FINAL PROGRAM

151st Annual Meeting

ANA2026

Sheraton San Diego Resort

OCTOBER 17 – 20
SAN DIEGO, CA

AMERICAN NEUROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION®
THE HOME FOR ACADEMIC NEUROLOGY

San Diego

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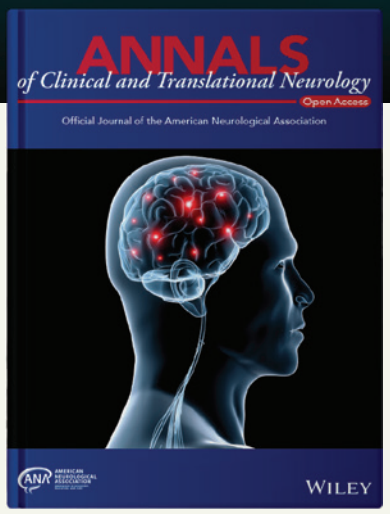

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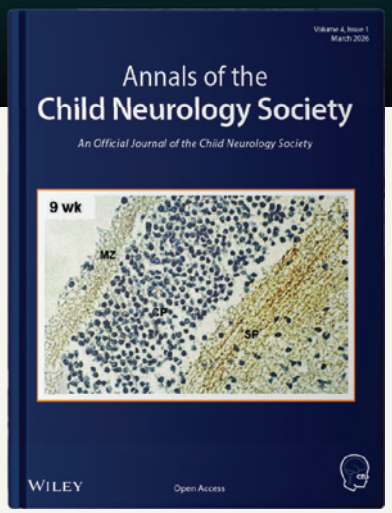

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WILEY | ANA AMERICAN NEUROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION™ | Child Neurology Society

151st Annual Meeting
ANA2026
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Experience what makes ANA2026 unique: a dynamic blend of scientific discovery, interactive learning, and meaningful collaboration. Explore cutting-edge research through scientific symposia and poster sessions, exchange ideas during interactive lunch workshops and special interest group sessions, and build connections through professional development workshops designed for academic neurologists and neuroscientists at every career stage. Engage with colleagues, spark new collaborations, and help shape the future of neurology.

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COLUMBIA | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY

Congratulations to our two distinguished faculty members honored by the American Neurological Association

Neil Shneider, MD, PhD, FANA

ANA Award for Excellence

Clinical and Scientific Excellence: Novel Scientific Career-Based Contributions for over 15 Years.

Sunday, October 18, 2026
10:00-11:30 AM PT

Presented during the Repetitive Sequences in Neurological Disease and Health Plenary Session.

Location: Pacific Jewel Ballroom

Olajide Williams, MD, MS, FANA

Audrey S. Penn Lectureship Award

Recognized for outstanding contributions that advance neurological science through innovative research, visionary leadership, and dedicated mentorship.

Presentation Title: Health Disparities: A Historical and Contemporary View Through the Lens of Stroke

Monday, October 19, 2026
1:15-3:30 PM PT

Presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Location: Pacific Jewel Ballroom

We celebrate Drs. Shneider and Williams for their contributions to research, clinical care, leadership, and mentorship.

We also congratulate Columbia Neurology resident Natalie Smith, MD, recipient of the ANA International Outreach Travel Scholarship.

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SAVE THE DATE

CHICAGO ILLINOIS

152nd Annual Meeting
OF THE NEUROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

ANA2027

September 18–20

AMERICAN NEUROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION®
THE HOME FOR ACADEMIC NEUROLOGY

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

TODD GLORIA

MAYOR

October 17, 2026

American Neurological Association
1380 Harbor Island Drive
San Diego, CA, 92101

Dear American Neurological Association,

As Mayor of the City of San Diego, it is my pleasure to welcome the American Neurological Association to San Diego for your 151st Annual Meeting at the Sheraton San Diego Resort.

For more than 150 years, the American Neurological Association has brought together leading researchers, clinicians, and trainees dedicated to advancing the understanding and treatment of neurological disease.

Through this annual gathering, distinguished faculty and the next generation of specialists come together to share knowledge, drive innovation, and advance the field of neurology.

The work represented at this meeting reflects a shared commitment to improving patient care and the quality of life for individuals and families affected by neurological conditions. San Diego recognizes the importance of that work and is honored to serve as its host.

I commend the American Neurological Association for its continued leadership in neurological science and extend my best wishes for a productive and successful conference.

Sincerely,

Todd Gloria
Mayor
City of San Diego

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

CRAIG BLACKSTONE, MD, PhD, FANA

On behalf of the Annual Meeting Programming and Local Arrangements Committees, the Board of Directors, and ANA President Dr. Dimitri Krainc, it is my honor to welcome you to the 151st Annual Meeting of the American Neurological Association, held from October 17–20, 2026, in beautiful San Diego, California.

This annual assembly of leading academic neurologists and neuroscientists from throughout the world comes at a time when academic neurology and the research enterprise face complex challenges from multiple directions—from the uncertainty of federal funding and erosion of public trust in science to financial and access pressures on our academic medical centers. But it is also a time of great promise, with new therapies for devastating diseases being rolled out frequently, changing the lives of our patients and strengthening our resolve. Our intellectual ambition in the service of our patients remains undiminished, as it has been for over 150 years. This year's Annual Meeting is our time to celebrate.

The plenary sessions we have selected for this meeting reflect our commitment to advancing neuroscience while approaching the complexity of neurological disease pathogenesis and novel therapeutics from complementary perspectives. Sessions explore a wide range of topics, from the use of cutting-edge microscopy in studying disease models to the menopausal transition and brain health. There is something new, exciting, and important for everyone.

As in the past, our program is packed with dynamic, interactive lunch workshops, special interest group sessions, satellite symposia, professional development events, a clinical trials course, and one of our largest poster sessions ever. These are each designed

to support our growth, strengthen connections, foster interdisciplinary collaboration, and inspire us.

I invite you to take full advantage of all that this meeting has to offer. Thank you for being part of our resilient, creative, and committed academic neurology community.

Best regards,

Craig Blackstone, MD, PhD, FANA
Chair, ANA Annual Meeting Programming Committee
Julieanne Dorn Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School
Scientific Director, Mass General Brigham Neuroscience Institute
Massachusetts General Hospital

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MED LEARNING GROUP

WILEY

Your Resources on

Tardive Dyskinesia

and Other Drug-Induced Movement Disorders

These free educational resources were sponsored and developed by Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.

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DIMD Course

Enroll in this free, virtual self-paced learning platform delving into various clinical aspects of the most common DRBA-induced movement disorders and earn a recognized certificate of completion.

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Neurocrine Medical Website

This online repository houses a variety of educational resources, including videos and podcasts, that provide an in-depth understanding of DRBA-induced movement disorders.

Visit the Neurocrine Medical Website
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Discover TD®

In this interactive application, users can differentially diagnose and develop appropriate management plans for hypothetical, virtual patients with various movement disorders.

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MIND-TD®

This website comprises a compendium of expert-led resources to facilitate identification of tardive dyskinesia and differentiation from other movement disorders.

Explore MIND-TD
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For educational purposes only. Should not be interpreted as medical advice for any particular patient. Individual results may vary.

MEDIA PLATFORMS

Neurocrine Medical: Brave Science™ YouTube Channel

This channel features educational videos designed to further understanding of TD, including content on the proposed mechanism of disease in TD and differentiating TD from drug-induced parkinsonism.

Visit our new YouTube channel
youtube.com/@NeurocrineMedical

TD Dialogues® Podcast

Hear from experts in insightful conversations as they discuss the challenges of recognizing TD and share real-world strategies to effectively support patients in managing symptoms.

Check out an episode on
Spotify or **Apple Podcast**

DIMD, drug-induced movement disorder; DRBA, dopamine receptor blocking agent; TD, tardive dyskinesia.

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NEUROCRINE® BIOSCIENCES

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SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Please note all session times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

PROGRAM KEY

◆ **STANDALONE PROGRAM**
Offered separately from the ANA Annual Meeting.

✣ **SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM**
The ANA values the participation of our corporate partners and appreciates the important role they play in supporting educational opportunities for neurologists and neuroscientists.

Satellite Symposia are standalone programs and are not part of the official ANA Annual Meeting educational program. The sessions and their content are not endorsed by the ANA.

JEC Courses marked with "JEC" are recommended for junior and early career attendees.

* Sessions marked with an asterisk (*) award *AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)*™ through the ANA.

Note: The Annual Meeting offers CME to eligible participants. Complete CME information, including a breakdown of the credits offered for each session and the instructions for claiming credit, is available **ONLINE**.

The American Neurological Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Schedule Subject to Change
The event's operating hours, schedules, and speakers are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Refunds will be not issued for failure to attend a live session.

ONLINE SCHEDULE HERE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026	
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	**ANA2026 REGISTRATION** Seascape Foyer
2:00 PM - 8:45 PM	◆ **2026 ANA-NINDS CAREER DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM *** (INVITATION ONLY) Silver Pearl Ballroom 1 **FULL AGENDA**
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026	
6:30 AM - 6:30 PM	**ANA2026 REGISTRATION** Seascape Foyer
7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	◆ **2026 ANA-NINDS CAREER DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM *** (INVITATION ONLY) Silver Pearl Ballroom 1 **FULL AGENDA**
8:00 AM - 3:45 PM	◆ **ANA CLINICAL TRIALS COURSE *** (PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED) Sandpiper Salons A&B **FULL AGENDA**
10:00 AM - 5:15 PM	◆ **ANA FUTURES PROGRAM MEETING** (INVITATION ONLY) Seaglass Students Cohort: Pelican Residents Cohort: Osprey
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	**OPENING RECEPTION** Pacific Jewel Foyer *Co-Hosted by AALN*
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	**OPENING SYMPOSIUM** **The Role of CAR T-Cells in Changing the Therapeutic Algorithm in Autoimmune Neurology *** Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Invited Faculty Presentations** • The Role of CAR T-Cells and Why They Promise to Change the Therapeutic Algorithm in Autoimmune Neurology: Experience from Stiff Person Syndrome and Myasthenia Gravis • CAR-T Cell Treatment in CNS Autoimmunity • CAR T-Cell Therapy in Autoimmune Encephalitides and Insights into Neurotoxicity Risk in Oncology Patients

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

7:00 AM - 6:00 PM	**ANA2026 REGISTRATION** Seascape Foyer
6:45 AM - 7:45 AM	**GRAB-and-GO BREAKFAST** Pacific Jewel Foyer
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	**TRAINEES, RESIDENTS, AND POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS BREAKFAST WITH ANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND LEADERS IN NEUROLOGY** JEC (INVITATION ONLY) Sandpiper Salons A&B
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **EARLY CAREER & EARLY TO MID-CAREER LEVEL** **Advocacy Skills for Neurologists: Legislative Engagement and Public Communication** * Coral 1 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Legislative Engagement and Public Communication • Making Your Pitch: Knowing your Message, Knowing your Audience, Knowing how to Make it Count • Why Neurologists Must Advocate: A Wellness Lens
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **MID TO LATE-CAREER LEVEL** **Promoting the Careers of International Medical Graduates** * Coral 2 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • International Medical Graduates as Physician Scientists • IMGs in Graduate Medical Education • IMGs and the Health System • Importance of IMGs to the Health of the US
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **DEPARTMENT CHAIR LEVEL** **Promotion Pathways and Track Navigation for Early Neurology Faculty** * Coral 3
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	**LEADERS IN IDEAS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **Mission-Driven Recruitment in Academic Neurology** * Coral 4
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	**BREAK**
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM	**George W. Jacoby Lectureship** Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Awardee Presentation** • Perspectives on Parkinson's Disease Prevention
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	**PLENARY** **Repetitive Sequences in Neurological Diseases and Health** * Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Invited Faculty Presentations** • The Ticking DNA Clock: Lifelong Somatic Expansion of Repeated DNA As a Cause Of DNA-repeat Disorders • Understanding Repeat Expansion Diseases Using Population-scale Genomic Data • D4Z4 Macrosatellite Repeat Rearrangements in Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy **Emerging Scholars Presentations** • VPS39 Variants Cause a Spectrum of Neurological Disorders Through Impaired Lysosomal Function and Autophagy • Plasma-derived Extracellular Vesicles from Humans with Silent Stroke and a Mouse Model of Silent Stroke Stimulate a Senescence-associated Secretory Phenotype at the Blood-brain Barrier **Award Recognition** • ANA Award for Excellence in Clinical and Scientific Excellence — Novel Scientific Career-Based Contributions Over 15 Years

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

11:30 AM - 12:45 PM	**GRAB-and-GO LUNCH** Pacific Jewel Foyer
11:45 AM - 12:15 PM	**RESTORATIVE MUSIC SESSION** Tidepool 4
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	**INTERACTIVE LUNCH WORKSHOPS** **Clinical Logic** JEC * Coral 1 **Science Unplugged: The Best of the Best from the ANA Investigates Podcast Episodes** * Coral 2 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • ANA Investigates NORSE and FIRES • From Bedside Data to Clinical Decisions: AI in Neurology and Neurocritical Care • Tumor Treating Fields for Cancer in the Past 2 Decades **Trigeminal Neuralgia and Beyond: Diagnosis, Mechanism and Multi-disciplinary Management of Facial Pain** * Coral 3 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Trigeminal Neuralgia: Diagnosis, Medical Management, and the Role of Botulinum Neurotoxin • Surgical Treatment of Trigeminal Neuralgia • When Facial Pain Doesn't Fit Neuralgia: Diagnosis and Management of Facial Pain Disorders **Demyelination and Remyelination: New Biology, Better Monitoring, Smarter Therapies** * Coral 4 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Impact of Multiple Sclerosis Patient Immunoglobulins in Demyelination and Remyelination • Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders-Do Presymptomatic Serum Biomarkers Portend Future Disease?
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	**INTERACTIVE LUNCH WORKSHOPS (CONTINUED)** **Advanced Cerebrospinal Fluid Testing for Challenging CNS Diagnoses** * Coral 5 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Advanced Diagnostic Testing for CNS Infections • Advanced Diagnostic Testing for CNS Autoimmune Disorders • The 'Next-Generation' of CSF Diagnostics for CNS Malignancies **The American Neurological Association's Global Neurology Initiatives: Progress and Future Directions** * Sandpiper Salons C&D **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Overview of Results from Mini Grants for African Research • The NSIRH Symposium on Advancing Care and Research in Spinal Cord Injury, held in Nairobi, Kenya March 2026 • Report from prior International Outreach Travel Scholarship Recipients • Global Health in This Moment: Where do We Go From Here?" **Award Recognition** • International Outreach Travel Scholarship **Women of Neurology: Leadership, Advocacy & Advancement in Challenging Times** * Sandpiper Salons A&B **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Shaping the Future of Neurology: Physician-Leadership, AI, and Medical Education • Advocating for Yourself: Strategies for Growth and Impact • Leading in the Face of Adversity
12:00 PM - 7:00 PM	**POSTER VIEWING** Eventide
12:45 PM - 1:00 PM	**BREAK**

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM	**F.E. Bennett Lectureship** Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Awardee Presentation** • Imaging the Functional Cognitive Anatomy of Epilepsy
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	**PRESIDENTIAL SYMPOSIUM** **Advances in Microscopy for Visualizing Neurologic Disease** Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Invited Faculty Presentations** • NeuroZoom: Super-Resolution for Neurologic Disease Discovery • Organelle Quality Control in Neuronal Homeostasis, Neurodevelopment, and Neurodegeneration • State-of-the-Art Technologies to Generate and Analyze Large Amounts of Imaging and Genetic Data, Including Robotic Microscopy and AI
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	**REFRESHMENT BREAK** Pacific Jewel Foyer
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	✣ **SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM** **Blood-Based Biomarkers for Alzheimer's Disease: What Neurologists Need to Know** *HOSTED BY* *Global CEO Initiative on Alzheimer's Disease* Silver Pearl Ballroom 1
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	**CROSS-CUTTING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)** **ANA-SEQUINS Health Services and Health Opportunities I Brain Health and Technology: Innovation, Equity, and Impact** * Coral 1 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Future of Digital Health and AI for Brain Health • Brain Health and Youth • The Great Digital Divide **Selected Abstract Presentation** • Responsible AI in Neurology Patient Care: A Systematic Review of Clinical AI Algorithm (2020-2025)
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	**CROSS-CUTTING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG) (CONTINUED)** **Neurogenetics and Gene Therapy Precision Neurology in Practice: Genetic Diagnostics, Clinical Trials, and Emerging Therapies** * Coral 2 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • The Genetics of ALS and FTD: Landscape, Testing, and Therapeutic Implications • Advancements in Clinical Genetic Testing Increases Access to Disease Modifying Treatments • Clinical Trials in DEEs - Are We Ready? **Selected Abstract Presentations** • Rapid Whole Genome Sequencing in Hospitalized Adults With Complex Unexplained Acute Neurologic Conditions: Diagnostic Yield and Clinical Impact • Carboxy-terminal Blockade of Sortilin Binding Enhances Progranulin Gene Therapy, A Potential Treatment for Frontotemporal Dementia **Neuroinflammation and Neuroinfection Dysfunction in Neuroinflammation and Neuroinfection** * Coral 3 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Neuroinflammation in Autoinflammatory Disease • Neurological Manifestations of Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infection in Adults: The Role of Underlying Immune Dysregulation • Cases from the Clinic **Selected Abstract Presentations** • Neurosarcoidosis in a Tuberculosis-Endemic Region: Clinical Spectrum, Diagnostic Challenges, and Treatment Outcomes • Circulating Microbial DNA Signatures Associated with Cognitive Impairment in People with HIV

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3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	**CROSS-CUTTING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG) (CONTINUED)** **Neurorecovery and Neuroplasticity** ***Rethinking Outcomes in Neurorecovery Across Motor, Language, and Cognition*** * Coral 4 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Reading Between the Lines: Dissecting the Neurocognitive Basis of Post-stroke Alexia and Creating Clinically Meaningful Outcome Measures • Rethinking Endpoints for Motor Neurorecovery Trials • Mechanisms of Working Memory and Their Implications for Cognitive Neurorehabilitation **Selected Abstract Presentation** • Continued Evaluation of Participants With Parkinson's Disease Through 4 Years After Bemdaneprocel Administration **Neurodegeneration and Cell Death** * Coral 5 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Can Modulating Sleep Mitigate Neurodegeneration? • Mechanisms of Neuronal Toxicity in C9ORF72-associated ALS and FTD • Multiplex Proteomics of Lewy Body Dementia Reveals Cerebrospinal Fluid Biomarkers of Clinical and Neuropathological Heterogeneity **Selected Abstract Presentations** • Genetically Determined Resilience to Alzheimer's Disease Is Independent of Genetic Risk and Gated by Cardiovascular Comorbidity • Proteomic Age Acceleration in Multiple Sclerosis Precedes Symptom Onset and Associates with Disease Severity
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	**CROSS-CUTTING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG) (CONTINUED)** **Autoimmune Neurology & MS** ***Next-Generation Therapeutics in MS and Autoimmune Neurology*** * Seaglass **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Extended Interval Dosing and Dose Reductions of Rituximab in the Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis • MOGAD Therapeutics in 2026: Evidence, Trials, and Real-World Decisions • CAR-T Treatments for Autoimmune CNS Neurologic Disorders **Selected Abstract Presentations** • Miv-cel CD19 CAR T-Cell Therapy in Stiff Person Syndrome (SPS) in a Pivotal, Multicenter, Phase 2 Study (KYSA-8): Efficacy and Biomarker Analysis of Patients With >6 Months of Follow-up • Permissive Central Tolerance and Defective Peripheral Tolerance as Sequential Steps to License CASPR2-directed Pathology **Music Interventions in Neurology** ***Introduction to Music-based Interventions in Neurology*** * Sandpiper Salons C&D **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Introduction to Music-based Interventions for Neurological Disorders • Music Interventions for Neurocognitive Disorders • The Brain's Crescendo: How Music Training Enriches Child Neurocognitive Development • Mobilizing Research and Funding for Music Based Interventions: National Endowment for the Arts Research Priorities and Funding Opportunities
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM	**BREAK**
5:15 PM - 5:45 PM	**EDUCATION INNOVATION COMMITTEE CONNECTION** Osprey

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5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	**POSTER PRESENTATIONS AND RECEPTION** Eventide *Poster presenters will be in attendance.*
7:15 PM - 8:45 PM	**GLOBAL NEUROLOGY & IDEAS NETWORKING RECEPTION** (INVITATION ONLY) Sandpiper Salons C&D

