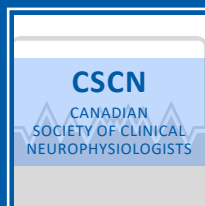
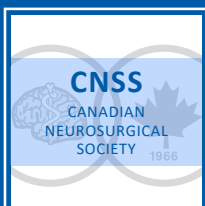


CANADIAN NEUROLOGICAL SCIENCES FEDERATION

# NEURO NEWS

[cnsf.org](http://cnsf.org)



ANNUAL EDITION 2025

# CNSF Vision

The improved wellbeing of children and adults with diseases, disorders and injuries of the nervous system and the prevention of these conditions.

## CNSF Mission

To support the neuroscience professions in Canada, and particularly those members of the CNSF Societies, through education, advocacy, membership services and research promotion.

### Notes about the Mission:

- **Education** includes the annual CNSF Congress, The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences (CJNS), and all other continuing professional development (CPD) activities.
- **Membership Services** include services delivered to the constituent Societies of the CNSF and their individual members, the research to identify member needs, and other related activities.
- **Advocacy** includes activities such as building public awareness about diseases, disorders and injuries of the nervous system, and advocacy for improved public policy and increased medical research. Such advocacy may be direct or in collaboration with other organizations.

### Strategic Priorities

To ensure the achievement of its Vision and Mission, the CNSF has [three strategic priorities](#): Continuing Professional Development, Membership Value, and Advocacy. The **goals** of these three priorities are noted below. Responsibility for expanding and putting these elements into operation has been assigned to one or more of the CNSF constituent societies, committees, or staff.

1. **Continuing Professional Development:** The **goal** of this priority is to review, refine, improve and expand the overall CNSF CPD plan to meet the evolving needs of Society members while continuing to focus on the CNSF's priorities, i.e. the Congress and the CJNS Journal.
2. **Membership Value:** The **goal** is to build a strong organization that provides value to the constituent Societies and their membership.
3. **Advocacy:** The **goal** is to increase awareness of the impact and burden of diseases, disorders and injuries of the nervous system in Canada on affected individuals, their families, and communities, and the health-care system. The targets of this priority are the policymakers at all levels of government, the general public and affiliated health care providers.

[cnsf.org/about-cnsf/governance/strategic-priorities](https://cnsf.org/about-cnsf/governance/strategic-priorities)

## CNSF Values

An organization's values convey those non-negotiable elements in how the mission is implemented in pursuit of the vision. Values mean that outcomes are not the only thing that matters – how outcomes are achieved is also important. Success is not only determined through outcomes, but also through conduct and approach.

**Excellence in Education:** Continuing professional development is a cornerstone of the success of the individual practitioner, the profession, and the member societies. Accordingly, all CNSF educational efforts must reflect excellence in their quality, relevance and delivery.

**Representative and Inclusive:** The CNSF is a Federation of Societies representing diverse and collegial medical professionals with a common focus on diseases, disorders, and injuries of the nervous system. Accordingly, the CNSF must reflect and engage these Societies and their members in how it works and what it does.

**A Strong and Effective Voice:** The well-being of individuals with diseases, disorders, and injuries of the nervous system and, where possible, the prevention of these conditions, comprise an important vision. The work of the member societies and their respective members is also important. The CNSF must advocate with a strong and effective voice knowing that its mission and vision have unique and important value to society.

**Responsible Stewardship:** The CNSF's financial resources are secured from the dues paid by the professionals of its constituent Societies and from commercial sponsors who support its vision and mission. The CNSF has an obligation to the professionals of its constituent Societies to manage these resources wisely, maintain good governance practices, and conform to the standards established by the responsible agencies (e.g. governments, the RCP&SC, provincial and territorial regulatory bodies).

[www.cnsf.org/about-cnsf](https://www.cnsf.org/about-cnsf)

# Message from the CNSF President



Welcome to Ottawa and the 2025 CNSF Congress. As always, the annual Congress has great new content and learning opportunities, combined with presentations of groundbreaking clinical science. This year, there is a pre-conference on neuromuscular ultrasound which was much anticipated and fully subscribed. We hope that you find time in the schedule to reconnect and re-establish old friendships.

Many thanks to Joe Megyesi, chair of the Scientific Program Committee. He continues to produce excellent programming. The 2025 Congress materials, including the program, session outlines, and course notes, are available online throughout the meeting. Be sure to download the CNSF Congress app to your phone to access all electronic media and program content.

