annually while driving innovation through research, education, and multidisciplinary centers of excellence.

PTC Therapeutics US, Inc. (#213 & #314)

PTC is a global biopharmaceutical company that discovers, develops, and commercializes clinically differentiated medicines for children and adults living with serious diseases of high unmet need. Our ability to identify innovative new therapies and globally commercialize products is the foundation that drives investment in a diversified pipeline.

Religen Inc (#305)

Religen Inc. is a PA-based, CLIA-approved clinical Dx company focused on neurology. Our lead product is the Folate Receptor Antibody Test, which provides direction on the use of Leucovorin in ASD.

Sarepta Therapeutics, Inc. (#100)

Sarepta is on an urgent mission: engineer precision genetic medicine for rare diseases that devastate lives and cut futures short. We hold a leadership position in Duchenne muscular dystrophy and are building a robust portfolio of programs across muscle, central nervous system, and cardiac diseases.

Exhibitors

CNS CORPORATE ANNUAL PARTNER

Scholar Rock (#615)

Scholar Rock is a late-stage biopharmaceutical company on a mission to discover, develop, and deliver life-changing therapies for serious diseases with high unmet need. As a global leader in transforming growth factor beta (TGFβ) superfamily biology, the company is focused on advancing innovative treatments where protein growth factors are fundamental.

CNS CORPORATE MISSION PARTNER

Taysha Gene Therapies (#311)

Taysha Gene Therapies is a clinical-stage biotechnology company focused on advancing adeno-associated virus (AAV)-based gene therapies for severe monogenic diseases of the CNS. Our lead clinical program TSHA-102 is in development to address the genetic root cause of Rett syndrome, a rare neurodevelopmental disorder with no approved disease-modifying therapies.

Simons Searchlight (#506)

Simons Searchlight is an international online research program, funded by the Simons Foundation, that studies genes linked to rare neurodevelopmental disorders. By uniting families, scientists, and advocacy groups, it builds a growing database and biorepository to drive scientific breakthroughs for over 184 rare genetic conditions.

EVENT SPONSOR

Teva (#901)

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. is transforming into a leading innovative biopharmaceutical company, enabled by a world-class generics business. From innovating in the fields of neuroscience and immunology to providing complex generic medicines, biosimilars, and pharmacy brands worldwide, Teva is dedicated to addressing patients' needs, now and in the future.

SpringWorks (#512)

GOMEKLI is a kinase inhibitor indicated for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients 2 years of age and older with neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1) who have symptomatic plexiform neurofibromas (PN) not amenable to complete resection.

CNS CORPORATE MISSION PARTNER

Stoke Therapeutics (#501)

Stoke Therapeutics is a biotechnology company dedicated to restoring protein expression by harnessing the body's potential with RNA medicine. Stoke is developing antisense oligonucleotides to selectively restore naturally occurring protein levels with the goal of making a difference in the lives of people with severe diseases. For more information, visit stoketherapeutics.com.

The Permanente Medical Group (#701)

The Permanente Medical Group's 10,000 physicians and 40,000 nurses and staff lead the transformation of health care. Through 80 years of tradition and nation-leading quality, preeminent research, and superior technology systems, we deliver superior clinical outcomes with a positive and life-changing impact on the health of our Northern California patients.

CNS CORPORATE ANNUAL PARTNER

Theranica (#301)

Theranica Bioelectronics is dedicated to combining advanced neuromodulation therapy with modern wireless technology to develop proprietary electroceuticals that address prevalent medical conditions and diseases. Nerivio®, Theranica's first device cleared by the FDA, is a low-cost wearable

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TTUHSC Pediatrics (#1335)

Join Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Pediatrics Neurology and make a difference in the lives of children and their families. Work alongside dedicated physicians and an exceptional team in a collaborative, academic environment committed to compassionate care, innovation, and professional growth.

CNS CORPORATE MISSION PARTNER

UCB, Inc. (#412)

At UCB, we come together everyday laser-focused on a simple question: How will this create value for people living with severe diseases? We are a global biopharmaceutical company committed to innovation to improve the lives of people with neurological and immunological diseases, finding solutions to meet their unique needs.

Inspired by patients. Driven by science.

EVENT SPONSOR

UCB, Inc. (Rare Disease) (#415 & #514)

At UCB, we believe that everyone deserves to live the best life that they can. That's why — as a global biopharmaceutical leader — we're focused on creating valuable solutions that improve the lives of people living with rare neurological and autoimmune conditions..

Inspired by patients. Driven by science.

CNS CORPORATE ANNUAL PARTNER

Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical (#1209)

Ultragenyx is a biopharmaceutical company committed to bringing novel products to patients for the treatment of serious rare and ultra-rare genetic diseases. The company has built a diverse portfolio of approved therapies and product candidates aimed at addressing diseases with high unmet medical need. For more information, visit ultragenyx.com.

ultragenyx

United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties (#404)

UCNS is the physician certifying and fellowship accrediting organization for neurologic subspecialties in the U.S. and Canada. Find out about certification and fellowship opportunities for child neurologists in Neonatal Neurocritical Care, Neurocritical Care, Neuro-oncology, Headache Medicine, Autonomic Disorders, Behavioral Neurology & Neuropsychiatry, Clinical Neuromuscular Pathology, and Interventional Neurology.

Upsher-Smith Laboratories, LLC (#801)

Upsher-Smith is the commercial arm of the Bora Group, focused on developing, marketing, and distributing pharmaceutical products that make a real difference for patients.

Variantyx, Inc. (#609)

Variantyx is a molecular diagnostics company. We provide genetic testing for rare genetic disorders, reproductive genetics, and precision oncology — disrupting the traditional testing approach with our advanced proprietary technology.

Zevra Therapeutics (#406)

Zevra Therapeutics is a commercial-stage company focused on addressing unmet needs for the treatment of rare diseases. Our mission is to bring life-changing therapeutics to people living with rare diseases.

2026
CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY
55th ANNUAL MEETING

We are Glad that You Joined Us at the Palais des Congrès de Montréal!



Mark Your Calendar for Future Meetings



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CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY
56th ANNUAL MEETING
Nov. 10-13, 2027 • Milwaukee, WI



2028
CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY
57th ANNUAL MEETING
Nov. 7-10, 2028 • Sacramento, CA



2029
CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY
58th ANNUAL MEETING
Oct. 17-20, 2029 • Oklahoma City, OK