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

6:30 AM - 6:00 PM	**ANA2026 REGISTRATION** Seascape Foyer
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	✣ **SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM** **IMAAVY: An FDA-approved option for your patients with gMG** *HOSTED BY* *Johnson & Johnson* Silver Pearl Ballroom 1
6:45 AM - 7:45 AM	**GRAB-and-GO BREAKFAST** Pacific Jewel Foyer
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	**EDITORIAL BOARD BREAKFAST** (INVITATION ONLY) Sandpiper Salons A&B
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **Early Career Level** **Global Neurology Perspectives: Building Sustainable International Collaborations** JEC * Coral 1 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Neuropathology, Biobanking and Bioassays in Global Neurology Research • Strengthening UCLA–Uganda Global Health Collaboration Through the NIH Fogarty Career Development Award • Building International Partnerships for Neurology Training and Research in Neurological Infections • Collaborating Globally for Pediatric Neurology
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **Early Career & Early to Mid-Career Level** **Landing the Career Track You Want** JEC * Coral 2 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Neurology Education Career Development • The Nuts & Bolts of Running an Outpatient Clinic: A Peak Behind the Curtain • Defining and Redefining a Research Career in Neurology
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **DEPARTMENT CHAIR LEVEL** **Institutional Influence and Strategy: Confidential Peer Consult for Academic Neurology Leaders** * Coral 3
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	**LEADERS IN IDEAS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS** **Discussions Across Differences** * Coral 4 • The Work Before the Resolution: Negotiation and Conflict Frameworks for Institutional Disagreement
8:30 AM - 8:45 AM	**BREAK**
8:45 AM - 9:30 AM	**EXECUTIVE SESSION OF MEMBERSHIP** Pacific Jewel Ballroom
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	**BREAK**
9:45 AM - 10:15 AM	**SORIANO LECTURESHIP** Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Awardee Presentation** • Shared Neurobiology of Epilepsy, Neurodevelopment and Neurodegeneration

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10:15 AM - 11:45 AM	**PLENARY** **Emerging Approaches to Enhance Neuronal Resistance Against Neurodegeneration** Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Using CRISPR-based Functional Genomics in Human Neurons and Glia to Understand Resilience in Tauopathy • Identifying Molecular Signatures and the Functional Relevance of Resilience Factors in Alzheimer's Disease • Understanding Defense Mechanisms and Transport Across the BBB and Move Towards Targeted, Noninvasive Study and Repair of the Brain **Emerging Scholar Presentation** • Developmental Failure of Cortical Inhibition in Huntington's Disease: Implications for Early Therapeutic Intervention **Award Recognition** • IDEAS Early Career Member Award
11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	**GRAB-and-GO LUNCH** Pacific Jewel Foyer
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM	**RESTORATIVE MUSIC** Tidepool 4
12:00 PM - 7:00 PM	**POSTER VIEWING** Eventide
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	**INTERACTIVE LUNCH WORKSHOPS** **Cerebral Palsy Across the Lifespan: Neurologic Surveillance, Cognition, and Precision Medicine** * Coral 1 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Genetic Testing in Cerebral Palsy: Opportunities for Precision Medicine Interventions • Neurologic Surveillance in Adults with CP **Blood-Brain Barrier: From Basic Mechanisms to Therapeutics** * Coral 2 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Regional DCE-MRI Mapping of Vascular Integrity and BBB Permeability in Health and Neurological Disorder • Imaging the Blood-Brain Barrier: A Window into Diseases of the Central Nervous System
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	**INTERACTIVE LUNCH WORKSHOPS (CONTINUED)** **Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Neurology: Talking Machines and Healing Minds*** * Coral 3 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • From Black Bags to Black Boxes: AI Assisted Clinical Diagnosis in Neurology • From Pixels to Prognosis: How AI is Transforming Neuroimaging Interpretation • From Action Potentials to AI to Advocacy: Restoring Communication through Brain-Computer Interfaces **Assisted Reproductive Technology and Neurological Conditions: What We Know and What We Need to Know** * Coral 4 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Epilepsy and Assisted Reproductive Technologies • Multiple Sclerosis and Assisted Reproductive Technologies • Migraine, Stroke Risk and Assisted Reproductive Technologies **Undiagnosed Neurological Diseases: The Challenge of Atypical Clinical Presentations** * Seaglass **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Bridging Clinical Complexity and Genetic Discovery • Atypical Manifestations of Neuroinfectious Diseases **The NIH Clinical Trials Methodology Course: An Introduction** * Sandpiper Salons C&D
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	**ADDITIONAL LUNCH WORKSHOP** **Meet the Editors Luncheon** JEC * (INVITATION ONLY) Sandpiper Salons A&B **Meet the Chairs** * Coral 5

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM	**BREAK**
1:15 PM - 3:30 PM	**PLENARY** **Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium** * Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Awardee Presentations** **The Grass Foundation – ANA Award in Neuroscience** • The Interictal Network as a Window into Epilepsy **Wolfe Research Prize for Identifying New Causes or Novel Treatment of Neuropathy and Related Disorders** • Past, Present, and Future: The Role of Genomics in Elucidating Peripheral Neuropathies **Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Award Physician-Scientist — Clinical** • Multiple Sclerosis in Africa: Changing Paradigms and Improving Diagnosis and Access to Care **Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Award Physician-Scientist — Basic** • Inflammatory Signaling in the Leptomeninges **Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Award Physician-Scientist — Neuroscientist** • TDP-43 Loss of Function as a Convergent Driver of ALS Pathophysiology **ANA Rising Star Award** • Inducing a Torpor-Like State Through Targeted Preoptic Circuit Activation Protects the Brain After Stroke **Audrey S. Penn Lectureship Award** • Health Disparities: A Historical and Contemporary View Through the Lens of Stroke **Award Recognitions** **ANA-Persyst Professional Development Award** **ANA Distinguished Neurology Educator Award**
3:30 PM - 3:45 PM	**REFRESHMENT BREAK** Pacific Jewel Foyer
3:45 PM - 5:15 PM	✣ **SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM** **Avoiding Diagnostic Delays and Reducing Burdens for Patients with Generalized Myasthenia Gravis** *HOSTED BY: Med Learning Group* Silver Pearl Ballroom 1
3:45 PM - 5:15 PM	**CROSS-CUTTING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)** ***Neurodevelopment Disorders Beyond Diagnosis: Lifespan Trajectories and Interventions in Neurodevelopmental Disorders*** * Coral 1 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Beyond the Genome: Ethical, Legal, and Social Challenges in NDDs • Integrated Lifespan Analysis of Down syndrome (DS) and Controls Using Blood-Based Biomarkers by NUcleic acid-Linked Immuno-Sandwich Assay (NULISA)
3:45 PM - 5:15 PM	**TRADITIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)** ***Behavioral Neurology & Dementia Behavioral Neurology at Scale: Precision Medicine, and Real-World Implementation*** * Coral 2 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Scalable Approaches to Anti-Amyloid Treatment, Monitoring, and Follow-up in Academic Practice • Anti-amyloid Treatment in Practice • Deployment of Amyloid-Targeting Therapies Across the Sutter Health System **Selected Abstract Presentations** • Clinical and Comorbidity Correlates of Discordant Plasma p-tau217 • Efficacy and Safety of Anti-Amyloid Monoclonal Antibodies in Early Alzheimer Disease: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials

ONLINE SCHEDULE HERE

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Please note all session times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM

TRADITIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG) (CONTINUED)

Epilepsy

Epilepsy and the Aging Brain *

Coral 3

Invited Faculty Presentations

- Overview and update on Late-onset Epilepsy (LOE)
- Cognitive Decline in Older Adults
- Debate Session

Selected Abstract Presentation

- Thalamic Network Involvement Reshapes Treatment Selection in Drug-Resistant Epilepsy: Evidence from 104 Patients with Intracranial Thalamic Recordings

ANA-SEQUINS Global Neurology

Emerging Technologies and their Role in Expanding Access to Neurological Care

Coral 4

Invited Faculty Presentations

- The Utility of Portable and Low-Cost Diagnostics Tests in the Evaluation of Neurological Disorders
- The Role of AI Tools in Improving Access to Diagnosis and Management of Epilepsy
- Genetics and Decentralized Technologies: A Practical Framework for Inclusive Neurological Clinical Trials

Selected Abstract Presentations

- Perceived Severity of Common Neurological Symptoms of Multiple Sclerosis Among Healthy Women in Zambia: A Community-Based Participatory Study
- Chronic Child Malnutrition and Risk of Neurodevelopmental Impairment in Rural Ecuadorian Children: Predictive Models and Implications for Early Intervention

Award Recognition

- International Outreach Travel Scholarship

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM

TRADITIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG) (CONTINUED)

Neurocritical Care & TBI Management and Outcomes of Patients with Concomitant Traumatic Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury *

Coral 5

Invited Faculty Presentations

- Management of Concomitant TBI and SCI in the Neurocritical Care Setting
- Management of Concomitant TBI and SCI in the Acute Care and Rehabilitation Settings

Selected Abstract Presentations

- Operationalizing the Neural Exposome in Mild TBI: Feasibility and Directional Trends of a Three-Domain Framework on Cognitive Trajectories using Principal Component Analysis
- Assessment of Stakeholders' Perceptions of Outcomes After Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: A Single-center Prospective Study

Neuromuscular Disease

Harnessing CAR-T Cells for Neuromuscular Disease: Emerging Science and Therapeutic Potential *

Seaglass

Invited Faculty Presentations

- Car-T Therapy in Inflammatory Muscle Disease
- Car-T Therapy in Autoimmune Neuromuscular Disorders - Clinical Trial Logistics and Safety
- Car-T Therapy in Myasthenia Gravis

Selected Abstract Presentation

- Towards a Digital Twin for Myasthenia Gravis

ONLINE SCHEDULE HERE

151st Annual Meeting
ANA2026
October 17 – 20 | San Diego, CA

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Please note all session times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

	TRADITIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) (CONTINUED) ***Cerebrovascular Disease Improving Stroke Care Through Personalized and Novel Therapeutics*** * Sandpiper Salons A&B **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Bridging the Gap: Navigating Sex-specific Factors Affecting Stroke Risk, Treatment and Research • Advancing Care for Intracerebral Hemorrhage • Factor XI Inhibitors - Novel Therapeutics in Stroke Prevention **Selected Abstract Presentations** • Long-Term Neuropsychiatric Outcomes After Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: The Amplifying Role of Delayed Cerebral Ischemia in Dementia, Epilepsy, and Mood Disorders : A 5-Year Cohort Study • Gut Microbiome - Related Metabolites as Mediators of Environmental Risk of Ischemic Stroke: Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke (REGARDS) Study • Single-cell RNA Sequencing Analyses Revealed Integrated Vascular Reactions in Promoting Angiogenesis After Chronic Cerebral Hypoperfusion
5:15 PM - 5:30 PM	**BREAK**
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	**POSTER PRESENTATIONS AND RECEPTION** Eventide *Poster presenters will be in attendance.*
7:15 PM - 9:00 PM	**PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION** Pacific Jewel Foyer

ONLINE SCHEDULE HERE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026

6:30 AM - 11:00 AM	**ANA2026 REGISTRATION** Seascape Foyer
6:45 AM - 7:45 AM	**GRAB-and-GO BREAKFAST** Pacific Jewel Foyer
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **Early Career Level** **How to Publish Your Medical Education Research and Innovations** JEC * Coral 1 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Designing High-quality Medical Education Research Projects: A Step-by-Step Guide • Publishing Medical Education Scholarship: Tips, Pitfalls, and Pearls • Key Features of Qualitative Research in Medical Education **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **Early Career & Early to Mid-Career Level** **Charting Your Course: Career Advancement Strategies for Academic Neurologists** JEC * Coral 2 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Choose Your Own Promotion Adventure: Navigating Faculty Tracks and Pathways to Success • Innovate, Educate, Elevate Educational Scholarship in Academic Neurology • Mentorship and Sponsorship: How to Find Your Tribe **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **Department Chair Level** **The Evolving Academic Department: Managing Faculty, Associates, and Affiliates** * Coral 3
7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	**LEADERS IN IDEAS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP** **Understanding the Evolving Policy and Regulatory Environments in Academic Medicine** * Coral 4

151st Annual Meeting
ANA2026
October 17 – 20 | San Diego, CA

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Please note all session times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026

8:30 AM - 8:45 AM	**BREAK**
8:45 AM - 9:15 AM	**Raymond D. Adams Lectureship** * Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Awardee Presentation** • Alzheimer's Disease 2026: Where Are We?
9:15 AM - 10:45 AM	**PLENARY** **The Menopausal Transition and Brain Health** * Pacific Jewel Ballroom **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Menopausal Hormone Therapy and Brain Health: From Controversy to Consensus • Menopause, MHT and Alzheimer's Biomarkers in Women • Menopause, MHT and Neurologic Disease **Emerging Scholars Presentation** • Post Anti-CD19 CAR-T cell Therapy Immune Response in Treatment Refractory Multiple Sclerosis
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	**GRAB-and-GO LUNCH** Pacific Jewel Foyer
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	**TRADITIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)** **Headache & Pain Comorbidities in Headache Medicine** * Coral 2 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Procedures in the Management of Headache Comorbidities • Vascular Comorbidities and Headache • Pediatric Headache and Comorbidities • The Vicious Cycle: Sleep, Pain, and the Neurobiology of a Self-Perpetuating Loop • Role of Multidisciplinary Team in the Management of Headache and Comorbidities • What Do We Know About Factors of Migraine Chronification • Updates on Women's Health and Headache **Selected Abstract Presentation** • The Endometriosis-Migraine Visibility Gap: A 13-Million Patient Meta-Analysis of Shared Neuro-Gynecological Biology
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	**TRADITIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG) (CONTINUED)** **Movement Disorders** ***Unravelling Mechanisms and Improving Therapeutics*** * Coral 3 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • PSP National Platform Trial Development and Initiation • Are Dystonias Ready for Molecular Pathophysiological Groupings? The Case for the Integrated Stress Response • GBA1 and Lysosomal Oligogenic Risk for Parkinson's Disease • Mixed Pathology is the Rule: Emerging Biomarkers to Assess the Impact of Amyloid and Tau on Clinical Progression in Parkinson's Disease **Selected Abstract Presentations** • DT-216P2, a Gene-Targeted Small Molecule, Produces Rapid Dose-Dependent Clinical Improvements and Comprehensive Frataxin Biomarker Activity in Friedreich Ataxia: RESTORE-FA 4-week IV Cohorts Results **Neuro-Oncology** ***Neuroimaging for Brain Tumors*** * Coral 5 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Radio-pathomic Mapping of Glioblastoma: Detecting Invisible Infiltrative Tumor • Advanced MRI for Brain Tumor Characterization: A Case-based Practical Approach • Evolving Brain Tumor MRI AI: From Conventional Deep Imaging Models to Multimodal Foundation-Model Fusion **Selected Abstract Presentations** • Pain Outcomes in Patients With/Without Volumetric Tumor Response: Post Hoc From the ReNeu Trial of Mirdametinib in Adults & Children With Neurofibromatosis Type 1-Associated Plexiform Neurofibroma • Siglec-15 and PD-1 Checkpoint Blockade in Combination with Oncolytic Zika Virus Infection Confers Protection Against Immune-resistant Gliomas

ONLINE SCHEDULE HERE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026

	TRADITIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG) (CONTINUED) **Neuro-Ophthalmology and Neurovestibular Disease** ***From Bench to Bedside in Neuro-ophthalmology and Neurovestibular Disease*** * Coral 4 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Optic Nerve Regeneration: Bench to Bedside • Lived Experience and Development of Self-reported Measures of Visual Dysfunction in Inherited Optic Neuropathies • Development of a Wearable ENG for Community-Based Nystagmus Detection **Selected Abstract Presentation** • Interocular Microvascular Asymmetry Selectively Associates with Verbal Memory Performance
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	**Sleep Disorders and Circadian Rhythms** ***Sleep and Circadian Disorders: From Mechanisms to Clinical Care*** * Coral 1 **Invited Faculty Presentations** • Population-based screening and Diagnosis of REM Sleep Behavior Disorders - Challenges and Opportunities • Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Circadian Dysregulation • Mapping the RBD Continuum: Biomarkers, Phenotypes, and Prognosis from the NAPS Consortium **Selected Abstract Presentations** • Circadian and Non-Circadian Sleep Disorders as Predictors of Neurodegenerative Diagnosis: Evidence From Three Retrospective Cohorts • Clinical Predictors of Phenoconversion in Isolated REM Sleep Behavior Disorder

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	**ADDITIONAL LUNCH WORKSHOP** **ANA Medical Student Forum: Conversations with Neurology Leaders** JEC * Seaglass
12:30 PM	**MEETING ADJOURNED**

ONLINE SCHEDULE HERE

GENERAL INFORMATION

ON-SITE REGISTRATION
Location: Seascape Foyer

Friday, October 16	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, October 17	6:30 AM – 6:30 PM
Sunday, October 18	7:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Monday, October 19	6:30 AM – 6:00 PM
Tuesday, October 20	6:30 AM – 11:00 AM

POSTER SESSION
Location: Eventide

Sunday, October 18	12:00 PM–7:00 PM Poster presenters and poster judges will be in attendance from 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Monday, October 19	12:00 PM–7:00 PM Poster presenters and poster judges will be in attendance from 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

SPEAKER READY ROOM
Location: Tidepool 1

Friday, October 16	10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Saturday, October 17	7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sunday, October 18	7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Monday, October 19	6:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Tuesday, October 20	6:00 AM – 12:30 PM

BREAKFAST
Location: Pacific Jewel Foyer

Sunday, October 18	6:45 AM – 7:45 AM
Monday, October 19	6:45 AM – 7:45 AM
Tuesday, October 20	6:45 AM – 7:45 AM

LUNCH
Location: Pacific Jewel Foyer

Sunday, October 18	11:30 AM – 12:45 PM
Monday, October 19	11:45 AM – 12:45 PM
Tuesday, October 20	10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

EXHIBIT HALL
Location: Eventide

Sunday, September 14	12:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Monday, September 15	12:00 PM – 7:00 PM

PRESS ROOM
Location: Tidepool 5

Saturday, October 17	7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sunday, October 18	7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Monday, October 19	7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Tuesday, October 20	8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

WIRELESS CONNECTION

Complimentary high-speed wireless internet access is available to all ANA2026 attendees in the designated meeting and conference spaces at the Sheraton San Diego Resort during the official meeting dates (Saturday, October 17 – Tuesday, October 20, 2026).

- **Network (SSID):** ANA2026
- **Password: Ana151sd** (case sensitive)

Opening Symposium Wi-Fi is sponsored by Eisai, Inc.

Please note that this wireless network is available only within the ANA meeting and convention spaces. Complimentary access does not extend to guest rooms, the hotel lobby, restaurants, or other public areas of the Sheraton San Diego Resort.

MOBILE APP

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- Download the ANA Meeting App from the Apple Play Store or Google Play Store
- Open the app, click the **ANA2026** event under "Upcoming Meetings"
- Click, "Download"
- Log-in to access complete app features

GENERAL INFORMATION

DISCLAIMER
Please note that some session titles may have changed since this program was posted online. Please refer to the ANA Mobile App for the most current information.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION: ACCREDITATION & DESIGNATION STATEMENT(S)
The American Neurological Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The Annual Meeting offers CME to eligible participants. Detailed information pertaining to CME can be found in your conference bag and at the following website: **https://2026.myana.org/program/continuing-medical-education/**

ANNUAL MEETING EVALUATIONS
On the final day of the meeting, you will receive an email containing a link to the online evaluation. To claim CME credit, please complete the evaluation within one week of receiving the email.

Once your evaluation has been submitted, your CME certificate will be available within three weeks.

If you have any questions, please contact Ashley McCowan, ANA Meetings and Program Coordinator, at **amccowan@myana.org**.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING NOTICE
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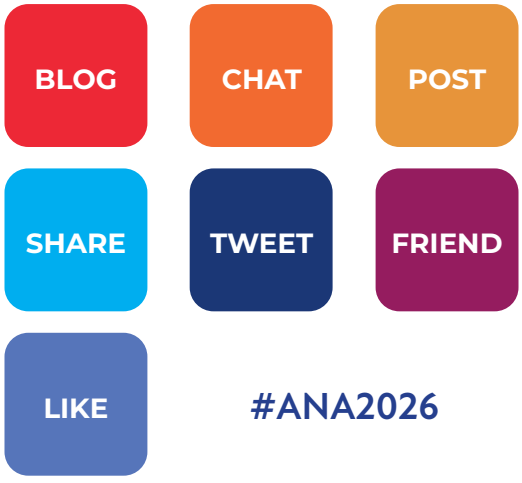
PHOTOGRAPHY
Photography in the Annual Meeting Poster hall and Exhibit hall is restricted to the official conference photographer.

LANGUAGE
The official language of the Annual Meeting is English. No simultaneous translation is available.

ADA
ANA fully complies with the legal requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act rules and regulations. If any participant is in need of special accommodations, they should notify the hotel and indicate the type of assistance needed. ANA cannot ensure the availability of appropriate assistance without advance notice.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION
Alcoholic beverages may only be consumed by attendees who are 21 years of age or older during the evening receptions. Please be prepared to present valid identification if requested.