I would like to thank all CNSF Societies, and the CNSF Executive and Board, for their engagement and accountability in moving the CNSF forward. The federation exists as a function of all six societies, and our objective is to see all our member societies flourish. This structure makes the CNSF amenable to involvement of other groups and we are having discussions with others in the clinical neurosciences (e.g. Canadian Association of Neuropathology, Canadian League Against Epilepsy, Canadian Movement Disorders Society, and others) about formalizing ties and activity with the CNSF. The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences (CJNS) (Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Tejas Sankar) continues to prosper, and I recommend to members to engage with

the journal as a reviewer, as an editorial board member, as a social media ambassador, and as an author. Send your work to the CJNS for review and possible publication.

Gayle Burnett has joined the CNSF as CEO and is rapidly moving our agenda forward. The first step has been to work on our governance and structure, a process which is coming to fruition and will set us in good stead for the future. Looking to the rest of 2025, and into 2026, we are working towards ongoing educational, advocacy, and other activities through the year, and to our annual Congress which will be in Banff in 2026. The current hope is that it will be combined with the Canadian Stroke Congress, meaning that we will likely exceed 1000 delegates for the combined set of meetings.

We will increasingly make the CNSF the voice of clinical neuroscience in critical areas for advocacy, such as health workforce planning, remuneration, insurance, patient access

to new drugs, technologies, procedures, and more. Finally, thanks to the CNSF Secretariat for their flexibility and collaborative spirit in a year of transition, and who are frankly essential to the ongoing success of each of our societies and the CNSF.



**Michael D Hill, MD FRCP**  
President, CNSF

## CSNF Online


Visit the CNSF Website: [cnsf.org](https://cnsf.org)


- Quick access to Webinars, Neuro Career listings, CJNS Journal, Congress info and the latest news
- Keep up with society initiatives and highlights by visiting your Society page
- Visit the new Advocacy Hub and Neuro Surveys pages for Members

**We value our members' input and support – thank you!**

 Follow us on X:  
[x.com/CNSFNeuroLinks](https://x.com/CNSFNeuroLinks)

 Like us on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/CNSFNeuroLinks](https://facebook.com/CNSFNeuroLinks)

 Follow us on Instagram:  
[instagram.com/cnsfneurolinks](https://instagram.com/cnsfneurolinks)

 Follow us on LinkedIn:  
[linkedin.com/company/canadian-neurological-sciences-federation](https://linkedin.com/company/canadian-neurological-sciences-federation)





# CNSF at a Glance

- The CNSF's major priorities, as determined by the CNSF Board's Strategic Planning document are: Continuing Professional Development (through the Congress and the CJNS journal); Advocacy and Membership retention and growth.
- The CNSF has four main sources of revenue: Membership dues, Congress registration fees, Journal subscription revenue and Industry sponsorship. All four are vital to our continued success and growth.
- It is very important that our Members renew their membership each year and we hope that each member can recruit others to join. The [benefits of membership](#) page is included in this Neuro|News and a Power Point presentation on "[The CNSF and why you should join](#)" is on our website. [cnsf.org](#)
- The Federation has six Member Societies and continues to take steps to grow its Neuroscience portfolio.
- The CNSF has five staff, Donna, Nicole, Kasandra, Dara, and Gayle.
- We 'contract' services to third parties such as Intertask Conferences for the Congress and Cambridge University Press for the CJNS Journal.

[cnsf.org/about-cnsf/membership/benefits-of-cnsf-membership](https://cnsf.org/about-cnsf/membership/benefits-of-cnsf-membership)

[cnsf.org/media/oq2lnex2/the-cnsf-why-you-should-join\\_2023-03-28.pdf](https://cnsf.org/media/oq2lnex2/the-cnsf-why-you-should-join_2023-03-28.pdf)

[www.cnsf.org](https://www.cnsf.org)



## 2026 CNSF Congress Banff, Alberta

Monday, May 25 – Friday, May 29

Join your colleagues at the  
**Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel  
and Conference Centre.**  
Hope to see you there!





# Message from the CNSF CEO

It is with deep gratitude and great enthusiasm that I welcome you to this year's Congress—my first as CEO of the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation.

This annual gathering represents the very best of our community: a shared commitment to advancing care, deepening knowledge, and supporting one another in the ever-evolving field of clinical neuroscience. I am honoured to join you in this work and inspired by the legacy of collaboration and excellence that defines the CNSF.