STAY IN THE KNOW AND JOIN IN ON SOCIAL MEDIA



BROWSE OPEN NEUROLOGY JOBS!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

ANA2026

Registration

Friday | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Seascape Foyer

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

ANA2026

Registration

Saturday | 6:30 AM - 6:30 PM
Seascape Foyer

ANA Futures Program Meeting
(By Invitation Only)

Saturday I 10:00 AM - 5:15 PM
Seaglass

Students Cohort: Pelican
Residents Cohort: Osprey

Opening Reception

Opening Reception (Co-Hosted by AALN)

Saturday | 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

Opening Symposium

The Role of CAR T-Cells in Changing the Therapeutic Algorithm in Autoimmune Neurology*

Saturday | 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

CHAIR: Marinos Dalakas, MD, PhD, FAAN, FANA, Thomas Jefferson University

CO-CHAIR: Francesca Bagnato, MD, PhD, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

CAR T-cell therapy is emerging as a transformative treatment for patients with refractory autoimmune neurological disorders, including myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis, stiff-person syndrome, NMOSD, autoimmune encephalitis, and autoimmune neuropathies. This session will provide an overview of CAR T-cell therapy, including its development, mechanisms of action, and therapeutic potential. Faculty will review how these therapies target B cells, their capacity to induce durable responses, and their potential to alter the treatment paradigm in autoimmune neurology. The session will also highlight the latest clinical data and ongoing studies evaluating autologous CAR T-cell therapies.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Discuss the efficacy, long-term outcomes, and potential complications of CAR T-cell therapies in refractory autoimmune neurological disorders.
- Explain the mechanisms of action of CAR T-cell therapies and how they differ from existing immunotherapies.
- Evaluate the risks and benefits of CAR T-cell therapies across a range of autoimmune neurological conditions.

The Role of CAR T-Cells and Why They Promise to Change the Therapeutic Algorithm in Autoimmune Neurology: Experience from Stiff Person Syndrome and Myasthenia Gravis
SPEAKER: Marinos Dalakas, MD, PhD, FANA, Thomas Jefferson University

CAR-T Cell Treatment in CNS Autoimmunity
SPEAKER: Scott Zamvil, MD, PhD, FAAN, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

CAR T-Cell Therapy in Autoimmune Encephalitides and Insights into Neurotoxicity Risk in Oncology Patients
SPEAKER: Josep Dalmau, MD, PhD, FANA, Institute for Biomedical Investigations - CaixaResearch Institute

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

ANA2026

Registration

Sunday | 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Seascape Foyer

Grab-and-Go Breakfast

Sunday | 6:45 AM - 7:45 AM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

Trainees, Residents, and Postdoctoral Fellows Breakfast with ANA Board of Directors and Leaders in Neurology *JEC*

(By Invitation Only)

Sunday | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Sandpiper Salons A&B

Professional Development Workshop
Early Career & Early to Mid-Career Level

Advocacy Skills for Neurologists: Legislative Engagement and Public Communication *JEC* *

Sunday | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Coral 1

CHAIR: Mary Alissa Willis, MD, FAAN, FANA, Cleveland Clinic

CO-CHAIR: Jennifer Orthmann-Murphy, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Neurologists increasingly face policy, regulatory, and public communication challenges that directly affect patient care, research funding, workforce sustainability, and health equity. This session will equip participants with practical advocacy skills to effectively engage legislators, influence health policy, and communicate clearly with the public and media. Participants will learn how to translate clinical and scientific expertise into compelling, policy-relevant messages; build productive relationships with policymakers and institutional leaders; and confidently represent the field of neurology in public and media settings.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Define the neurologist's role in patient, professional, and systems-level advocacy.
- Identify effective strategies for communicating with institutional leaders, policymakers, media representatives, and community stakeholders.
- Apply advocacy frameworks to address barriers to neurological care, improve access, and advance health equity.

Legislative Engagement and Public Communication
SPEAKER: Amy Guzik, MD, FAHA, FAAN, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Making Your Pitch: Knowing Your Message, Knowing Your Audience, Knowing How to Make it Count
SPEAKER: Jason Sico, MD, MHS, FANA, FAAN, FAHS, FACP, Yale School of Medicine

Why Neurologists Must Advocate: A Wellness Lens
SPEAKER: Divya Singhal, MD, FAAN, University of Texas San Antonio Long School of Medicine

Professional Development Workshop
Mid to Late-Career Level

Promoting the Careers of International Medical Graduates*

Sunday | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Coral 2

CHAIR: Jayant Acharya, MD, DM, FANA, FAES, FACNS, FAAN, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

CO-CHAIR: Abhimanyu Mahajan, MD, MHS, FANA, University of Cincinnati

International Medical Graduates (IMGs) comprise nearly one-third of neurology trainees and approximately one-quarter of the physician workforce. As the population ages and more than 40% of physicians approach retirement, IMGs play a critical role in expanding access to care and advancing the academic mission. It is essential for program directors, faculty, and hiring leaders to understand the unique needs and contributions of IMGs across all stages of training and career development.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Review visa pathways available for training and employing qualified IMGs.
- Examine the challenges and opportunities IMGs encounter when pursuing academic careers.
- Identify effective recruitment and institutional strategies to support the successful integration and retention of IMGs.

International Medical Graduates as Physician Scientists
SPEAKER: Imama Naqvi, MD, MS, Columbia University

IMGs in Graduate Medical Education
SPEAKER: Erica Schuyler, MD, FAAN, FANA, Hartford Healthcare Ayer Neuroscience Institute/University of Connecticut

IMGs and the Health System
SPEAKER: Thabele Leslie-Mazwi, MD, FANA, University of Washington

Importance of IMGs to the Health of the US
SPEAKER: Justin McArthur, MBBS, MPH, FAAN, FANA, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Professional Development Workshop
Department Chair Level

Promotion Pathways and Track Navigation for Early Neurology Faculty*

Sunday | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Coral 3

CHAIR: Laurie Gutmann, MD, FANA, Indiana University

CO-CHAIR: David Greer, MD, MA, FANA, Boston University

This session will explore pathways to academic promotion in neurology, highlighting perspectives from a physician-scientist, clinician-educator, and department chair. Faculty will discuss institutional expectations, common barriers, and strategies to successfully navigate the promotion process in academic neurology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe key pathways to academic promotion in neurology.
- Identify strategies for securing effective mentorship.
- Assess readiness for promotion and develop approaches to strengthen candidacy.

PANELISTS:
Joseph Safdieh, MD, FAAN, FANA, Weill Cornell Medicine

Claire Henchcliffe, MD, DPhil, FANA, University of California, Irvine

Lauren Sansing, MD, MS, FANA, Yale University

Professional Development Workshop Leaders in IDEAS

Mission-Driven Recruitment in Academic Neurology*

Sunday | 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Coral 4

CHAIR: Mill Etienne, MD, MPH, FAAN, FAES, FANA, New York Medical College
CO-CHAIR: Mwiza Ushe, MD, MA, Washington University School of Medicine

This interactive workshop will incorporate small-group discussions, facilitated dialogue, icebreakers, and experiential exercises designed to foster candid conversation and peer learning. This approach aims to create a trusted space where participants feel comfortable engaging in meaningful discussion and reflection.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Identify key strategies for aligning faculty recruitment practices with an academic neurology department's mission, values, and long-term workforce goals.
- Apply practical approaches to designing equitable and mission-driven recruitment processes that promote excellence, transparency, and broad candidate engagement.
- Evaluate common challenges and opportunities in faculty recruitment through peer discussion and experiential exercises to inform improvements within their own institutions.

Break

Sunday | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

George W. Jacoby Lectureship

Sunday | 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

Perspectives on Parkinson's Disease Prevention

SPEAKER: Caroline Tanner MD, PhD, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

Parkinson's disease is one of the most rapidly increasing neurological disorders worldwide. This increase reflects in part reduced mortality, with more members of the population living to the age of Parkinson's disease risk. But other factors likely contribute. Understanding these other determinants paves the way to improved treatment and strategies for prevention.

The presentation will focus on why Parkinson's disease (PD) is becoming increasingly common and what factors may contribute to a person developing the disease.

Attendees will leave with a deeper understanding of why Parkinson's disease is increasing worldwide, the environmental and genetic factors that may contribute to risk, and the potential for prevention.

Plenary Session

Repetitive Sequences in Neurological Diseases and Health*

Sunday | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

CHAIR: Laura Ranum, PhD, FANA, University of Florida
CO-CHAIR: Silvère Van der Maarel, PhD, Leiden University Medical Center

More than 50% of the human genome consists of repetitive DNA, including micro- and macrosatellite repeats that contribute to a range of neurological

diseases. This session will highlight recent advances in the biology of repeat expansion disorders, with a focus on somatic repeat instability as a key driver of disease and a potential therapeutic target.

Faculty will also examine emerging data on the unexpectedly high prevalence of microsatellite expansions in the general population and the implications for disease risk. In addition, the session will explore epigenetic and molecular mechanisms underlying facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy, including the role of D4Z4 repeat contractions.

Together, these presentations will provide a comprehensive overview of evolving concepts in repeat biology and their relevance to disease pathogenesis and therapeutic development.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Analyze the contribution of repeat expansion and contraction disorders to both rare and common neurological diseases, including factors leading to underdiagnosis.
- Evaluate the limitations of conventional genetic testing and apply specialized diagnostic strategies to detect repeat expansion and contraction mutations.
- Assess the clinical, therapeutic, and familial implications of accurate diagnosis, including impact on emerging treatment strategies and genetic counseling.

The Ticking DNA Clock: Lifelong Somatic Expansion of Repeated DNA As a Cause Of DNA-repeat Disorders
SPEAKER: Steven McCarroll, PhD, Howard Hughes Medical Institute/Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard Medical School

Understanding Repeat Expansion Diseases Using Population-scale Genomic Data
SPEAKER: Arianna Tucci, MD, PhD, Queen Mary University of London

D4Z4 Macrosatellite Repeat Rearrangements in Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy
SPEAKER: Silvère Van der Maarel, PhD, Leiden University Medical Center

VPS39 Variants Cause a Spectrum of Neurological Disorders Through Impaired Lysosomal Function and Autophagy
EMERGING SCHOLAR PRESENTER: Niccolo Mencacci, MD, PhD, Northwestern University

Plasma-derived Extracellular Vesicles from Humans with Silent Stroke and a Mouse Model of Silent Stroke Stimulate a Senescence-associated Secretory Phenotype at the Blood-brain Barrier
EMERGING SCHOLAR PRESENTER: Mohd Salman, PhD, Indiana University School of Medicine

AWARD RECOGNITION:

ANA Award for Excellence in Clinical and Scientific Excellence — Novel Scientific Career-Based Contributions Over 15 Years: David Newman-Toker, MD, PhD, FANA, Johns Hopkins University

ANA Award for Excellence in Clinical and Scientific Excellence — Novel Scientific Career-Based Contributions Over 15 Years: Neil Shneider, MD, PhD, FANA, Columbia University

Grab-and-Go Lunch

Sunday | 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

Restorative Music Session

Sunday | 11:45 AM - 12:15 PM
Tidepool 4

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Clinical Logic *JEC* *

Sunday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Coral 1

CHAIR: S. Andrew Josephson, MD, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

In this dynamic session, expert clinicians will present 2–3 compelling cases, highlighting the critical thinking and decision-making skills essential for trainees and

early-career faculty managing complex clinical scenarios. Through integrated data analysis, pattern recognition, and bedside clinical reasoning, the session will translate theoretical knowledge into practical application.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Apply advanced clinical reasoning to complex cases by synthesizing data and recognizing key patterns.
- Translate theoretical knowledge into practical decision-making through case-based learning.
- Strengthen diagnostic accuracy by refining bedside clinical reasoning and expanding differential diagnoses.

PANELISTS:
S. Andrew Josephson, MD, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

Tracey Milligan, MD, MS, FANA, New York Medical College

Roy Strowd, MD, MEd, MS, FANA, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Science Unplugged: The Best of the Best from the ANA Investigates Podcast Episodes*

Sunday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Coral 2

CHAIR: Sarah Nelson, MD, MPH, Tufts Medical Center

CO-CHAIR: Mark Wainwright, MD, PhD, FANA, University of Washington

This session will highlight select high-impact episodes from the ANA Investigates podcast series, featuring leading researchers and innovators whose work has generated significant interest. Speakers—original podcast contributors—will revisit key topics, reflect on their significance, and provide updates on the latest scientific developments.

The session will also introduce the ANA Education Innovation Subcommittee and highlight opportunities for engagement with ANA educational initiatives.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe emerging autoantibodies associated with small fiber neuropathy and current approaches to treatment.
- Evaluate the potential benefits and limitations of a biological definition of Parkinson disease.
- Discuss the clinical significance of atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter after stroke and implications for practice.

ANA Investigates NORSE and FIRES
SPEAKER: Ifrah Zawar, MD, MS-CR, University of Virginia

From Bedside Data to Clinical Decisions: AI in Neurology and Neurocritical Care
SPEAKER: Masoom Desai, MD, FACNS, FANA, University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

Tumor Treating Fields for Cancer in the Past 2 Decades
SPEAKER: Eric Wong, MD, MA, FAAN, FANA, Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Trigeminal Neuralgia and Beyond: Diagnosis, Mechanism and Multidisciplinary Management of Facial Pain*

Sunday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Coral 3

CHAIR: Seniha Ozudogru, MD, University of Pennsylvania

CO-CHAIR: Payal Soni, MD, Cleveland Clinic

Facial pain disorders present significant diagnostic and therapeutic challenges. Trigeminal neuralgia—one of the most severe forms of neuropathic pain—is frequently misdiagnosed due to overlapping features with other facial pain syndromes.

This session will review the comprehensive evaluation and management of trigeminal neuralgia and related conditions, including trigeminal neuropathy. Participants will gain updated insights into current treatment approaches, including pharmacologic therapies, botulinum toxin, and surgical interventions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Differentiate trigeminal neuralgia from other facial pain syndromes, including trigeminal neuropathy.
- Apply evidence-based diagnostic strategies in the evaluation of facial pain disorders.
- Assess current medical, botulinum toxin, and surgical treatment options for trigeminal neuralgia and related conditions.

Trigeminal Neuralgia: Diagnosis, Medical Management, and the Role of Botulinum Neurotoxin
SPEAKER: MaryAnn Mays, MD, Cleveland Clinic

Surgical Treatment of Trigeminal Neuralgia
SPEAKER: John Lee, MD, MSCE, University of Pennsylvania

When Facial Pain Doesn't Fit Neuralgia: Diagnosis and Management of Facial Pain Disorders
SPEAKER: Seniha Ozudogru, MD, University of Pennsylvania

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Demyelination and Remyelination: New Biology, Better Monitoring, Smarter Therapies*

Sunday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Coral 4

CHAIR: Bo Hu, MD, PhD, Houston Methodist Research Institute

CO-CHAIR: Tammy Smith, MD, PhD, University of Utah

Demyelination is a key pathological feature across a wide spectrum of disorders affecting the peripheral and central nervous systems, including immune-mediated, metabolic, hereditary, toxic, and infectious neuropathies. Collectively, these conditions are highly prevalent and contribute substantially to disability through impaired nerve conduction, sensory loss, weakness, and pain. Importantly, demyelination is often a treatable and potentially reversible process—making it a critical target for both mechanistic discovery and therapeutic innovation.

This session will highlight recent advances in understanding the cellular and molecular drivers of myelin injury and repair, with emphasis on neuron–glia interactions, immune mechanisms, biomarkers, and translational models that bridge basic science to clinical care. We will also discuss evolving treatment paradigms, including immunotherapies, neuroprotective and promyelinating strategies, and approaches to improve monitoring of disease activity and recovery. The overarching goal is to accelerate progress from pathophysiology to precision therapeutics that restore myelin and improve outcomes for patients with demyelinating disorders.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Discuss key mechanisms of demyelination and remyelination.
- Describe emerging therapeutic approaches for demyelinating disorders, including immunotherapies, neuroprotective strategies, and promyelinating treatments.
- Apply new knowledge of biomarkers and disease monitoring tools to improve diagnosis, treatment selection, and assessment of recovery in patients with demyelinating disorders.

Impact of Multiple Sclerosis Patient Immunoglobulins in Demyelination and Remyelination
SPEAKER: Wendy Macklin, PhD, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical School

Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders- Do Presymptomatic Serum Biomarkers Portend Future Disease?
SPEAKER: Tammy Smith, MD, PhD, University of Utah

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Advanced Cerebrospinal Fluid Testing for Challenging CNS Diagnoses

Sunday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Coral 5

CHAIR: Dan Tong Jia, MD, Northwestern University

CO-CHAIR: Karan Dixit, MD, Northwestern University

Timely and accurate diagnosis of complex central nervous system (CNS) disorders remains a major challenge in clinical neurology. Neurotropic infections, autoimmune encephalitides, and CNS neoplasms often present with overlapping features, where delays in diagnosis can lead to inappropriate treatment and irreversible neurologic injury. Advances in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) diagnostics—including metagenomic next-generation sequencing (mNGS), immune biomarkers, and circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) assays—are transforming diagnostic approaches and clinical management.

This interactive lunch session will bring together experts in neuroinfectious disease, neuroimmunology, and neuro-oncology to present case-based discussions and practical frameworks for integrating advanced CSF diagnostics into clinical care. Emphasis will be placed on appropriate test selection, interpretation, and real-world application to improve diagnostic accuracy and patient outcomes.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Identify emerging advanced CSF diagnostic tools across neuroinfectious disease, neuroimmunology, and neuro-oncology.
- Evaluate the clinical utility of advanced CSF testing in diagnostically challenging cases.
- Apply advanced CSF diagnostics to the evaluation and management of complex CNS disorders.

Advanced Diagnostic Testing for CNS Infections
SPEAKER: Kiran Thakur, MD, FAAN, FANA, Columbia University Irving Medical Center-New York Presbyterian Hospital

Advanced Diagnostic Testing for CNS Autoimmune Disorders
SPEAKER: Michael Wilson, MD, MAS, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

The 'Next-Generation' of CSF Diagnostics for CNS Malignancies
SPEAKER: Seema Nagpal, MD, Stanford University

Interactive Lunch Workshop

The American Neurological Association's Global Neurology Initiatives: Progress and Future Directions

Sunday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Sandpiper Salons C&D

CHAIR: Deanna Saylor, MD, MHS, FAAN, FANA, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

CO-CHAIR: Melissa A. Elafros, MD, PhD, University of Michigan

Over the past year, reductions in international aid and global health programs in combination with increased restrictions on international collaborations supported by federal grants have led to disruption and uncertainty for the global neurology field.

This interactive lunch workshop led by members of the ANA Global Engagement Committee will address the current challenges facing the field but also highlight the recent successes of the ANA's global health programs, including the International Outreach Travel Scholarship (IOS), which provides funding for early-career US-based neurologists to travel to a low- and middle-income country (LMIC) and complete an education or research project, and the Grant to Activate Global Engagement (GAGE), which empowers organizations in LMICs to hold neurology education and/or outreach events.

Recent IOTS and GAGE recipients will share their experiences, highlighting the impact of their projects on career development and the communities they serve. A panel of global neurology experts will discuss priorities for advancing the field, including strategies to demonstrate the value of global neurology to policymakers, funders, and other key stakeholders.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the current challenges facing global neurology, including the effects of changes in international funding, global health programs, and restrictions on international collaborations on education, research, and partnership activities.
- Evaluate successful models of global neurology engagement, including the ANA International Outreach Travel Scholarship (IOTS) and Grant to Activate Global Engagement (GAGE), and their impact on career development, neurology capacity building, and outcomes.
- Develop approaches to advocate for and sustain global neurology programs by engaging stakeholders and communicating the value and impact of global neurology activities.

Overview of Results from Mini Grants for African Research
SPEAKER: Melody Asukile, MBChB, MMED, FCNeurol(-SA), University of Zambia, University College London

Overview of Activities Sponsored by Grants to Activate Global Engagement
SPEAKER: Fiifi Duodu, MD, Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, Ghana

The NSIRH Symposium on Advancing Care and Research in Spinal Cord Injury, held in Nairobi, Kenya March 2026
SPEAKER: Agatha Olago, FRCP Edin., FCP(ECSA), University Teaching Hospital, Lusaka, Zambia

Reports from Prior International Outreach Travel Scholarship Recipients
SPEAKER: Namita Patel, MD, University of Rochester
SPEAKER: Rajarshi Mazumder, MD, MPH, University of California, Los Angeles

Global Health in This Moment: Where Do We Go From Here?
PANELISTS:
Melissa Elafros, MD, PhD, University of Michigan

Rajarshi Mazumder, MD, MPH, University of California, Los Angeles

Melody Asukile, MBChB, MMED, FCNeurol(SA), University of Zambia/University College London

AWARD RECOGNITION:

International Outreach Travel Scholarship
RECIPIENT: Natalie Smith, MD, Columbia University/New York Presbyterian

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Women of Neurology: Leadership, Advocacy & Advancement in Challenging Times*

Sunday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Sandpiper Salons A&B

CHAIR: Shaista Alam, MD, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

CO-CHAIR: Laura Stein, MD, MSEd, University of Pennsylvania

This session is designed for junior and mid-career women faculty navigating leadership development in academic medicine. Participants will hear from women leaders who have successfully advanced their careers across diverse settings, sharing practical strategies to overcome barriers and leverage opportunities for growth.

Topics will include effective use of conferences, committees, and professional networks; leading through periods of change; and engaging in advocacy at institutional and broader levels. The session will also address work–life integration, emphasizing strategies for boundary-setting, negotiating flexibility, and balancing caregiving responsibilities with leadership roles. Emphasis will be placed on both individual approaches and the broader structural and cultural changes needed to support sustainable careers.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Differentiate networking strategies across career stages.
- Apply leadership and advocacy strategies in complex clinical and institutional environments.
- Implement practical approaches to support work–life integration and career sustainability.

Shaping the Future of Neurology: Physician-Leadership, AI, and Medical Education
SPEAKER: Reena Thomas, MD, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine

Advocating for Yourself: Strategies for Growth and Impact
SPEAKER: Anjail Sharrief, MD, MPH, FANA, UTHealth

Leading in the Face of Adversity
SPEAKER: Jennifer Graves, MD, PhD, University of California, San Diego

Poster Viewing

Sunday | 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Eventide

Break

Sunday | 12:45 PM - 1:00 PM

F.E. Bennett Lectureship

Sunday | 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

Imaging the Functional Cognitive Anatomy of Epilepsy

SPEAKER: William Theodore, MD, FANA, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

Epilepsy can alter the organization of brain networks responsible for language, memory, and other cognitive functions. Advances in functional neuroimaging have improved our ability to visualize these adaptive changes, providing valuable insights into brain plasticity while enhancing the safety and effectiveness of epilepsy surgery.

This presentation will explore how advanced functional imaging, particularly functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), reveals the adaptive reorganization of language and memory networks in individuals with epilepsy. Participants will review the principles of functional imaging in epilepsy, examine how fMRI can identify functional brain networks and patterns of cortical reorganization, and discuss its role in improving preoperative cognitive assessment and surgical planning. Topics will also include how functional imaging contributes to preserving cognitive function while optimizing surgical outcomes.

Attendees will leave with a greater understanding of the role of advanced functional imaging in mapping the cognitive anatomy of epilepsy and practical insights into how fMRI can inform individualized surgical planning and improve the care of patients undergoing epilepsy surgery.

Presidential Symposium

Advances in Microscopy for Visualizing Neurologic Disease

Sunday | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

CHAIR: Dimitri Krainc, MD, PhD, FANA, Northwestern University

CO-CHAIR: Craig Blackstone, MD, PhD, FANA, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Understanding neurologic disease requires tools that can resolve the brain across molecular, cellular, and systems-level scales. This session highlights how super-resolution imaging, organelle-level analysis, and AI-driven single-cell profiling together provide a multidimensional view of disease mechanisms in neuronal model systems.

Super-resolution microscopy breaks the diffraction limit to visualize nanoscale structures in living neurons. Techniques such as STED, PALM, and STORM reveal early pathogenic changes in synaptic nanodomains, receptor clustering, cytoskeletal organization, and axonal transport. These methods capture dynamic molecular events—such as protein aggregation or trafficking defects—that precede overt degeneration, offering insight into how subtle disruptions propagate through neural circuits.

Advanced electron microscopy complements this by exposing ultrastructural abnormalities in organelles central to neuronal health. Serial block-face EM, cryo-EM, and focused ion beam tomography reconstruct neurons in 3D, revealing mitochondrial swelling, cristae loss, lysosomal dysfunction, ER–mitochondria contact disruption, and impaired autophagosome maturation. These organelle-level defects illuminate how metabolic stress, proteostasis failure, and calcium imbalance contribute to disease vulnerability. AI-driven analysis integrates these imaging datasets with single-cell transcriptomics and spatial profiling.

Machine-learning models classify neuronal and glial subtypes, detect subtle phenotypes invisible to human observers, quantify organelle dynamics, and map disease trajectories across thousands of cells. By linking structural abnormalities to gene-expression states and spatial context, AI identifies vulnerable cell populations and mechanistic pathways that drive pathology. Together, these approaches form a unified framework.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe AI-based single-cell analytics and the integration of multimodal datasets.
- Explain the principles of super-resolution imaging and how these techniques overcome diffraction limits.
- Identify early nanoscale disease signatures and their relevance for clinical translation.

NeuroZoom: Super-Resolution for Neurologic Disease Discovery
SPEAKER: Craig Blackstone, MD, PhD, FANA, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Organelle Quality Control in Neuronal Homeostasis, Neurodevelopment, and Neurodegeneration
SPEAKER: Erika Holzbaur, PhD, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine

State-of-the-Art Technologies to Generate and Analyze Large Amounts of Imaging and Genetic Data, Including Robotic Microscopy and AI
SPEAKER: Steve Finkbeiner, MD, PhD, FANA, Gladstone Institutes/University of California, San Francisco

Refreshment Break

Sunday | 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

✣ Satellite Symposium

Blood-Based Biomarkers for Alzheimer's Disease: What Neurologists Need to Know

HOSTED BY: GLOBAL CEO INITIATIVE ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Sunday | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Silver Pearl Ballroom 1

Blood-based biomarkers are transforming the diagnosis and management of Alzheimer's disease by offering a non-invasive, accessible, and cost-effective alternative to traditional diagnostic methods. This session will highlight the latest advancements in blood test research, pairing them with real-world experience from clinicians now using these tests in their own practices. Faculty will explore what is working well in the clinic and the key challenges to broader adoption, including accessibility, integration into clinical workflows, and clinician and patient education. Attendees will gain practical insights into applying blood-based biomarkers in clinical settings, including their role in diagnosing cognitive impairment, guiding treatment decisions, and improving ongoing patient care and management.

Cross-Cutting Special Interest Group

ANA-SEQUINS Health Services and Health Opportunities

*Brain Health and Technology: Innovation, Equity, and Impact**

Sunday | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Coral 1

CHAIR: Neha Dangayach, MD, MSCR, FAAN, FCCM, FNCS, FCCP, FANA, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Rapid advances in digital health, artificial intelligence, and social media are transforming how brain health is understood, delivered, and promoted across the lifespan. However, without careful attention to access, ethics, privacy, and implementation, these innovations risk widening existing disparities. This session brings together leaders in technology, policy, and youth engagement to explore how emerging tools can be leveraged responsibly to advance equitable brain health worldwide.

The session will begin by examining the "great technology divide" in brain health, highlighting challenges and opportunities related to digital health platforms, wearables, and global health applications. Key topics will include electronic health record (EHR) integration, data overload, interoperability, privacy concerns, and real-world barriers to adoption across diverse healthcare settings. Dr. Adys Mendizabal will present on the future of digital health and AI for brain health.

Dr. Baibing Chen will explore strategies to empower youth to take an active role in managing and promoting their brain health. The session will conclude with a forward-looking, policy-focused discussion on the ethical development and implementation of AI in brain health. Dr. Amy Guznik will examine frameworks to ensure AI-driven tools enhance clinical care without reinforcing bias, compromising trust, or excluding vulnerable populations, with an emphasis on governance, regulation, and cross-sector collaboration.

Overall, this session will provide clinicians, researchers, policymakers, and innovators with actionable insights to help bridge technological divides and build a more ethical, equitable digital ecosystem for brain health.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Identify key opportunities and challenges associated with digital health technologies, artificial intelligence, and social media in advancing equitable brain health across diverse populations and healthcare settings.
- Apply practical strategies to evaluate, implement, and integrate digital health and AI-enabled tools into clinical and public health workflows while addressing barriers related to interoperability, privacy, clinician burden, and health equity.
- Discuss ethical, regulatory, and governance considerations for the responsible use of artificial intelligence and digital platforms in brain health, including approaches to mitigate bias, misinformation, and unintended disparities.

Future of Digital Health and AI for Brain Health
SPEAKER: Adys Mendizabal, MD, MS, University of California, Los Angeles

Brain Health and Youth
SPEAKER: Baibing Chen, MD, MPH, Henry Ford Health

The Great Digital Divide
SPEAKER: Amy Guzik, MD, FAHA, FAAN, FANA, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Responsible AI in Neurology Patient Care: A Systematic Review of Clinical AI Algorithm (2020-2025)
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Nazli Radfar, MD, Penn State Health

Cross-Cutting Special Interest Group

Neurogenetics and Gene Therapy

*Precision Neurology in Practice: Genetic Diagnostics, Clinical Trials, and Emerging Therapies**

Sunday | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Coral 2

CHAIR: Peter Todd, MD, PhD, FANA, University of Michigan

This session explores a rapidly evolving and critically important shift in neurology: the integration of genetic testing into routine clinical care for neurodegenerative and rare neurologic diseases. Once considered inaccessible and of limited clinical utility, genetic testing is now more affordable, widely available, and increasingly actionable. Advances in understanding the genetic basis of conditions such as frontotemporal dementia, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, white matter disorders, and rare epilepsies are transforming diagnosis, prognostication, and treatment. Concurrently, the emergence of gene-targeted therapies is redefining meaningful intervention, underscoring the importance of early and accurate genetic diagnosis.

Despite these advances, significant barriers remain, including underutilization of genetic counseling, uncertainty regarding appropriate testing criteria, and gaps in clinician familiarity with available testing strategies and their clinical implications. In parallel, rare disease clinical trial design presents distinct challenges, including small and heterogeneous patient populations, limited natural history data, difficulty selecting meaningful endpoints, and the need for innovative regulatory pathways.

This session will highlight emerging solutions to these challenges, including adaptive trial designs, biomarker-driven enrollment strategies, and approaches to improving trial readiness through earlier genetic diagnosis. Bringing together multidisciplinary expertise, the session will challenge misconceptions, showcase advances in gene discovery and therapeutic development, and provide practical guidance for integrating genetic testing into clinical workflows.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Apply evidence-based criteria to determine appropriate indications for genetic testing in neurodegenerative and rare neurologic diseases and implement testing strategies to improve diagnostic accuracy and patient care.
- Evaluate the clinical impact of gene-targeted and emerging therapies and integrate genetic findings into treatment decision-making and clinical trial referral.
- Analyze key challenges in rare disease clinical trial design and assess innovative approaches—including adaptive trial designs and biomarker-driven strategies—to enhance trial readiness and execution.

The Genetics of ALS and FTD: Landscape, Testing, and Therapeutic Implications
SPEAKER: Matthew Harms, MD, Columbia University

Advancements in Clinical Genetic Testing Increases Access to Disease Modifying Treatments
SPEAKER: Jennifer Orthmann-Murphy, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Clinical Trials in DEEs - Are We Ready?
SPEAKER: Kelly Knupp, MD, University of Colorado, School of Medicine

Rapid Whole Genome Sequencing in Hospitalized Adults With Complex Unexplained Acute Neurologic Conditions: Diagnostic Yield and Clinical Impact
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Jai Kumar Rajavoor Muniswamy, MBBS, Mayo Clinic, Florida

Carboxy-terminal Blockade of Sortilin Binding Enhances Progranulin Gene Therapy, A Potential Treatment for Frontotemporal Dementia
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Shreya Kashyap, MD, PhD, Mount Sinai Hospital

Cross-Cutting Special Interest Group

Neuroinflammation and Neuroinfection

*Immune Dysfunction in Neuroinflammation and Neuroinfection**

Sunday | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Coral 3

CHAIR: Felicia Chow, MD, MAS, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

CO-CHAIR: Farinaz Safavi, MD, PhD, National Institutes of Health

Immune dysfunction is increasingly recognized as a central driver of both neuroinflammatory disorders and susceptibility to neuroinfectious diseases. In this Special Interest Group session, we will examine how abnormalities in immune pathways can give rise to a wide spectrum of neurological syndromes, often presenting initially as unexplained inflammation or infection of the central nervous system. The session will begin with a clinical overview of the presentation and diagnostic challenges associated with neuroinflammatory and neuroinfectious conditions, followed by discussion of underlying immune mechanisms and emerging therapeutic approaches.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Characterize the clinical presentation and diagnostic challenges of neuroinflammatory and neuroinfectious diseases encountered in neurological practice.
- Describe acquired and genetic immune dysfunctions that predispose individuals to inflammatory and infectious neurological conditions.
- Discuss therapeutic strategies targeting immunologic mechanisms in neuroinflammatory diseases.

Neuroinflammation in Autoinflammatory Disease
SPEAKER: Lori Broderick, MD, PhD, University of California, San Diego

Neurological Manifestations of Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infection in Adults: The Role of Underlying Immune Dysregulation
SPEAKER: Yair Mina, MD, National Institutes of Health

Cases from The Clinic
SPEAKER: Greer Waldrop, MD, ScM, University of California, San Francisco

Neurosarcoidosis in a Tuberculosis-Endemic Region: Clinical Spectrum, Diagnostic Challenges, and Treatment Outcomes
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Abhinav Maddipati, MBBS, University of Florida

Circulating Microbial DNA Signatures Associated with Cognitive Impairment in People with HIV
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Mohammadsobhan Andalibi, MD, University of California, San Diego

Cross-Cutting Special Interest Group

Neurorecovery and Neuroplasticity

*Rethinking Outcomes in Neurorecovery Across Motor, Language, and Cognition**

Sunday | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Coral 4

CHAIR: Karunesh Ganguly, MD, PhD, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

CO-CHAIR: Peter Turkeltaub, MD, PhD, FANA, Georgetown University

Traditional clinical endpoints in neurorecovery trials often emphasize functional success (e.g., task completion) while providing limited insight into the mechanisms that drive recovery. This limitation is evident across motor, speech, language, and cognitive rehabilitation, where standard outcome measures may fail to capture compensatory strategies or underlying neural reorganization. As a result, meaningful biological and behavioral improvements may be overlooked, and promising therapies may be inadequately evaluated.

This session will highlight emerging approaches to outcome measurement in speech, cognition, and motor recovery that move beyond accepted endpoints to

incorporate detailed behavioral profiling, error-based analyses, process-level cognitive metrics, and quantitative performance measures such as kinematic analysis. We will discuss how these methods address domain-specific challenges in aphasia, cognitive impairment, and motor dysfunction while clarifying distinctions between impairment-level change and functional compensation. Emphasis will be placed on improving sensitivity to treatment effects and aligning outcome measures more closely with mechanisms of neural plasticity.

By integrating insights across motor, language, speech, and cognition, this session aims to challenge how neurorecovery is measured and to advance a mechanism-informed framework for translationally meaningful trial endpoints.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Differentiate true recovery from compensatory strategies across motor, language, speech, and cognitive domains using advanced behavioral and performance-based measures.
- Evaluate limitations of traditional endpoints and consider the role of more sensitive, domain-specific measures in detecting meaningful neurorecovery.
- Examine the use of mechanism-informed outcome measures (e.g., kinematics, error-based, and process-level metrics) to enhance clinical trial design and interpretation of treatment effects.

Reading Between the Lines: Dissecting the Neurocognitive Basis of Post-stroke Alexia and Creating Clinically Meaningful Outcome Measures
SPEAKER: Peter Turkeltaub, MD, PhD, FANA, Georgetown University

Rethinking Endpoints for Motor Neurorecovery Trials
SPEAKER: David Lin, MD, Harvard Medical School

Mechanisms of Working Memory and Their Implications for Cognitive Neurorehabilitation
SPEAKER: Andrew Kayser, MD, PhD, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

Continued Evaluation of Participants With Parkinson's Disease Through 4 Years After Bemdaneprocel Administration
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Claire Henchcliffe, MD, DPhil, FANA, University of California, Irvine

Cross-Cutting Special Interest Group

Neurodegeneration and Cell Death*

Sunday | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Coral 5

CHAIR: Albert (Gus) Davis, MD, PhD, Washington University in St. Louis

CO-CHAIR: Bruno Benitez, MD, Harvard Medical School / Beth Israel Deaconess Center

This session will explore current advances in the basic and translational science of neurodegeneration and cell death. Faculty will review emerging insights into the molecular and cellular mechanisms that drive neurodegenerative processes and highlight how these discoveries are informing the development of novel therapeutic strategies.

The session will also examine the critical interface between basic and translational research, emphasizing the importance of effective collaboration among academic investigators, clinicians, and industry partners. By bridging these domains, the session aims to highlight pathways for accelerating the translation of mechanistic discoveries into meaningful clinical applications.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Summarize recent advances in basic research on the mechanisms of neurodegeneration.
- Evaluate translational research approaches that link mechanistic insights to therapeutic development.
- Analyze strategies to enhance collaboration and communication among basic scientists, clinicians, and industry partners.

Can Modulating Sleep Mitigate Neurodegeneration?
SPEAKER: Samira Parhizkar, PhD, Washington University School of Medicine

Multiplex Proteomics of Lewy Body Dementia Reveals Cerebrospinal Fluid Biomarkers of Clinical and Neuropathological Heterogeneity
SPEAKER: Nicholas Seyfried, MD, Emory School of Medicine

Mechanisms of Neuronal Toxicity in C9ORF72-associated ALS and FTD
SPEAKER: Xin Jiang, PhD, MassGeneral Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Genetically Determined Resilience to Alzheimer's Disease Is Independent of Genetic Risk and Gated by Cardiovascular Comorbidity
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Alokkumar Jha, PhD, Weill Cornell Medicine

Proteomic Age Acceleration in Multiple Sclerosis Precedes Symptom Onset and Associates with Disease Severity
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Fatemeh Siavoshi, MD, Johns Hopkins University

Traditional Special Interest Group

Autoimmune Neurology & MS

*Next-Generation Therapeutics in MS and Autoimmune Neurology**

Sunday | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Seaglass

CHAIR: Eoin P. Flanagan, MD, FANA, Mayo Clinic, Rochester

CO-CHAIR: Rajesh Gupta, MD, MBBS, MS, FANA, UT Health Houston

The fields of multiple sclerosis (MS) and autoimmune neurology are rapidly evolving, with an expanding therapeutic landscape and increasing opportunities for precision treatment. In MS, B cell–targeted therapies have transformed disease management, offering high efficacy in reducing disease activity and preventing relapses. However, long-term immunosuppression raises important safety and cost considerations, and emerging evidence suggests that extended-interval dosing strategies may help mitigate these risks.

In myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody-associated disease (MOGAD), there are currently no approved therapies, but advances in neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder have accelerated the development of targeted clinical trials, with early results now emerging alongside growing real-world data. In parallel, chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy is gaining attention as a novel approach for treating autoimmune neurologic disorders of the central nervous system.

This session will highlight these evolving therapeutic strategies, focusing on current evidence, clinical application, and future directions in MS and autoimmune neurology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the role of extended-interval dosing strategies for B cell–targeted therapies in MS.
- Discuss current and emerging therapeutic approaches for MOGAD.
- Evaluate the potential risks and clinical applications of CAR T-cell therapy in autoimmune neurology.

Extended Interval Dosing and Dose Reductions of Rituximab in the Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis
SPEAKER: Annette Langer-Gould, MD, PhD, Southern California Permanente Medical Group/Kaiser Permanente

MOGAD Therapeutics in 2026: Evidence, Trials, and Real-World Decisions
SPEAKER: Michael Levy, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital

CAR-T Treatments for Autoimmune CNS Neurologic Disorders
SPEAKER: Giovanna Manzano, MD, University of California, Irvine

Miv-cel CD19 CAR T-Cell Therapy in Stiff Person Syndrome (SPS) in a Pivotal, Multicenter, Phase 2 Study (KYSA-8): Efficacy and Biomarker Analysis of Patients With >6 Months of Follow-up
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Marinos Dalakas, MD, PhD, FANA, Thomas Jefferson University

Permissive Central Tolerance and Defective Peripheral Tolerance as Sequential Steps to License CASPR2-directed Pathology
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Sarosh Irani, BM, BCh, DPhil, Mayo Clinic, Florida

Traditional Special Interest Group

Music Interventions in Neurology

*Introduction to Music-based Interventions in Neurology**

Sunday | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Sandpiper Salons C&D

CHAIR: Borna Bonakdarpour, MD, FAAN, FANA, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

CO-CHAIR: Alex Pantelyat, MD, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Music-based interventions are increasingly used as adjunctive therapies in the management of a broad range of neurological conditions. This session will focus on the clinical application of music and rhythm to support motor, cognitive, and communicative function, as well as overall quality of life.

Faculty will review practical approaches to incorporating music-based therapies into patient care, including indications for referral, expected benefits, and the current evidence base. The session will also highlight key neurobiological mechanisms relevant to clinical outcomes and discuss considerations for integrating these interventions into multidisciplinary care plans.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Identify clinical indications for music-based interventions in neurological care.
- Explain the mechanisms by which music and rhythm influence neurological function and recovery.
- Apply strategies to engage research and funding stakeholders to advance music-based interventions.

Introduction to Music-based Interventions for Neurological Disorders
SPEAKER: Kerry Devlin, PhD, LPMT, MT-BC, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

SPEAKER: Alex Pantelyat, MD, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

SPEAKER: Kyurim Kang, PhD, LPMT, MT-BC, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Music Interventions for Neurocognitive Disorders
SPEAKER: Borna Bonakdarpour, MD, FAAN, FANA, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

The Brain's Crescendo: How Music Training Enriches Child Neurocognitive Development
SPEAKER: Assal Habibi, PhD, University of Southern California

Mobilizing Research and Funding for Music Based Interventions: National Endowment for the Arts Research Priorities and Funding Opportunities
SPEAKER: Melissa Menzer, PhD, National Endowment for the Arts

Break

Sunday | 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Education Innovation Committee Connection

Sunday | 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM
Osprey

Poster Presentation and Reception

Poster presenters will be in attendance.

Sunday | 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Eventide

Global Neurology & IDEAS Networking Reception

(By Invitation Only)

Sunday | 7:15 PM - 8:45 PM
Sandpiper Salons C&D

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

ANA2026

Registration

Monday | 6:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Seascape Foyer

Grab-and-Go Breakfast

Monday | 6:45 AM - 7:45 AM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

✣ Satellite Symposium

IMAAVY: An FDA-approved option for your patients with gMG

HOSTED BY: JOHNSON & JOHNSON

Monday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Silver Pearl Ballroom 1

This educational program will provide an overview of the current treatment landscape for generalized myasthenia gravis (gMG) and discuss the clinical evidence supporting the use of an approved treatment option, IMAAVY® (nipocalimab).

Editorial Board Breakfast

(By Invitation Only)

Monday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Sandpiper Salons A&B

Professional Development Workshop Early Career Level

Global Neurology Perspectives: Building Sustainable International Collaborations *JEC* *

Monday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Coral 1

CHAIR: Katherine Carroll, MD, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine

CO-CHAIR: Farrah Mateen, MD, PhD, FANA, Northwestern Medicine

Global collaboration in neurology is essential to advancing research, education, and patient care worldwide. This panel will bring together neurologists engaged in international research, training, and capacity-building to explore how to develop equitable and sustainable partnerships. Speakers will share practical examples from multi-country research networks and educational programs, highlighting key structural and ethical considerations for long-term success. Attendees will gain strategies for designing sustainable initiatives, navigating funding and institutional challenges, and fostering meaningful bidirectional exchange.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe approaches to building equitable, sustainable global neurology partnerships.
- Identify strategies for designing and implementing collaborative projects across diverse settings.
- Recognize structural and ethical considerations that support long-term, bidirectional collaboration.

Neuropathology, Biobanking and Bioassays in Global Neurology Research
SPEAKER: Avindra Nath, MD, FANA, National Institutes of Health

Strengthening UCLA–Uganda Global Health Collaboration Through the NIH Fogarty Career Development Award
SPEAKER: Rajarshi Mazumder, MD, MPH, University of California, Los Angeles

Building International Partnerships for Neurology Training and Research in Neurological Infections
SPEAKER: Felicia Chow, MD, MAS, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

Collaborating Globally for Pediatric Neurology
SPEAKER: David Bearden, MD, MSCE, University of Rochester

Professional Development Workshop Early to Mid-Career Level

Landing the Career Track You Want *JEC* *

Monday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Coral 2

CHAIR: Midori Yenari, MD, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

CO-CHAIR: Claire Henchcliffe, MD, DPhil, FANA, University of California, Irvine

This workshop will explore the three primary academic career tracks in neurology: research, clinical practice, and education. Senior academic leaders with demonstrated success in each area will share practical insights, strategies for career development, and lessons learned. The session will conclude with an interactive question-and-answer discussion to address participant's interests and goals.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Differentiate the expectations and responsibilities across research, clinical, and education career tracks.
- Recognize the unique challenges and opportunities associated with each track.
- Identify the career pathway that best aligns with individual professional goals.

Neurology Education Career Development
SPEAKER: Joseph Safdieh, MD, FAAN, FANA, Weill Cornell Medicine

The Nuts & Bolts of Running an Outpatient Clinic: A Peak Behind the Curtain
SPEAKER: Rimas Lukas, MD, FANA, Northwestern University

Defining and Redefining a Research Career in Neurology
SPEAKER: Rajiv Ratan, MD, PhD, FANA, Burke Neurological Institute

Professional Development Workshop Department Chair Level

Institutional Influence and Strategy: Confidential Peer Consult for Academic Neurology Leaders*

Monday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Coral 3

CHAIR: Allison Willis, MD, MS, FANA, University of Pennsylvania

CO-CHAIR: Tracey Milligan, MD, MS, FANA, New York Medical College

Neurology leaders operate in increasingly complex environments where clinical, academic, and financial priorities intersect, and where institutional influence is essential but not always easily achieved. Despite delivering high-value clinical care, education, and research, neurology departments may struggle to ensure their contributions are fully recognized in institutional decision-making. This session addresses a timely need for strategies that translate academic excellence into institutional influence.

This session will combine strategic framing with real-case peer coaching through a structured "Confidential Peer Consult" format. Participants will submit brief,

real-world leadership dilemmas in advance. Following a short orientation to the central question—how neurology departments translate academic excellence into institutional influence—the session will focus on three selected cases presented by participating leaders.

Cases will reflect high-stakes challenges commonly faced by academic neurology leaders, including cases such as senior faculty undermining leadership, managing high-revenue but disruptive clinicians, tensions between clinical or scientific priorities and non-clinical leadership, underfunded mandates, FTE and space allocation conflicts, mission versus margin decisions, and evolving relationships with deans and health system leadership. Additional themes may include faculty morale, DEI-related tensions, and the evolving identity of the chair role.

Using a facilitated, confidential discussion model, attendees will engage in structured peer coaching, generating practical, experience-based strategies. This session moves beyond general leadership principles to applied problem-solving, with actionable insights relevant across diverse academic and health system environments.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Identify strategies to translate neurology departmental value into institutional influence.
- Apply structured peer-coaching approaches to complex leadership challenges.
- Evaluate common pitfalls that limit neurology's effectiveness within health systems.

Break

Monday | 8:30 AM - 8:45 AM

Executive Session of Membership

All ANA members are encouraged to attend.

Monday | 8:45 AM - 9:30 AM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

Break

Monday | 9:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Soriano Lectureship

Monday | 9:45 AM - 10:15 AM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

Shared Neurobiology of Epilepsy, Neurodevelopment and Neurodegeneration

SPEAKER: Frances Jensen, MD, FACP, FANA, University of Pennsylvania

Epilepsy is common, affecting at least 1 in 26 people across the lifespan. Epilepsy and recurrent seizures can be comorbid with other conditions in an age-dependent fashion. Seizures can be present in up to 50% of children with autism, and at the other end of the lifespan, over 22% of patients with Alzheimer's dementia also have seizures. Molecular mechanisms underlying epilepsy are increasingly revealing novel biomarkers and therapeutics for seizure control. Understanding how epilepsy and seizures contribute to other disorders such as autism and dementia will yield improved biomarkers and treatment targets for all three domains.

This presentation will examine evidence for how hyperexcitable networks can not only contribute to synaptic dysfunction resulting in epilepsy, but also the cognitive impairment associated with neurodevelopmental disorders, including autism, and with neurodegeneration that occurs in disorders such as Alzheimer's dementia. Multiomic gene and protein studies are revealing several common pathologic mechanisms between these disorders The presentation will consider emerging evidence for new biomarkers as well as therapeutic targets that could have clinical potential.

Attendees will leave with a greater understanding of the factors underlying the interaction between epilepsy, neurodevelopmental, and neurodegenerative disorders as well practical insights into the use of neurodegenerative biomarkers to support earlier diagnosis, inform prognosis, and guide patient-centered care.

Plenary Session

Emerging Approaches to Enhance Neuronal Resistance Against Neurodegeneration

Monday | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

CHAIR: Vikram Shakkottai, MD, PhD, FANA, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

CO-CHAIR: Mark Wainwright, MD, PhD, FANA, University of Washington

Age-related neurodegenerative diseases—including Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and frontotemporal dementia—are traditionally viewed through pathogenic mechanisms such as protein aggregation, mitochondrial dysfunction, and chronic inflammation. An equally important but less explored dimension is neuronal resilience: the factors that enable certain neurons to resist or delay degeneration despite similar pathological exposure.

This session will bring together experts to highlight emerging approaches to studying neuronal resilience. Presentations will examine genetic, molecular, metabolic, and circuit-level determinants of neuronal vulnerability, and explore therapeutic strategies aimed at enhancing resilience rather than solely targeting pathology. The session aims to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and identify future directions for resilience-based therapeutic development.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe tools for unbiased assessment of neuronal resilience in neurodegeneration.
- Explain approaches to identify biological pathways and mechanisms through unbiased analyses.
- Identify model systems used to investigate mechanisms of neuronal resilience.

Using CRISPR-based Functional Genomics in Human Neurons and Glia to Understand Resilience in Tauopathy
SPEAKER: Martin Kampmann, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Identifying Molecular Signatures and the Functional Relevance of Resilience Factors in Alzheimer's Disease
SPEAKER: Inma Cobos, MD, PhD, Stanford University School of Medicine

Understanding Defense Mechanisms and Transport Across the BBB and Move Towards Targeted, Noninvasive Study and Repair of the Brain
SPEAKER: Viviana Gradinaru, PhD, California Institute of Technology

Developmental Failure of Cortical Inhibition in Huntington's Disease: Implications for Early Therapeutic Intervention
EMERGING SCHOLAR PRESENTER: Yagiz Altun, MD, PhD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

AWARDS RECOGNITION:

ANA IDEAS Early Career Member Award:
RECIPIENT: Jorge Llibre-Guerra, MD, Washington University in Saint Louis

ANA IDEAS Early Career Member Award:
RECIPIENT: Charles Windon, MD, University of California, San Francisco

Grab-and-Go Lunch

Monday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

Restorative Music Session

Monday | 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM
Tidepool 4

Poster Viewing

Monday | 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Eventide

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Cerebral Palsy Across the Lifespan: Neurologic Surveillance, Cognition, and Precision Medicine*

Monday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Coral 1

CHAIR: Bhooma Aravamuthan, MD, DPhil, Washington University in St. Louis

CO-CHAIR: Mark Wainwright, MD, PhD, FANA, University of Washington

Cerebral palsy (CP) is the most common lifelong motor disability affecting between 2-4/1000 people worldwide, a prevalence comparable to Parkinson's disease. Most people with CP alive in the US today are adults, with 40% of people with CP in the US being over the age of 30. Recent evidence shows that 12-30% of people with CP have a contributing genetic etiology, opening up avenues for precision medicine management approaches. Furthermore, people with CP are prone to new and evolving neurologic conditions as they age, including dementia, myelopathy, stroke, and new-onset epilepsy.

This session will explore epidemiology and diagnostic evaluation of CP (including the value of genetic testing), the role of precision medicine in CP across the lifespan, and how to screen for and manage neurologic conditions in people with CP as they age. Finally, we will pose areas ripe for research in adults with CP, including early life risk factors for dementia and preventative strategies.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the new-onset and evolving neurologic conditions that occur in adults with CP.
- Complete a comprehensive diagnostic evaluation of CP across the lifespan, including genetic testing.
- Screen for and describe research on preventative strategies for cognitive decline and dementia in adults with CP

Genetic Testing in Cerebral Palsy: Opportunities for Precision Medicine Interventions
SPEAKER: Michael Kruer, MD, Phoenix Children's Hospital

Neurologic Surveillance in Adults with CP
SPEAKER: Bhooma Aravamuthan, MD, DPhil, Washington University in St. Louis

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Blood-Brain Barrier: From Basic Mechanisms to Therapeutics*

Monday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Coral 2

CHAIR: James Gugger, MD, PharmD, University of Rochester

CO-CHAIR: Richard Leigh, MD, FANA, Johns Hopkins University

This session will review the structure and function of the neurovascular unit in health and disease, with a focus on the blood–brain barrier (BBB). Faculty will highlight state-of-the-art techniques for in vivo BBB assessment and discuss their applications in advancing understanding of central nervous system disorders and therapeutic development.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the structure and function of the blood–brain barrier and its role in brain health and disease.
- Compare key imaging modalities for BBB assessment, including dynamic susceptibility contrast (DSC) MRI and dynamic contrast-enhanced (DCE) MRI.
- Illustrate how BBB imaging can inform the pathophysiology and management of central nervous system disorders.

Regional DCE-MRI Mapping of Vascular Integrity and BBB Permeability in Health and Neurological Disorder
SPEAKER: Alon Friedman, MD, PhD, Dalhousie University

Imaging the Blood-Brain Barrier: A Window into Diseases of the Central Nervous System
SPEAKER: Richard Leigh, MD, FANA, Johns Hopkins University

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Neurology: Talking Machines and Healing Minds*

Monday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Coral 3

CHAIR: Amanda Jagolino-Cole, MD, FANA, McGovern Medical School at UTHealth

CO-CHAIR: Anshum Patel, MBBS, Mayo Clinic, Florida

Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly integrated into clinical neurology, from diagnostic support tools to neuroimaging interpretation and brain–computer interfaces that restore communication. However, many neurologists lack formal training in how these technologies work, their limitations, and how to evaluate their clinical utility.

This workshop will provide a practical, evidence-based overview of AI across three domains: clinical decision support, neuroimaging, and brain–computer interfaces. Faculty will highlight real-world applications, review current evidence, and discuss the opportunities and limitations of these tools. Attendees will gain a framework for critically assessing AI technologies and their role in clinical practice.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe current applications of AI in clinical neurological diagnosis and the evidence supporting their use.
- Explain how AI and machine learning are applied in neuroimaging and assess their benefits and limitations.
- Discuss the principles of brain–computer interfaces and the role of AI in restoring communication for patients with severe motor impairment.

From Black Bags to Black Boxes: AI Assisted Clinical Diagnosis in Neurology
SPEAKER: Andrew Southerland, MD, MSc, University of Virginia

From Pixels to Prognosis: How AI is Transforming Neuroimaging Interpretation
SPEAKER: Jerome Jeevarajan, MD, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

From Action Potentials to AI to Advocacy: Restoring Communication through Brain-Computer Interfaces
SPEAKER: Leigh Hochberg, MD, PhD, FANA, Massachusetts General Brigham

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Assisted Reproductive Technology and Neurological Conditions: What We Know and What We Need to Know*

Monday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Coral 4

CHAIR: Elizabeth Gerard, MD, FANA, Northwestern University

CO-CHAIR: Heidi Munger Clary, MD, MPH, FACNS, FAES, FANA, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

This interactive lunch workshop will explore the intersection of fertility, fertility treatments, and neurological conditions. Faculty will review current evidence on fertility in individuals with neurologic disorders and provide an overview of common fertility treatments, including intrauterine insemination (IUI), egg retrieval and fertility preservation, and in vitro fertilization (IVF). The session will also address clinical considerations for patients with neurologic diagnoses undergoing

fertility treatment, with a focus on epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, migraine, and stroke. The goal is to equip clinicians with practical knowledge to support patients navigating fertility care.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe common fertility treatment modalities and the potential neurologic impact of associated hormone therapies.
- Develop management and medication monitoring strategies for patients with neurologic conditions undergoing fertility treatment.
- Identify condition-specific risks of fertility treatments in patients with neurologic disorders.

Epilepsy and Assisted Reproductive Technologies
SPEAKER: Aisha Abdulrazaq, MD, University of Minnesota

Multiple Sclerosis and Assisted Reproductive Technologies
SPEAKER: Edith Graham, MD, Northwestern University

Migraine, Stroke Risk and Assisted Reproductive Technologies
SPEAKER: Ginette Moores, MD, University of Toronto

Interactive Lunch Workshop

Undiagnosed Neurological Diseases: The Challenge of Atypical Clinical Presentations*

Monday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Seaglass

CHAIR: Farinaz Safavi, MD, PhD, National Institutes of Health

CO-CHAIR: Albert (Gus) Davis, MD, PhD, Washington University in St. Louis

Despite significant advances in diagnostic tools and disease characterization, neurologists across subspecialties continue to encounter patients with atypical or undiagnosed presentations. These complex cases—spanning neuroinflammatory to neurodegenerative conditions—often fall outside conventional diagnostic frameworks and present ongoing clinical challenges.

This session will explore potential mechanisms underlying these atypical neurological disorders, emphasizing emerging insights, diagnostic gaps, and the need for innovative approaches. Faculty will highlight the role of multidisciplinary collaboration and future research in improving recognition, classification, and management of these challenging conditions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Analyze the clinical and societal burden of undiagnosed neurological diseases.
- Identify local and national resources to support referral and diagnostic evaluation of complex cases.
- Evaluate the role of multidisciplinary collaboration and national registries in advancing diagnosis and care.

Atypical Manifestations of Neuroinfectious Diseases
SPEAKER: Avindra Nath, MD, FANA, National Institutes of Health

Bridging Clinical Complexity and Genetic Discovery
SPEAKER: Camilo Toro, MD, National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health

Interactive Lunch Workshop

The NIH Clinical Trials Methodology Course: An Introduction*

Monday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Sandpiper C&D

CHAIR: Richa Tripathi, MD, Emory University

CO-CHAIR: Robin Conwit, MD, Indiana University

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Clinical Trials Methodology Course (CTMC) is a 10-month program designed to train clinical investigators in the neurosciences in the principles of clinical trial design. The course also provides structured mentorship to support career development, enhance

research productivity, and increase the likelihood of successful grant funding. This workshop will provide an overview of the CTMC program, including key components, expectations, and application.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the goals, structure, and participant expectations of the CTMC program.
- Identify application timelines and requirements for the CTMC.
- Apply best practices for early-career research development and effective mentorship.

PANELISTS:
Christopher Coffey, PhD, University of Iowa

Robin Conwit, MD, Indiana University

Laurie Gutmann, MD, FANA, Indiana University

Additional Lunch Workshop

Meet the Editors Luncheon (Invitation Only) *JEC* *

Monday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Sandpiper Salons A&B

The Editors-in-Chief of *Annals of Neurology, Annals of Clinical and Translational Neurology*, and *Annals of Child Neurology* will lead an interactive session focused on the manuscript submission and publication process. The session will include an overview of key journal metrics, including submission volume, acceptance rates, and review timelines, as well as practical guidance on preparing and submitting manuscripts.

A significant portion of the session will be dedicated to an open question-and-answer discussion, providing attendees with the opportunity to engage directly with the editors on topics related to manuscript preparation, journal selection, and the peer review process.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the process for submitting manuscripts to ANA-affiliated journals.
- Identify factors that determine the suitability of a manuscript for specific journals.
- Explain the key components of the peer review and editorial decision-making process.

PANELISTS:
Ahmet Hoke, MD, PhD, FANA, Johns Hopkins University

Kenneth Tyler, MD, FANA, University of Colorado

Additional Lunch Workshop

Meet the Chairs*

Monday | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Coral 5

CHAIR: Frances Jensen, MD, FACP, FANA, University of Pennsylvania

In today's evolving healthcare environment, neurologists across academic settings must balance clinical care, education, and research while navigating increasingly complex institutional priorities. This interactive session will provide a strategic forum for faculty and emerging leaders to exchange insights and explore approaches to enhance career development, programmatic impact, and scholarly productivity.

Through peer discussion and shared experience, participants will identify practical strategies to align individual and departmental goals, optimize use of limited resources, and contribute to high-performing academic programs. The session will emphasize actionable approaches to advancing academic success while maintaining professional fulfillment in a dynamic healthcare landscape.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Analyze current trends and challenges shaping the academic medicine landscape.
- Evaluate strategies to strengthen and sustain the pipeline of neurologists and researchers.
- Identify essential skills required for neurologists to succeed in evolving clinical, research, and educational environments.

PANELISTS:
Page Pennell, MD, FAAN, FAES, FANA, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Paul Katz, MD, FANA, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

Cathy Sila, MD, University Hospitals/ Case Western Reserve University SOM

Break

Monday | 1:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Plenary Session

Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholars Symposium*

Monday | 1:15 PM - 3:30 PM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

CHAIR: Richard Mayeux, MD, MSE, FANA, Columbia University and New York Presbyterian Hospital

CO-CHAIR: Lisa Merlin, MD, FANA, State University of New York Downstate Health Sciences University

The Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium provides a platform for emerging researchers to present groundbreaking work in neurology and neuroscience. The symposium will feature presentations from the 2026 Derek Denny-Brown Award recipients, as well as honorees of the Grass Foundation–ANA Award in Neuroscience, the Audrey S. Penn Lectureship, and the Wolfe Research Prize for identifying new causes or novel treatments of neuropathy and related disorders.

In addition, recipients of the Distinguished Neurology Teacher Award, the ANA-Persyst IDEAS Professional Development Award, the ANA IDEAS Early Career Member Award, and the ANA Awards for Excellence will be recognized during the symposium.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe emerging research trends and novel scientific advancements in neurology and neuroscience.
- Recognize the contributions of award-winning research and leadership in advancing clinical practice, education, and professional development in neurology.
- Apply insights from cutting-edge research presentations to inform future research directions, clinical practice, and academic engagement.

The Interictal Network as a Window into Epilepsy
SPEAKER: Erin Conrad, MD, MA, University of Pennsylvania| The Grass Foundation – ANA Award in Neuroscience

Past, Present, and Future: The Role of Genomics in Elucidating Peripheral Neuropathies
SPEAKER: Stephan Züchner, MD, PhD, University of Miami | Wolfe Research Prize for Identifying New Causes or Novel Treatment of Neuropathy and Related Disorders

Multiple Sclerosis in Africa: Changing Paradigms and Improving Diagnosis and Access to Care
SPEAKER: Deanna Saylor, MD, MHS, FAAN, FANA, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill | Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Award - Physician-Scientist Clinical

Inflammatory Signaling in the Leptomeninges
SPEAKER: Adrienne Boire, MD, PhD, FANA, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center | Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Award - Physician-Scientist Basic

TDP-43 Loss of Function as a Convergent Driver of ALS Pathophysiology
SPEAKER: Evangelos Kiskinis, PhD Northwestern, University Feinberg School of Medicine | Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Award - Neuroscientist

Inducing a Torpor-Like State Through Targeted Preoptic Circuit Activation Protects the Brain After Stroke
SPEAKER: Eric Landsness, MD, PhD, Washington University in St. Louis | ANA Rising Star Award

AWARDS RECOGNITION:

ANA-Persyst Professional Development Award
AWARD RECIPIENT: Jonathan P. Williams, MD, MSCR, Washington University in St. Louis

ANA Distinguished Neurology Educator Award
AWARD RECIPIENT: Sashank Prasad, MD, FANA, University of Pennsylvania

Refreshment Break

Monday | 3:30 PM - 3:45 PM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

✣ Satellite Symposium

Avoiding Diagnostic Delays and Reducing Burdens for Patients with Generalized Myasthenia Gravis

HOSTED BY: MED LEARNING GROUP

Monday | 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM
Silver Pearl Ballroom 1

Blood-based biomarkers are transforming the diagnosis and management of Alzheimer's disease by offering a non-invasive, accessible, and cost-effective alternative to traditional diagnostic methods. This session will highlight the latest advancements in blood test research, pairing it with real-world experience from clinicians now using these tests in their own practices. Faculty will explore what is working well in the clinic, the key challenges to broader adoption, including accessibility, integration into clinical workflows, and clinician and patient education. Attendees will gain practical insights into applying blood-based biomarkers in clinical settings, including their role in diagnosing cognitive impairment, guiding treatment decisions, and improving ongoing patient care and management.

Cross-Cutting Special Interest Group

Neurodevelopment Disorders

*Beyond Diagnosis: Lifespan Trajectories and Interventions in Neurodevelopmental Disorders**

Monday | 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM
Coral 1

CHAIR: Eboni Lance, MD, PhD, Kennedy Krieger Institute

CO-CHAIR: Xiaochang Zhang, PhD, FANA, University of Chicago

Neurodevelopmental disorders affect individuals across the lifespan, influencing biological development, social functioning, and daily life. Patients, families, and caregivers often seek anticipatory guidance to better understand long-term outcomes and prepare for key life transitions.

This Special Interest Group session will bring together experts across neurodevelopmental conditions to explore their evolving, multidimensional impact. Presentations will highlight advances in biological mechanisms, address social and functional challenges across developmental stages, and examine ethical considerations in clinical care and long-term planning. Attendees will gain practical, lifespan-informed frameworks to support anticipatory guidance and improve care for patients and families.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe how neurodevelopmental disorders evolve across the lifespan, including key biological, social, and functional factors.

- Evaluate medical and supportive interventions that improve outcomes over time.
- Apply ethically grounded, lifespan-informed approaches to anticipatory guidance and transition planning.

Beyond the Genome: Ethical, Legal, and Social Challenges in NDDs
SPEAKER: Andrea Gropman, MD, FANA, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Integrated Lifespan Analysis of Down syndrome (DS) and Controls Using Blood-Based Biomarkers by NUcleic acid-Linked Immuno-Sandwich Assay (NULISA)
SPEAKER: Beau Ances, MD, PhD, MSc, FANA, Washington University in Saint Louis

Making Sense Out of Nonsense: Treating Neurodevelopmental Disorders by Switching Poison Exons
SPEAKER: Xiaochang Zhang, PhD, FANA, University of Chicago

Traditional Special Interest Group

Behavioral Neurology & Dementia

*Behavioral Neurology at Scale: Precision Medicine, and Real-World Implementation**

Monday | 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM
Coral 2

CHAIR: Gregg S. Day, MD, MSc, MSCI, Mayo Clinic, Florida

CO-CHAIR: Liliana Ramirez Gomez, MD, Massachussetts General Hospital

Behavioral neurology is entering a new era in which advances in precision medicine, digital phenotyping, artificial intelligence (AI), and scalable care delivery models are transforming how clinicians identify and treat neurologic and neurobehavioral disorders. As patient populations grow and access to specialty care remains limited, there is an urgent need for high-throughput approaches that enhance diagnostic accuracy, personalize treatment selection, and expand the reach of evidence-based interventions across diverse clinical settings.

This session will highlight emerging strategies that leverage multimodal data, biomarkers, AI-enabled analytics, and individualized treatment approaches to optimize outcomes in behavioral neurology. Presentations will emphasize practical implementation in real-world environments, including academic medical centers, community practices, and integrated healthcare systems. Key focus areas include scalable screening and intervention models, measurement-based care, implementation science, and the translation of precision medicine into routine clinical workflows.

The session will also showcase innovative research from junior investigators through selected abstract presentations, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and highlighting the next generation of advances in the field. By bringing together expertise across clinical care, research, technology, and healthcare delivery, this session aims to define actionable pathways for expanding precision behavioral neurology into scalable, accessible, and patient-centered care models.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Identify patients appropriate for biomarker-guided evaluation and select candidates for disease-modifying therapies in behavioral neurology.
- Apply evidence-based precision medicine and anti-amyloid treatment strategies in real-world clinical practice.
- Implement scalable strategies for cognitive screening, treatment monitoring, and longitudinal dementia care across diverse healthcare settings.

Scalable Approaches to Anti-Amyloid Treatment, Monitoring, and Follow-up in Academic Practice
SPEAKER: B. Joy Snider, MD, PhD, FANA, Washington University School of Medicine, Knight Alzheimer Disease Research Center

Anti-amyloid Treatment in Practice
SPEAKER: Greg Cooper, MD, PhD, Norton Healthcare

Deployment of Amyloid-Targeting Therapies Across the Sutter Health System
SPEAKER: Armen Moughamian, MD, PhD, Sutter Health

Clinical and Comorbidity Correlates of Discordant Plasma p-tau217
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Dror Shir, MD, Mayo Clinic, Florida

Efficacy and Safety of Anti-Amyloid Monoclonal Antibodies in Early Alzheimer Disease: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Shradha Kakde, MBBS, MGM Medical College and Research Centre

Traditional Special Interest Group

Epilepsy

*Epilepsy and the Aging Brain**

Monday | 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM
Coral 3

CHAIR: James Gugger, MD, PharmD, University of Rochester

CO-CHAIR: Heidi Munger Clary, MD, MPH, FACNS, FAES, FANA, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

This session will examine the unique features of epilepsy in older adults, with a focus on new-onset unprovoked seizures (late-onset epilepsy) and the evaluation and management of cognitive impairment in patients with longstanding epilepsy. Faculty will discuss the relationship between epilepsy and Alzheimer's disease, including the role of biomarker testing, neuropsychological assessment, and potential implications for emerging therapies. Case-based discussions and debates will highlight practical approaches to diagnosis, prognosis, and management in this population.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe current evidence on the prevalence of Alzheimer's pathology in late-onset epilepsy.
- Assess the prognostic value of Alzheimer's biomarker testing in this population.
- Identify clinical scenarios in which neuropsychological assessment or Alzheimer's biomarker testing may be appropriate

Overview and Update on Late-onset Epilepsy (LOE)
SPEAKER: Ifrah Zawar, MD, MS-CR, University of Virginia

Cognitive Decline in Older Adults
SPEAKER: Rani Sarkis, MD, MSc, Mass General Brigham and Harvard Medical School

Debate Session
SPEAKER: Keith Vossel, MD, MSc, University of California, Los Angeles

Thalamic Network Involvement Reshapes Treatment Selection in Drug-Resistant Epilepsy: Evidence from 104 Patients with Intracranial Thalamic Recordings
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Mark Richardson, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital

Traditional Special Interest Group

ANA-SEQUINS Global Neurology

Emerging Technologies and their Role in Expanding Access to Neurological Care

Monday | 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM
Coral 4

CHAIR: Melody Asukile, MBChB, MMED, FCNeurol(SA), University of Zambia/University College London

CO-CHAIR: Clio Rubinos, MD, MS, FANA, University of North Carolina

Rapid technological advances are transforming neurological care, but without intentional implementation and equity-focused frameworks, these innovations risk exacerbating global disparities. Emerging tools—including AI-assisted diagnostics, portable low-field MRI, dry-electrode EEG, and gene-based therapies—offer significant potential to expand access in resource-limited settings. The challenge lies in deploying these technologies ethically, sustainably, and inclusively.

This session will bring together leaders in global neurology, innovation, and implementation science to examine how emerging technologies can improve diagnosis, management, and outcomes across diverse

care settings. Topics will include AI-enabled clinical decision support, scalable diagnostic platforms, and the ethical and policy considerations surrounding genetic and advanced therapies. Through real-world examples, speakers will provide practical strategies for integrating innovation while promoting equitable access.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe emerging AI-driven and portable diagnostic technologies in neurological care.
- Evaluate strategies for implementing innovative tools in resource-limited and underserved settings.
- Analyze ethical and policy considerations to support equitable access to advanced therapies.

The Utility of Portable and Low-Cost Diagnostics Tests in the Evaluation of Neurological Disorders
SPEAKER: André Fenton, PhD, Center for Neural Science New York University

The Role of AI Tools in Improving Access to Diagnosis and Management of Epilepsy
SPEAKER: M. Brandon Westover, MD, PhD, Stanford University

Genetics and Decentralized Technologies: A Practical Framework for Inclusive Neurological Clinical Trials
SPEAKER: Jorge Llibre-Guerra, MD, Washington University in Saint Louis

Perceived Severity of Common Neurological Symptoms of Multiple Sclerosis Among Healthy Women in Zambia: A Community-Based Participatory Study
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Malya Sahu, MD, Johns Hopkins University

Chronic Child Malnutrition and Risk of Neurodevelopmental Impairment in Rural Ecuadorian Children: Predictive Models and Implications for Early Intervention
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: María de los Ángeles Álvarez Falcón, MD, Catholic University of Santiago de Guayaquil

AWARD RECOGNITION:

International Outreach Travel Scholarship
RECIPIENT: Roya Edalatpour, MD, Johns Hopkins University

Traditional Special Interest Group

Neurocritical Care & TBI

*Management and Outcomes of Patients with Concomitant Traumatic Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury**

Monday | 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM
Coral 5

CHAIR: Julio Furlan, MD, LLB, MBA, PhD, MSc, FRCPC, FASIA, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute and University of Toronto

CO-CHAIR: Sherry Chou, MD, MSc, FANA, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine

This session will examine the management of patients with concomitant traumatic brain injury (TBI) and spinal cord injury (SCI), drawing on current clinical and translational research. With co-occurrence rates as high as 30–50% in SCI and approximately 12.5% in TBI, this "dual diagnosis" presents significant challenges across the continuum of care—from neurocritical care to neurorehabilitation.

Faculty will review key management principles and clinical guidelines for both TBI and SCI, with a focus on optimizing neurological and functional recovery while minimizing secondary complications. Through an integrated care perspective, the session will highlight strategies to improve survival, recovery, and quality of life in this complex patient population.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe clinical practice guidelines for the management of TBI and SCI in acute and neurocritical care settings.

- Apply rehabilitation principles to patients with concomitant TBI and SCI across the continuum of care.
- Compare outcomes associated with dual diagnosis versus isolated central nervous system injury.

Management of Concomitant TBI and SCI in the Neurocritical Care Setting
SPEAKER: Halinder Mangat, MD, MSc, Kansas University Medical Center

Management of Concomitant TBI and SCI in the Acute Care and Rehabilitation Settings
SPEAKER: Julio Furlan, MD, LLB, MBA, PhD, MSc, FRCPC, FASIA, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute and University of Toronto

Operationalizing the Neural Exposome in Mild TBI: Feasibility and Directional Trends of a Three-Domain Framework on Cognitive Trajectories using Principal Component Analysis
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Maria Paulino, BS, University of California, Irvine

Assessment of Stakeholders' Perceptions of Outcomes After Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: A Single-center Prospective Study
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Skylar Lewis, BA, Brown University Health, Rhode Island Hospital

Traditional Special Interest Group

Neuromuscular Disease

*Harnessing CAR T- Cells for Neuromuscular Disease: Emerging Science and Therapeutic Potential**

Monday | 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM
Seaglass

CHAIR: Jinsy Andrews, MD, MSc, FANA, New York University Grossman School of Medicine

CO-CHAIR: Tahseen Mozaffar, MD, FANA, University of California, Irvine

This session will highlight the fundamental principles of CAR-T therapy, differentiate safety and tolerability profile of CAR-T therapies in cancer versus autoimmune disorders, and evaluate the emerging therapeutic applications of CAR-T in neuromuscular disorders, particularly in myasthenia gravis and myositis. Attendees will gain practical clinical insights, understand evolving safety frameworks, and be prepared to assess how these engineered immunotherapies may shape future care strategies for neuromuscular patients in general. The session will focus specifically on emerging data from experimental clinical use as well as recent and ongoing clinical trials in the lead indications of myasthenia gravis and immune mediated myopathies.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the mechanism of action and therapeutic approach of CAR-T therapy in neuromuscular disease.
- Evaluate safety considerations, monitoring, and logistical challenges associated with CAR-T therapy.
- Review current and emerging treatment approaches for myasthenia gravis and myositis.

Car-T Therapy in Inflammatory Muscle Disease
SPEAKER: Tahseen Mozaffar, MD, FANA, University of California, Irvine

Car-T Therapy in Autoimmune Neuromsucular Disorders - Clinical Trial Logistics and Safety
SPEAKER: Ali Habib, MD, University of California, Irvine

Car-T Therapy in Myasthenia Gravis
SPEAKER: Christina Ulane, MD, PhD, Columbia University Irving Medical Center

Towards a Digital Twin for Myasthenia Gravis
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Chales Carpenter, MS3, George Washington University

Traditional Special Interest Group

Cerebrovascular Disease

*Improving Stroke Care Through Personalized and Novel Therapeutics**

Monday | 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM
Sandpiper Salons A&B

CHAIR: Christoph Stretz, MD, FANA, Brown University

CO-CHAIR: Michelle Johansen, MD, PhD, FAHA, FANA, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Cerebrovascular disease remains a rapidly evolving field, with ongoing advances shaping prevention, treatment, and outcomes. This session will highlight late-breaking developments in secondary stroke prevention, intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH), and sex-specific risk factors in stroke.

Presentations will examine factors unique to women that influence stroke risk, treatment, and participation in research, with particular emphasis on pregnancy and menopause. The session will also review recent progress in ICH management, including emerging evidence supporting minimally invasive surgical approaches, rapid triage strategies, and comprehensive care bundles aimed at improving outcomes in this high-mortality condition.

In addition, the evolving role of Factor XI inhibitors will be discussed as a promising strategy for targeted stroke prevention, with the potential to reduce recurrence while minimizing bleeding risk.

The session will also feature presentations from authors of two top-scoring ANA2026 abstracts, along with a third presentation highlighting an early-career investigator (e.g., trainee, Instructor, Assistant Professor, or participant from a low- and middle-income country) to support emerging researchers and foster continued engagement with the ANA.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the impact of sex-specific factors on stroke risk, treatment, and research participation in women.
- Explain how ultra-early assessment and management of intracerebral hemorrhage can improve patient outcomes.
- Evaluate the role of Factor XI inhibitors as emerging therapies for stroke prevention.

Bridging the Gap: Navigating Sex-specific Factors Affecting Stroke Risk, Treatment and Research
SPEAKER: Cheryl Bushnell, MD, MHS, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Advancing Care for Intracerebral Hemorrhage
SPEAKER: Stephan Mayer, MD, FCCM, FNCS, New York Medical College

Factor XI Inhibitors - Novel Therapeutics in Stroke Prevention
SPEAKER: James Siegler, MD, FAHA, University of Chicago

Long-Term Neuropsychiatric Outcomes After Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: The Amplifying Role of Delayed Cerebral Ischemia in Dementia, Epilepsy, and Mood Disorders : A 5-Year Cohort Study
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Mina Ghayour, BS, University of Texas Health Sciences Center

Gut Microbiome - Related Metabolites as Mediators of Environmental Risk of Ischemic Stroke: Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke (REGARDS) Study
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Chaitali Dagli, BHMS, MPH, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Single-cell RNA Sequencing Analyses Revealed Integrated Vascular Reactions in Promoting Angiogenesis After Chronic Cerebral Hypoperfusion
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Jiajing Shan, PhD, University of Pittsburgh

Break

Monday | 5:15 PM - 5:30 PM

Poster Presentations and Reception

Poster presenters will be in attendance.

Monday | 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Eventide

President's Reception

Monday |7:15 PM - 9:30 PM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026

ANA2026

Registration

Tuesday | 6:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Seascape Foyer

Grab-and-Go Breakfast

Tuesday | 6:45 AM - 7:45 AM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

Professional Development Workshop
Early Career Level

How to Publish Your Medical Education Research and Innovations JEC *

Tuesday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Coral 1

CHAIR: Erica Schuyler, MD, FANA, Hartford Healthcare/ University of Connecticut

CO-CHAIR: Marie Carl Eugene, DO, MSHPE, FANA, University of Connecticut School of Medicine

Clinician educators frequently develop innovative approaches to teaching, assessment, and curriculum design, yet dissemination of this work remains a challenge. Compared with traditional clinical or bench research, there is often less familiarity with how to design, position, and publish educational research in academic journals.

This session will discuss challenges to education scholarship, and strategies to overcome them and increase the likelihood of acceptance of educational articles.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe key elements in the design of medical education research projects.
- Summarize the key features of qualitative research and identify how to integrate them into qualitative research studies.
- Identify strategies to enhance innovation and publishability of medical education research.

Designing High-quality Medical Education Research Projects: A Step-by-Step Guide
SPEAKER: Galina Gheihman, MD, Mass General Brigham

Publishing Medical Education Scholarship: Tips, Pitfalls, and Pearls
SPEAKER: Roy Strowd, MD, MEd, MS, FANA, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Key Features of Qualitative Research in Medical Education
SPEAKER: Marie Carl Eugene, DO, MSHPE, FANA, University of Connecticut School of Medicine

Professional Development Workshop
Early to Mid-Career Level

Charting Your Course: Career Advancement Strategies for Academic Neurologists JEC *

Tuesday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Coral 2

CHAIR: Vinita Acharya, MD, FANA, Penn State University

CO-CHAIR: Tracey Milligan, MD, MS, FANA, New York Medical College

This Professional Development Workshop offers a practical roadmap for career advancement in academic neurology. As expectations for productivity, scholarship, and leadership continue to evolve, neurologists face increasing challenges in navigating promotion

pathways, building sustainable careers, and achieving professional fulfillment.

Structured around four key pillars—educational, research, and clinical scholarship, as well as mentorship and negotiation—this session provides an actionable framework for success. Faculty will share strategies to define and align academic contributions with institutional expectations, build cohesive scholarly portfolios, and effectively leverage mentorship and sponsorship.

Through expert perspectives and interactive discussion, participants will gain practical tools to negotiate for resources and protected time, integrate clinical, research, and educational responsibilities, and enhance career trajectory and visibility. The session is designed for neurologists across career stages and emphasizes sustainable approaches to long-term career success.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the roles of educational, research, and clinical scholarship in academic promotion.
- Apply mentorship, sponsorship, and negotiation strategies to support career advancement.
- Develop strategies to build a sustainable and impactful academic career while mitigating burnout.

Choose Your Own Promotion Adventure: Navigating Faculty Tracks and Pathways to Success
SPEAKER: Beau Ances, MD, PhD, MSc, FANA, Washington University in Saint Louis

Innovate, Educate, Elevate Educational Scholarship in Academic Neurology
SPEAKER: Jaffar Khan, MD, Emory University School of Medicine

Professional Development Workshop
Department Chair Level

The Evolving Academic Department: Managing Faculty, Associates, and Affiliates*

Tuesday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Coral 3

CHAIR: Frances Jensen, MD, FACP, FANA, University of Pennsylvania

Academic departments are evolving in response to changes in affiliated health systems, including the integration of diverse care providers across multiple sites beyond the primary academic center. This session will explore emerging models for incorporating faculty, associates, and affiliates into academic departments, as well as the challenges and opportunities associated with these shifts. Discussion will also address how departments can effectively support physicians and scientists in increasingly varied roles while maintaining a cohesive academic mission.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the evolving roles of faculty within expanding health systems.
- Identify strategies to build a cohesive departmental culture across diverse roles and locations.
- Evaluate approaches to faculty titles, roles, and responsibilities within modern academic department structures.

PANELISTS:
Page Pennell, MD, FAAN, FAES, FANA, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Jin-Moo Lee, MD, PhD, FANA, Washington University in St. Louis

Laurie Gutmann, MD, FANA, Indiana University

Leaders in IDEAS Professional Development Workshop

Understanding the Evolving Policy and Regulatory Environments in Academic Medicine*

Tuesday | 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Coral 4

CHAIR: Mihir Kakara, MD, MSHP, NYU Grossman School of Medicine

CO-CHAIR: Mwiza Ushe, MD, MA, Washington University School of Medicine

Across academic medicine, leaders responsible for IDEAS initiatives are navigating a rapidly evolving and increasingly complex policy environment. Recent federal executive orders, legal challenges, state legislation, institutional responses, and shifting regulatory expectations have created significant uncertainty surrounding IDEAS-related programming, faculty development, trainee support, recruitment practices, educational content, and organizational communications. These changes carry important implications for academic departments as they work to balance institutional mission, accreditation standards, legal compliance, workforce priorities, and community trust while responding to evolving external pressures and guidance.

This session is designed to provide participants with a clearer understanding of the changing federal, state, and institutional policy landscape and its implications for academic medicine. The program will begin with a 45-minute presentation from a national legal and policy expert with experience in academic medicine, highlighting key compliance considerations and the impact of executive orders and regulatory frameworks on departmental and institutional practices. The presentation will be followed by a 45-minute interactive discussion focused on shared experiences, practical challenges, and collaborative problem-solving as participants explore strategies for navigating ongoing uncertainty and adapting IDEAS-related efforts within evolving policy environments.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe recent federal, state, and institutional policy developments affecting IDEAS-related work in academic medicine.
- Examine how evolving policies and regulatory frameworks may influence departmental initiatives, educational programs, recruitment practices, and organizational decision-making.
- Identify practical lessons and strategies shared by peers to navigate institutional challenges and adapt IDEAS-related efforts within changing policy environments.

Understanding the Evolving Policy and Regulatory Environments in Academic Medicine
SPEAKER: David Henderson, MD, American Medical Association

Break

Tuesday | 8:30 AM - 8:45 AM

Raymond D. Adams Lectureship

Tuesday | 8:45 AM - 9:15 AM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

Alzheimer's Disease 2026: Where Are We?

SPEAKER: Ronald C. Petersen, MD, PhD, FANA, Mayo Clini, Rochester

The landscape of Alzheimer's disease diagnosis and treatment is evolving rapidly, driven by advances in biomarker science, earlier disease detection, and the emergence of disease-modifying therapies. These developments are transforming clinical practice and creating new opportunities to identify and intervene in the disease before the onset of significant cognitive impairment.

This presentation will provide an overview of the latest advances in Alzheimer's disease diagnosis and treatment. Participants will review the expanding role of

fluid and imaging biomarkers in detecting Alzheimer's disease across the disease continuum, including the preclinical stage, and examine how these tools are improving diagnostic precision, patient selection, and disease monitoring. The session will also discuss the current landscape of disease-modifying therapies, their integration into clinical practice, and the implications of these advances for personalized patient care and future therapeutic development.

Attendees will leave with a greater understanding of the current state of Alzheimer's disease diagnosis and management and practical insights into how biomarkers and disease-modifying therapies are reshaping the early identification, treatment, and long-term care of individuals at risk for or living with Alzheimer's disease.

Plenary Session

The Menopausal Transition and Brain Health*

Tuesday | 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM
Pacific Jewel Ballroom

CHAIR: Elizabeth Gerard, MD, FANA, Northwestern University

CO-CHAIR: Edith Graham, MD, Northwestern University

The menopausal transition represents a critical period of neuroendocrine change with important implications for brain health and neurological disease. Declines in estrogen during perimenopause and menopause are associated with changes in cognition, mood, and disease risk, yet the role of menopausal hormone therapy (MHT) in preserving brain health remains controversial.

Use of MHT declined following the Women's Health Initiative (WHI), which reported an association between postmenopausal hormone therapy and increased dementia risk. However, subsequent analyses and more recent studies suggest that timing of initiation, patient selection, and formulation of therapy significantly influence outcomes. Emerging data support a "critical window" hypothesis, in which initiation closer to the menopausal transition may have neutral or beneficial cognitive effects. Contemporary MHT regimens also differ substantially from those studied in the WHI.

The impact of menopause on brain health can be further examined through biomarkers and disease risk. Alzheimer's disease is more prevalent in women than in men, and neuropathological changes may begin during the menopausal transition. On PET imaging, historical hormone therapy use is associated with increased tau deposition in women older than 70, but not in younger women, suggesting an age-dependent effect.

Beyond neurodegeneration, menopause and MHT influence a range of neurological conditions, including migraine, stroke, epilepsy, and multiple sclerosis. Despite this, there remains limited guidance for neurologists on how to incorporate hormonal status and therapy into clinical care.

This plenary session will provide a multidisciplinary review of the menopausal transition and its impact on brain health, address ongoing controversies surrounding MHT, and highlight opportunities for future research and clinical consensus.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the historical controversy surrounding menopausal hormone therapy, including interpretations of the Women's Health Initiative and more recent evidence guiding patient selection and treatment approaches.
- Discuss changes in brain biomarkers during perimenopause and menopause, and evaluate current evidence on the impact of MHT on brain aging.
- Outline the effects of menopause and MHT on neurological disorders, including migraine, stroke, multiple sclerosis, and epilepsy, and their implications for clinical care.

Menopausal Hormone Therapy and Brain Health: From Controversy to Consensus
SPEAKER: Pauline Maki, PhD, University of Illinois Chicago

Menopause, MHT and Alzheimer's Biomarkers in Women
SPEAKER: Rachel Buckley, PhD, Massachusetts General Brigham Hospital

Menopause, MHT and Neurologic Disease
SPEAKER: Eliza Miller, MD, MS, FAHA, University of Pittsburgh

Post Anti-CD19 CAR-T cell Therapy Immune Response in Treatment Refractory Multiple Sclerosis
EMERGING SCHOLAR PRESENTER: Sasha Gupta, MD, University of California,
San Francisco

Grab-and-Go Lunch

Tuesday | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Pacific Jewel Foyer

Traditional Special Interest Group

Headache & Pain

*Comorbidities in Headache Medicine**

Tuesday | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Coral 2

CHAIR: Nina Riggins, MD, PhD, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

Comorbidities play a significant role in the progression and chronification of migraine and other headache disorders. Understanding these relationships can provide insight into underlying pathophysiology and inform more comprehensive treatment approaches. This session will explore key comorbidities—including hormonal influences (e.g., pituitary disorders), pain and sleep disorders, women's health considerations, and vascular disease—and discuss their impact on headache management. Faculty will highlight integrated strategies to improve outcomes by addressing both headache disorders and their associated conditions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Identify common comorbidities associated with migraine and other headache disorders.
- Explain the role of comorbidities in disease progression and chronification.
- Develop treatment strategies that address both headache disorders and associated comorbidities.

Procedures in the Management of Headache Comorbidities
SPEAKER: QiLiang Chen, MD, PhD, Veterans Affairs, Palo Alto Health Care System, Stanford University

Vascular Comorbidities and Headache
SPEAKER: Branko Huisa, MD, The Neuron Clinic GP

Pediatric Headache and Comorbidities
SPEAKER: Sara Pavitt, MD, University of Texas- Austin, Dell Medical School

The Vicious Cycle: Sleep, Pain, and the Neurobiology of a Self-Perpetuating Loop
SPEAKER: Joanna Fong-Isariyawongse, MD, University of Pittsburgh

Role of Multidisciplinary Team in the Management of Headache and Comorbidities
SPEAKER: Nytzia Licona, DrPH, MPH, CCTDM, Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System

What Do We Know About Factors of Migraine Chronification
SPEAKER: Nina Riggins, MD, PhD, FANA, University of California, San Francisco

Updates on Women's Health and Headache
SPEAKER: Teshamae Monteith, MD, FAHS, FAAN, FANA, University of Miami

The Endometriosis-Migraine Visibility Gap: A 13-Million Patient Meta-Analysis of Shared Neuro-Gynecological Biology
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Yohannes Woldeamanuel, MD, Mayo Clinic, Arizona

Traditional Special Interest Group

Movement Disorders

*Unravelling Mechanisms and Improving Therapeutics**

Tuesday | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Coral 3

CHAIR: Chi-Ying (Roy) Lin, MD, FAAN, MPH, Baylor College of Medicine

CO-CHAIR: Joohi Jimenez-Shahed, MD, FANA, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

The 2026 Movement Disorders Special Interest Group session highlights a shift from phenotype-based classification to biologically driven, mechanism-based frameworks that are shaping therapeutic development. Advances in molecular genetics, proteinopathies, and systems neuroscience are redefining disease heterogeneity, progression, and treatment response across disorders such as dystonia, Parkinson's disease (PD), and progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP).

This session will feature leaders in mechanistic discovery, biomarker development, and innovative clinical trial design. Topics will include molecular stratification in dystonia, genetic and lysosomal pathways in PD, and the role of tau pathology in cognitive and neuropsychiatric features. In addition, emerging platform trial designs in PSP will be discussed as scalable models for evaluating disease-modifying therapies. Attendees will gain a forward-looking framework for integrating biologic insights into clinical care and research in movement disorders.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe emerging biologic mechanisms in movement disorders and their role in redefining disease classification.
- Apply biomarker and genetic insights to enhance patient stratification and inform clinical trial design.
- Integrate principles of precision neurology into clinical practice for diagnosis, prognosis, and management.

PSP National Platform Trial Development and Initiation
SPEAKER: Anne-Marie Wills, MD, MPH, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Are Dystonias Ready for Molecular Pathophysiological Groupings? The Case for the Integrated Stress Response
SPEAKER: Nicole Calakos, MD, PhD, FANA, Duke University Medical Center

GBA1 and Lysosomal Oligogenic Risk for Parkinson's Disease
SPEAKER: Joshua Shulman, MD, PhD, Baylor College of Medicine

Mixed Pathology is the Rule: Emerging Biomarkers to Assess the Impact of Amyloid and Tau on Clinical Progression in Parkinson's Disease
SPEAKER: Kathleen Poston, MD, MS, FAAN, FANA, Stanford University

DT-216P2, a Gene-Targeted Small Molecule, Produces Rapid Dose-Dependent Clinical Improvements and Comprehensive Frataxin Biomarker Activity in Friedreich Ataxia: RESTORE-FA 4-week IV Cohorts Results
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: David Lynch, MD, PhD, FANA, University of Pennsylvania

Traditional Special Interest Group

Neuro-Oncology

*Neuroimaging for Brain Tumors**

Tuesday | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Coral 5

CHAIR: Eric Wong, MD, MA, FAAN, FANA, Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

CO-CHAIR: Adilia Hormigo, MD, PhD, FANA, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

The theme of this year's Neuro-oncology Special Interest Group session is *Neuroimaging for Brain Tumors*. Advances over the past decade have expanded neuroimaging beyond structural techniques to include physiologic and molecular approaches that provide insight

into tumor biology. Modalities such as perfusion imaging and amino acid PET are enhancing diagnostic accuracy and enabling earlier, more targeted interventions.

In the context of emerging immunotherapies and targeted treatments, improved imaging may significantly impact clinical decision-making and patient outcomes. This session will highlight current and emerging imaging techniques, their correlation with tumor pathology, and the growing role of artificial intelligence in advancing neuro-oncologic imaging.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe key neuroimaging modalities used in the evaluation of brain tumors.
- Explain the relationship between imaging findings and tumor pathology.
- Discuss the role of artificial intelligence in enhancing neuroimaging interpretation.

Radio-pathomic Mapping of Glioblastoma: Detecting Invisible Infiltrative Tumor
SPEAKER: Peter LaViolette, PhD, Medical College of Wisconsin

Advanced MRI for Brain Tumor Characterization: A Case-based Practical Approach
SPEAKER: Kambiz Nael MD, University of California, San Francisco

Evolving Brain Tumor MRI AI: From Conventional Deep Imaging Models to Multimodal Foundation-Model Fusion
SPEAKER: Zhicheng Jiao, PhD, Brown University Health

Pain Outcomes in Patients With/Without Volumetric Tumor Response: Post Hoc From the ReNeu Trial of Mirdametinib in Adults & Children With Neurofibromatosis Type 1-Associated Plexiform Neurofibroma
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Hans Shuhaiber, MD, University of Florida

Siglec-15 and PD-1 Checkpoint Blockade in Combination with Oncolytic Zika Virus Infection Confers Protection Against Immune-resistant Gliomas
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Milan Chheda, MD, Washington University School of Medicine

Traditional Special Interest Group

Neuro-Ophthalmology and Neurovestibular Disease

*From Bench to Bedside in Neuro-ophthalmology and Neurovestibular Disease**

Tuesday | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Coral 4

CHAIR: Lindsey B. De Lott, MD, MS, University of Michigan

CO-CHAIR: Leanne Stunkel, MD, FANA, Washington University School of Medicine

Neuro-ophthalmologists and neuro-otologists diagnose and manage complex disorders of the visual and vestibular systems. Advancing care requires translating laboratory discoveries into clinically meaningful tools, therapies, and patient-centered outcomes.

In this Special Interest Group session, From Bench to Bedside in Neuro-ophthalmology and Neuro-vestibular Disease, experts will present three complementary perspectives: technology-enabled, real-world measures of vestibular function; translational advances in optic nerve regeneration; and the integration of patient lived experience into the development of outcome measures for visual dysfunction. Together, these talks highlight emerging approaches to improve diagnosis, monitoring, and patient-centered care.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the development and clinical applications of technology-enabled, real-world measures of vestibular function.
- Summarize key translational advances in optic nerve regeneration, including current challenges and opportunities.
- Explain how patient lived experience informs the design and validation of patient-reported outcomes in inherited optic neuropathies.

Optic Nerve Regeneration: Bench to Bedside
SPEAKER: Kimberly Gokoffski, MD, PhD, University of California, Irvine

Lived Experience and Development of Self-reported Measures of Visual Dysfunction in Inherited Optic Neuropathies
SPEAKER: Benson Chen, MBChB, PhD, FRACP, Auckland City Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand

Development of a Wearable ENG for Community-Based Nystagmus Detection
SPEAKER: Kristen K. Steenerson, MD, Stanford University School of Medicine

Interocular Microvascular Asymmetry Selectively Associates with Verbal Memory Performance
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Coulson Rich, BA, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

Traditional Special Interest Group

Sleep Disorders and Circadian Rhythms

*Sleep and Circadian Disorders: From Mechanisms to Clinical Care**

Tuesday | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Coral 1

CHAIR: Aleksander Videnovic, MD, MSc, FANA, Harvard Medical School and Mass General Brigham

CO-CHAIR: Gordon Buchanan, MD, PhD, FAES, FANA, University of Iowa

This session will highlight recent advances in sleep and circadian science, spanning foundational mechanisms to clinical applications. Faculty will review the impact of sleep and circadian dysfunction in neurodevelopmental disorders, including associated clinical features and implications for patient care. The session will also address current and emerging approaches to diagnosis and management, with a focus on both established and novel screening tools and therapeutic strategies. In addition, speakers will examine advances in the identification and evaluation of REM Sleep Behavior Disorder, an important condition with implications for neurodegenerative disease risk.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe sleep and circadian disorders associated with neurodevelopmental conditions.
- Discuss current and emerging treatment approaches for sleep and circadian dysfunction.
- Identify existing and novel screening and diagnostic methods for REM Sleep Behavior Disorder.

Population-based screening and Diagnosis of REM Sleep Behavior Disorders - Challenges and Opportunities
SPEAKER: Emmanuel During, MD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Mapping the RBD Continuum: Biomarkers, Phenotypes, and Prognosis from the NAPS Consortium
SPEAKER: Yo-El Ju, MD, MSCI, Washington University

Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Circadian Dysregulation
SPEAKER: Althea Shelton, MD, MPH, Vanderbilt University

Circadian and Non-Circadian Sleep Disorders as Predictors of Neurodegenerative Diagnosis: Evidence From Three Retrospective Cohorts
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Nicole Ash, MAS, University of California, San Diego

Clinical Predictors of Phenoconversion in Isolated REM Sleep Behavior Disorder
SELECTED ABSTRACT PRESENTER: Diana Issa, MD, Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Additional Lunch Workshop

ANA Medical Student Forum: Conversations with Neurology Leaders *JEC* *

Tuesday | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Seaglass

CHAIR: Claire Henchcliffe, MD, DPhil, FANA, University of California, Irvinee

This session offers medical students attending the ANA Annual Meeting a unique opportunity to engage directly with distinguished leaders in academic neurology.

Panelists will share insights on career pathways in neurology, including guidance on selecting specialties and subspecialties, navigating the residency application process, and building a fulfilling career in the field.

The session will be highly interactive, with ample time dedicated to audience questions and open discussion, allowing participants to gain personalized advice and perspectives from experienced mentors.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Discuss approaches to selecting neurology specialties and subspecialties aligned with individual career goals.
- Identify key factors in evaluating and applying to high-quality residency training programs.
- Describe strategies for developing a rewarding and sustainable career in neurology.

PANELISTS:
Antonio Omuro, MD, FAAN, Stanford University School of Medicine

Claire Henchcliffe, MD, DPhil, FANA, University of California, Irvine

Amy Brooks-Kayal, MD, FANA, UC Davis School of Medicine

Patrick Lyden, MD, FANA, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Meeting Adjourned

Tuesday | 12:30 PM

SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

The ANA values the participation of our corporate partners and is supportive of the role that members of this community continue to play in our efforts to provide neurologists and neuroscientists with quality educational programs. These symposia are not part of the ANA official educational program, and the sessions and content are not endorsed by ANA.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Silver Pearl Ballroom 1

Blood-Based Biomarkers for Alzheimer's Disease: What Neurologists Need to Know

PROVIDED BY: GLOBAL CEO INITIATIVE ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM
Silver Pearl Ballroom 1

IMAAVY: An FDA-approved option for your patients with gMG

PROVIDED BY: JOHNSON & JOHNSON

3:45 PM – 5:15 PM
Silver Pearl Ballroom 1

Avoiding Diagnostic Delays and Reducing Burdens for Patients with Generalized Myasthenia Gravis

PROVIDED BY: MED LEARNING GROUP

GEORGE W. JACOBY LECTURESHIP AWARD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026 I 9:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Caroline Tanner, MD, PhD, FANA
University of California, San Francisco

Perspectives on Parkinson's Disease Prevention

Caroline Tanner, MD, PhD, FANA, specializes in movement disorders. Her research includes descriptive epidemiology, environmental and genetic determinants, biomarkers, early detection, nonmotor features and clinical trials. She is co-PI of the home-based TOPAZ fracture prevention study for people with neurodegenerative parkinsonism and the hybrid Micro-PD trial to reduce off periods in people with Parkinson's disease. She is a member of the Parkinsons Progression Markers Initiative leadership team and PI of PPMI Online, FOUND-PPMI and the online Fox Insight study. She has been fortunate to mentor talented students from many countries, who themselves are now leading researchers and educators worldwide.

ANA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE CATEGORY OF CLINICAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE – NOVEL SCIENTIFIC CAREER BASED CONTRIBUTIONS OVER 15 YEARS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026 I 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Neil Shneider, MD, PhD, FANA
Columbia University

This award will be presented during the "Repetitive Sequences in Neurological Diseases and Health" plenary session.

Neil A. Shneider, MD, PhD, FANA, is the Claire Tow Professor of Motor Neuron Disorders and director of the Eleanor and Lou Gehrig ALS Center at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons. A graduate of Harvard College, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Harvard-Longwood Neurology Training Program, his laboratory focuses on the mechanisms of ALS and the development of novel therapeutics for motor neuron disorders.

Dr. Shneider collaborated with Ionis Pharmaceuticals to develop jacifusen (ulefnersen), an antisense oligonucleotide (ASO) targeting mutations in the FUS gene, which progressed from compassionate use to an international Phase 3 trial. Results of the investigator-initiated case series of jacifusen were published in The Lancet in 2025. In partnership with the n-Lorem Foundation, he founded and serves as principal investigator of Silence ALS, an initiative to develop individualized ASO therapies for patients with ultra-rare, pathogenic variants in ALS-associated genes. The program—which serves as a model for individualized therapy in ultra-rare disease—is funded by the NIH's URGenT Network.

2026 AWARDEES

ANA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE CATEGORY OF CLINICAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE – NOVEL SCIENTIFIC CAREER BASED CONTRIBUTIONS OVER 15 YEARS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026 I 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

David Newman-Toker, MD, PhD, FANA
Johns Hopkins University

This award will be presented during the "Repetitive Sequences in Neurological Diseases and Health" plenary session.

David Newman-Toker, MD, PhD, FANA is an internationally recognized leader in neuro-otology, acute stroke diagnosis and diagnostic errors research. He completed his undergraduate studies at Yale University, his medical degree at University of Pennsylvania, his residency training and neuro-ophthalmology fellowship at Harvard University, his neuro-otology fellowship at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and his doctoral degree in clinical research methods at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

He has served as a full-time faculty member at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine since 2002. He is the David Robinson Professor of Vestibular Neurology and holds appointments in Otolaryngology, Ophthalmology, Emergency Medicine, Acute Care Nursing, Health Sciences Informatics, Epidemiology, and Health Policy & Management at Johns Hopkins.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026 I 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

Natalie Smith, MD
Columbia University/New York Presbyterian

This award will be presented during the The American Neurological Association's Global Neurology Initiatives: Progress and Future Directions Interactive Lunch Workshop session.

Natalie Smith, MD, grew up in Los Alamos, New Mexico, as a child of two chemists working at the National Laboratory, and was interested in science from a young age. She attended a liberal arts college, University of Puget Sound, where she studied biochemistry and neuroscience. Before medical school, she worked in a laboratory studying early central nervous system development in zebrafish embryos, becoming fascinated in patterns of tissue tropism. She attended medical school at the University of Washington and completed an emphasis in Underserved Community Medicine. She then matriculated to neurology residency at Columbia University where she is now a third-year resident. She is passionate about providing excellent and cost-efficient care to patients with acute neurologic illnesses with a special interest in neuroinfectious diseases. Outside of clinical care, she has become involved with hospital system-level quality improvement work to improve workflows diagnostics for neuroinfectious diseases. She plans to matriculate to a neuroinfectious disease fellowship to further her career as an academic neurohospitalist.

2026 AWARDEES

F.E. BENNETT MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP AWARD

The F.E. Bennett Memorial Lectureship was established in 1979 by Foster Elting Bennett, MD, in memory of his son, to recognize outstanding neuroscientists and educators in neurology.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026 I 1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

William Theodore, MD, FANA
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

Imaging the Functional Cognitive Anatomy of Epilepsy

William Theodore, MD, FANA, is a senior investigator at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, professor of neurology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and past president of the American Epilepsy Society. He received his BA degree from Harvard College and MD from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He is board certified in internal medicine, neurology, clinical neurophysiology (emeritus) and epilepsy medicine. He received the American Epilepsy Society Outstanding Clinical Investigator and ILAE Ambassador for Epilepsy Awards, and the Gold Medal for Outstanding Achievements in Clinical Medicine from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. Past Chair of the American Academy of Neurology Epilepsy Section, he was co-editor-in-chief of Epilepsy Research. He has worked with the Pan American Health Organization, World Health Organization and World Federation of Neurology on international projects and has made multiple visits to Lusaka as a visiting professor performing teaching and research at the University of Zambia. His research focuses on functional imaging in epilepsy using MRI and PET.

SORIANO LECTURESHIP AWARD

This award was established in 1987 by ANA member Dr. Victor Soriano and his wife to provide a "brilliant lecture delivered by an outstanding scientist" who is a member of the Association.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 9:45 AM – 10:15 AM

Frances Jensen, MD, FACP, FANA
University of Pennsylvania

Shared Neurobiology of Epilepsy, Neurodevelopment and Neurodegeneration

Frances Jensen, MD, FACP, FANA, is the Arthur Knight Asbury, MD, Professor of Neurology and Chair of Neurology at the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, and co-director of Penn Translational Neuroscience Center. She was formerly professor of neurology, Harvard Medical School, director of translational neuroscience and senior neurologist at the Brigham and Women's Hospital and Boston Children's Hospital. After receiving her BA from Smith College and MD from Cornell Medical College, she obtained her neurology residency training at the Harvard Longwood Neurology Residency Program. Her research focuses on mechanisms of epilepsy, and the interaction of epilepsy with other disorders such as autism and dementia, to elucidate new therapies for clinical trials development. She has authored over 175 manuscripts on subjects related to her research and has been continuously funded by NIH since 1987. She was the recipient of a NIH Director's Pioneer Award in 2007 and a NIH-NINDS Javits Award in 2020.

Dr. Jensen was elected as a member of the National Academy of Medicine in 2015 and the recipient of the Smith College Medal in 2020. Dr. Jensen has trained numerous clinical and basic research fellows who now hold independent faculty positions nationally and internationally. Dr. Jensen served as President of the American Neurological Association (2021-2023) and President of the American Epilepsy Society in 2012. She has served on multiple leadership boards including Society for Neuroscience and NIH and is on the Advisory Council to NINDS. Dr. Jensen is a trustee of the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia and is involved in community outreach for brain research and education. In addition, Dr. Jensen is an advocate for awareness of the adolescent brain development, its unique strengths and vulnerabilities, as well as their impact on medical, social, and educational issues unique to teenagers and young adults, and author of the book The Teenage Brain, released by Harper Collins in 2015/16, translated and published in over 25 languages worldwide.

ANA IDEAS EARLY CAREER MEMBER AWARD

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Charles Windon, MD
University of California, San Francisco

This award will be presented during the "Emerging Approaches to Enhance Neuronal Resistance Against Neurodegeneration" plenary session.

Charles Windon, MD, is an assistant professor of neurology at the UCSF Memory and Aging Center. In his current role he participates in the clinical care of those with neurodegenerative conditions, conducts research focused on biomarkers of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) and leads ADRC ORE outreach efforts to the African American community in the San Francisco Bay Area. His research explores the use of novel imaging and blood-based biomarkers for the detection and diagnosis of ADRD among populations that have been historically excluded from research.

Dr. Windon's work has been generously funded through organizations like the Alzheimer's Association and the National Institute on Aging. He has previously been awarded the John A. Watson Faculty Scholar Award and is the inaugural recipient of the Solomon Carter Fuller Award from the Society for Behavioral and Cognitive Neurology.

Dr. Windon received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University before obtaining his medical degree from Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey. He completed his residency training in neurology at UCLA.

ANA IDEAS EARLY CAREER MEMBER AWARD

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Jorge Llibre-Guerra, MD
Washington University in Saint Louis

This award will be presented during the "Emerging Approaches to Enhance Neuronal Resistance Against Neurodegeneration" plenary session.

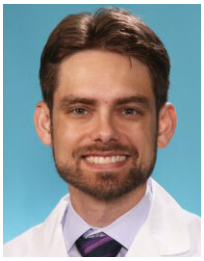
Jorge Llibre, MD, is a behavioral neurologist and physician-scientist whose work bridges clinical trials, biomarker research and global health to advance dementia prevention. He serves as clinical core leader of the Dominantly Inherited Alzheimer Network (DIAN) and associate medical director of the DIAN Trials Unit (DIAN-TU) at Washington University in St. Louis, where he provides safety oversight and scientific guidance for a global portfolio of Alzheimer's disease prevention and treatment trials. Dr. Llibre has extensive experience in the design, implementation and clinical operations of early-intervention trials, including those evaluating amyloid- and tau-targeting therapies in autosomal dominant Alzheimer's disease (ADAD). His research focuses on gene-environment interactions, resilience mechanisms, and life-course factors that influence Alzheimer's disease onset and progression by integrating data from large international cohorts such as DIAN, the 10/66 Dementia Research Group and emerging Latin American initiatives.

2026 AWARDEES

ANA RISING STAR AWARD

The ANA Rising Star Award recognizes one early career physician-scientist or researcher annually who has contributed significantly to the field of neurology (e.g., a body of research that is considered inspired, meritorious, and significant, which has the potential to have a major impact on the field nationally and/or internationally).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM



Eric Landsness, MD, PhD
Washington University in St. Louis

Inducing a Torpor-Like State Through Targeted Preoptic Circuit Activation Protects the Brain After Stroke

This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Eric C. Landsness, MD, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Neurology at Washington University School of Medicine and a physician-scientist studying sleep, stroke recovery, neuroprotection, and brain-state regulation. His research combines systems neuroscience, translational stroke biology, and artificial intelligence to investigate how endogenous physiological states such as sleep and torpor can promote neurological recovery after brain injury. His laboratory has demonstrated that regionally specific sleep dynamics are associated with stroke recovery and that pharmacologic and circuit-based modulation of sleep and metabolism can reduce ischemic brain injury in preclinical models.

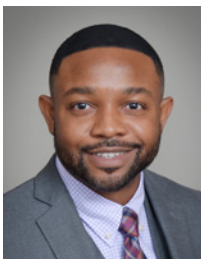
Dr. Landsness currently leads an NIH R01 investigating torpor-based neuroprotection after stroke and also serves in leadership roles within multi-institutional AI initiatives focused on AI-enabled scientific discovery systems for neuroscience and neurodegeneration research.

Within the American Neurological Association, he previously served as Co-Chair of the Junior and Early Career Member Committee and currently serves as Chair of the Membership Committee.

ANA-PERSYST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD

The ANA-Persyst Professional Development Award is provided to an early career academic neurologist or neuroscientist and is an ANA member specializing in the field of epilepsy. This award is made possible through the generosity of the Persyst Development Corporation.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM



Jonathan P. Willaims, MD, MSCR
Washington University in St. Louis

This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Jonathan P. Williams, MD, MSCR is a faculty neurologist and epileptologist in the Department of Neurology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, where he serves as a clinician, researcher and advocate for health equity in epilepsy care.

He completed his neurology residency and epilepsy fellowship at Washington University where he subsequently joined the faculty. His clinical and research efforts center on reducing disparities in epilepsy diagnosis, treatment access and surgical evaluation among economically disadvantaged and underrepresented communities. He created an innovative resident epilepsy clinic model that has meaningfully expanded access to specialist-level care and epilepsy surgery evaluation for vulnerable patients across the St. Louis region.

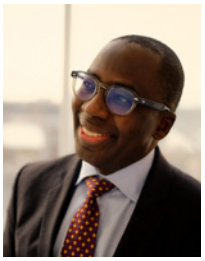
A recipient of the American Academy of Neurology Health Equity Research Award, the AAN H. Richard Tyler Award, and an Epilepsy Foundation mini-grant, Dr. Williams has earned national recognition for his contributions to equitable epilepsy care. He serves on advisory committees for the Epilepsy Alliance of America and the Epilepsy Foundation and is a founding member of the IMPACT Epilepsy committee.

2026 AWARDEES

AUDREY S. PENN LECTURESHIP AWARD

The Audrey S. Penn Lectureship Award recognizes outstanding contributions that advance neurological science through innovative research, visionary leadership, and dedicated mentorship. Recipients embody Dr. Penn's commitment to excellence, integrity, and fostering environments that empower all neurologists and neuroscientists to transform the field.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM



Olajide Williams, MD, MS, FANA
Columbia University

Health Disparities: A Historical and Contemporary View Through the Lens of Stroke

This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Olajide Williams, MD, MS, FANA, completed his medical degree at the University of Lagos, a Masters in Biostatistics from Columbia University, New York, and his medical residency and fellowship training at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center. He is currently a tenured professor of neurology, Senior Vice Chair of Neurology, and Vice Dean of Community Health at Columbia's Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons. A stroke neurologist and community-based participatory researcher, he has led several NIH-funded research trials targeting stroke disparities. He is a well-published author, recipient of numerous national and international awards including the European Stroke Research Foundation Investigator of the Year award, Columbia University Outstanding Teacher of the Year award, and a National Humanism in Medicine Recognition from the Association of American Medical Colleges. Dr. Williams served on the Board of Directors for the Partnership of a Healthier America, a bipartisan nonprofit organization founded by former First Lady Michelle Obama. He co-founded Hip Hop Public Health with Hip Hop pioneer Doug E. Fresh, an award-winning nonprofit dedicated to building health literacy in America's urban schools.

DEREK DENNY-BROWN YOUNG NEUROLOGICAL SCHOLAR AWARD – NEUROSCIENTIST

The Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Award, recognizes early- to mid-career neurologists and neuroscientists. This award honors those neurologists and neuroscientists in the first 12 years of their career at the assistant/associate faculty (equivalent) level who have made outstanding basic or clinical scientific advances toward the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure of neurological diseases.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Evangelos Kiskinis, PhD
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

TDP-43 Loss of Function as a Convergent Driver of ALS Pathophysiology

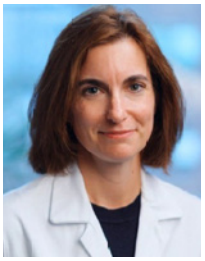
This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Evangelos Kiskinis, PhD, is a tenured associate professor in the Departments of Neurology and Neuroscience at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine where he also serves as Scientific Director of the Stem Cell Core Facility. He is also the Scientific Director of the Live Like Lou ALS Foundation and a scientific co-founder of NuCyRNA Therapeutics, a biotechnology company developing next-generation oligonucleotide therapeutics for neurological disease. He trained in developmental biology at Imperial College London and completed postdoctoral training in stem cell biology and neuroscience with Kevin Eggan at Harvard University and the Broad Institute.

Dr. Kiskinis' laboratory develops human induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC)-based models to investigate mechanisms of neuronal dysfunction in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and related neurological disorders. His work has provided key insights into convergent disease mechanisms in ALS, including TDP-43 dysfunction, RNA metabolism, neuronal hyperexcitability, nucleocytoplasmic transport defects, impaired proteostasis, and neuroimmune signaling. His studies contributed to one of the first iPSC-based therapeutic translation.

DEREK DENNY-BROWN YOUNG NEUROLOGICAL SCHOLAR AWARD - PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST BASIC

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM



Adrienne Boire, MD, PhD, FANA
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Inflammatory Signaling in the Leptomeninges

This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Adrienne Boire, MD, PhD, is the Geoffrey Beene Junior Faculty Chair at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. As a neuro-oncologist, she cares for patients with metastasis to the central nervous system (CNS), with particular focus on leptomeningeal metastasis. As a scientist, she runs a laboratory-based research program focused on the leptomeningeal space and the metastases that inhabit this interface between the central nervous system and the systemic circulation. Her team employs multi-omic analysis of human samples to capture communication between the brain and the body, and to identify cancer cell adaptations to the challenging microenvironment of the leptomeninges. Leveraging mouse models, in vitro modeling and classical biochemical techniques, the team uncovers the mechanistic implications of these discoveries to establish novel therapies for the prevention and treatment of leptomengingeal metastasis.

DEREK DENNY-BROWN YOUNG NEUROLOGICAL SCHOLAR AWARD - PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST CLINICAL

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Deanna Saylor, MD, MHS, FAAN, FANA
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Multiple Sclerosis in Africa: Changing Paradigms and Improving Diagnosis and Access to Care

This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Deanna Saylor, MD, MHS, FAAN, FANA, is an associate professor of neurology at the University of North Carolina with research interests including neuro-HIV, global neurology and implementation science. She lived full-time in Zambia as director of the first and only neurology post-graduate training program in Zambia from 2018-2026. She also led the development of the first stroke unit in the country, which opened in October 2023. She is chair of the ANA Global Engagement Committee.

2026 AWARDEES

DISTINGUISHED NEUROLOGY EDUCATOR AWARD

Established in 1996, the Distinguished Neurology Educator Award recognizes exceptional achievements in teaching neurology to residents and medical students. Its goal is to acknowledge and reward the contributions of gifted educators in the field of neurology.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Sashank Prasad, MD
University of Pennsylvania

This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Sashank Prasad, MD, is Chief of Neurology at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center and Professor of Clinical Neurology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He completed his undergraduate degree in English at Yale University, graduating with honors. He then earned his medical degree at Penn, where he also completed training in neurology and fellowships in neuro-ophthalmology and cognitive neurology.

Before returning to Penn, Dr. Prasad served as Vice Chair for Education in Neurology at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Associate Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School, and Program Director of the Harvard BWH/MGH Neurology Residency Program.

A nationally recognized clinician-educator, he has received more than 10 institutional teaching awards, as well as national recognition from the American Academy of Neurology for leadership in residency education.

Dr. Prasad is especially committed to teaching neurology through clinical cases, using patients' stories to illuminate anatomy, diagnosis and pathophysiology. He has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and is co-author of Adams and Victor's Principles of Neurology.

THE GRASS FOUNDATION—ANA AWARD IN NEUROSCIENCE

The Grass Foundation – ANA Award in Neuroscience, established in 2007, honors exceptional young investigators conducting research in basic or clinical neuroscience. Founded in 1955 by Albert and Ellen Grass, the Grass Foundation supports research and education in neuroscience, with a particular emphasis on early-career investigators.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Erin Conrad, MD, MA
University of Pennsylvania

The Interictal Network as a Window into Epilepsy

This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Erin Conrad, MD, MA, is an assistant professor of neurology at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine where she practices as a clinical epileptologist and directs a research program in quantitative EEG and brain stimulation. She completed her undergraduate training in physics, mathematics and French at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, followed by a master's degree in philosophy, politics, and economics of health at University College London and an MD at the University of Michigan. She completed neurology residency, an epilepsy fellowship and postdoctoral research at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, joining the faculty in 2022. Her research applies signal processing, network theory, machine learning and cortical stimulation to intracranial and scalp EEG data, with a focus on localizing seizure generators and improving outcomes for patients with drug-resistant epilepsy. Her work is supported by an NINDS K23 award and a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Award for Medical Scientists.

2026 AWARDEES

WOLFE RESEARCH PRIZE FOR IDENTIFYING NEW CAUSES OR NOVEL TREATMENT OF NEUROPATHY AND RELATED DISORDERS

The Wolfe Research Prize honors an outstanding investigator in the field of neuropathy or related disorders.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Stephan Zuchner, MD, PhD
University of Miami

Past, Present, and Future: The Role of Genomics in Elucidating Peripheral Neuropathies

This award will be presented during the Derek Denny-Brown Young Neurological Scholar Symposium.

Stephan Züchner, MD, PhD, is Professor of Human Genetics and Neurology in the role of Chief Genomics Officer at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. He received his degrees from the University RWTH Aachen, Germany, and an honorary doctoral degree from the Semmelweis Medical School in Budapest. His research interests are focused on identifying strong genetic variation associated with disease. His lab has been involved in identifying over 100 neurological disease genes, including MFN2, SORD, SARM1, RFC1, FGF14. He also leads the GENESIS genome database for CMT and other phenotypes. His team has recently developed machine learning tools that have successfully supported gene identification and the genomics-to-therapy concept, whereby progress in genomics will directly, and at times rapidly, lead to therapeutic options to be tested in clinical trials. He serves in leadership and advisory roles for ClinGen, Undiagnosed Diseases Network/Foundation (BoD), GENESIS Project Foundation (BoD), Inherited Neuropathy Consortium, Ataxia Global Initiative, Spastic Paraplegia Research Network, CMTAssociation, AllOfUs Research Program and Muscular Dystrophy Association.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 I 3:45 PM – 5:15 PM

Roya Edalatpour, MD
Johns Hopkins University

This award will be presented during the ANA-SEQUINS Global Neurology | SIG session.

Roya Edalatpour, MD, is a neurocritical care fellow at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, whose career reflects a deep commitment to advancing global health equity through clinical care, education and research. She earned her MD from Boston University School of Medicine, where she was inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society, and holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from The University of Texas at El Paso where she was inducted into the Tau Beta Pi Honor Society. She completed her neurology residency and chief residency at The University of Texas at Austin – Dell Medical School, earning Honors Distinction in Care Transformation. Dr. Edalatpour's passion for global health is most profoundly expressed through her sustained work in Eldoret, Kenya. Since 2023, she has led a global health initiative with AMPATH Kenya at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH), focused on adapting the NIHSS for use in Kenyan hospitals through medical education and cultural adaptation of clinical assessment tools. She has furthered this work by providing neurology consultations, outpatient care and bedside teaching to Kenyan medical students and residents at Moi University.

RAYMOND D. ADAMS LECTURESHIP AWARD

This lectureship was established in 2000 to honor Dr. Raymond D. Adams, emeritus Bullard Professor of Neuropathology at Harvard Medical School and emeritus Chief of Neurology Service at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026 I 8:45 AM – 9:15 AM

Ronald C. Petersen, MD, PhD, FANA
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Alzheimer's Disease 2026: Where Are We?

Ronald C. Petersen, MD, PhD, FANA, completed his PhD from the University of Minnesota and MD from Mayo Medical School. He completed an internship at Stanford University, residency in neurology at Mayo Clinic and a fellowship in behavioral neurology at Harvard Medical School/Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. He became a professor of neurology at Mayo in 1996, and in 2000 he was named the Cora Kanow Professor of Alzheimer's Disease Research and Mayo Clinic Distinguished Investigator in 2011. He is currently the Emeritus Director of the Mayo Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and the Director of the Mayo Clinic Study of Aging. He received the 2004 MetLife Award for Medical Research in Alzheimer's Disease and the 2005 Potamkin Prize for Research in Picks, Alzheimer's and Related Disorders of the American Academy of Neurology. In 2011, he was appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to serve as the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Research, Care and Services for the National Alzheimer's Disease Plan, and in 2014, he was appointed to the World Dementia Council by the UK government. He has authored over 1,500 papers on memory disorders, aging and Alzheimer's disease.

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MED LEARNING GROUP

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ABSTRACT REVIEWERS

We want to thank the experts who reviewed over 500 abstracts submitted in 18 categories for inclusion in this year's poster hall. They performed outstanding service for the ANA. Based on these ratings and comments, authors of 30 impressive studies were selected to give short oral presentations of their abstracts during both Plenary and the SIG Series sessions.

Ahmed Abbas, MD
SIU-School of Medicine

Ahmed Abdelhak, MD, University of California, San Francisco

Aisha Abdulrazaq, MD, University of Minnesota

Jayant Acharya, MD, FANA, SIU School of Medicine

Vinita Acharya, MD, FANA, Penn State University

Anwar Ahmed, MD, Advent Health Orlando

Allen Aksamit, MD, FANA, Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Shaista Alam, MD, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

M.A. Aleem, MD, DM (Neuro), FRCP (Glasgow), FANA, FAAN, ABC Hospital

Yagiz Altun, MD, PhD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Muhammad Alvi, MD, FANA, West Virginia University

Beau Ances, MD, PhD, FANA
Washington University in St. Louis

Piero Antuono, MD, Medical College of Wisconsin

Francesa Bagnato, MD, PhD
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Ece Bayram, MD, PhD, University of Colorado

David Benavides, MD, PhD, University of Maryland School of Medicine

Kerstin Betterman, MD, PhD, FANA, FAAN, Penn State University

Pavan Bhargava, MD, FAAN, FANA
Johns Hopkins University

Rohini Bhole, MD, MS, FANA, FAAN
University of Virginia

Craig Blackstone, MD, PhD, FANA
Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard Medical School

Thomas Bleck, MD, MCCM
Northwestern University

Don Cameron, BSc (HON), MD, FRCP(C), CSCN, FANA, FAHA, Dr. D. A. Cameron Inc.

S. Thomas Carmichael, MD, PhD, FANA, University of California, Los Angeles

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