A Congress of this caliber is only possible through the leadership and dedication of many. I want to extend heartfelt thanks to our Board and Executive Committee for their guidance and vision — and to our staff team whose professionalism, commitment and tireless behind-the-scenes efforts have brought this Congress to life. I also gratefully acknowledge our dedicated Scientific Planning Committee, engaged Societies, valued contractors, generous industry sponsors, and our colleagues in the exhibit hall for their essential contributions. Your support and partnership are invaluable—not only in making this Congress a success, but in helping us build a stronger future for neurological sciences in Canada.

This Congress is not only an opportunity to learn and exchange ideas but also a moment to celebrate the momentum we are building together. I believe deeply in our shared purpose: advancing care and therapeutics to impact outcomes in clinical neurosciences.

I look forward to meeting many of you throughout the Congress, listening to your insights, and learning how we can continue to strengthen and support the clinical neurosciences in Canada. Together, I am confident that we will shape a future defined by innovation, impact, and community.



Enjoy the Congress, and thank you for being part of this important gathering.

Warm regards,

**Gayle Burnett**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation

## 2025 CNSF Congress in Ottawa



**Congress  
Schedule**



# CNSF Board of Directors 2024–2025



**Michael D Hill**

CNSF President  
CNS, CSC Member



**Kesh Reddy**

CNSF Past President  
CNSS Member



**Pat McDonald**

CNSF Vice-President  
CNSR Member



**Cecil Hahn**

CNSF Vice-President  
CACN, CSCN Member



**Fraser Moore**

CNSF Vice-President  
CNS, CSCN Member



**Donatella Tampieri**

CNSF Vice-President  
CNSR Member



**Christian Stapf**

CNSF Vice-President  
CSC Member



**Alice Schabas**

CNS President



**Pardh Chivukula**

CNS Vice-President



**John Wong**

CNSS President



**Gwynedd Pickett**

CNSS Vice-President



**Steven Baker**

CSCN President



**Marcus Ng**

CSCN Vice-President



**Michael Esser**

CACN President



**Sunita Venkateswaran**

CACN Vice-President



**Matthias Schmidt**

CSNR Vice-President



**Laila Alshafai**

CSNR Vice-President



**Andrew Demchuk**

CSC Chair



# CNSF Board of Directors 2024–2025



**Ashfaq Shuaib**  
CSC Member



**Joseph Megyesi**  
CNSF At-Large



**Steven Peters**  
CNSF At-Large



**Cian O'Kelly**  
CNSF PDC Chair  
CNSS Member



**Joseph Megyesi**  
CNSF SPC Chair  
CNSS Member



**Tejas Sankar**  
CJNS  
Editor-In-Chief  
CNSS Member



**Ian Fleetwood**  
CNSF Membership  
Committee Chair  
CNSS Member



**Draga Jichici**  
CNSF CPGC Chair  
CNS Member



**Gayle Burnett**  
CNSF  
Chief Executive officer



**Michael D Hill**  
CNSF Advocacy  
Committee Chair  
CNS, CSC Member



**Darek Sokol-Randell**  
CNS  
Sr. Resident Rep



**Alex Vu**  
CNS  
Jr. Resident Rep



**Sam Molot-Tokor**  
CNSS  
Sr. Resident Rep



**Eva Liu**  
CNSS  
Jr. Resident Rep



**Dakota Peacock**  
CACN  
Sr. Resident Rep



**Gabrielle Herman**  
CACN  
Jr. Resident Rep



**Jacky Chow**  
CSNR  
Resident Rep



# 2024–2025 Society Boards of Directors and Committee Reps

The Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation (CNSF) is comprised of member Societies, representing different specialties of the Neurosciences. Each society has a volunteer Board of Directors.

Special thanks to these dedicated volunteers that served in 2024-2025. Their input of time and experience contributes to the success of their individual Society as well as collectively to CNSF initiatives.

Board member rosters will be updated after each society's AGM in June.



Canadian  
Neurological Society



Société  
canadienne de neurologie

## Canadian Neurological Society (CNS)

CNS President ..... Alice Schabas  
CNS Vice President ..... Pardh Chivukula  
CNS Secretary Treasurer ..... Andrew Mattar  
CNS Past President ..... Steven Peters  
Director from British Columbia ..... Alex Henri-Bhargava  
Director from Alberta ..... Brian Buck  
Director from Saskatchewan ..... Andrew Kirk  
Director from Manitoba ..... Claudia Candale  
Director from Ontario ..... Courtney Casserly  
Director from Quebec ..... Michelle-Lee Jones  
Director from Nova Scotia ..... Alby Richard  
Director from Newfoundland ..... Caitlin Tarlton  
Director and CNSF CEO ..... Linda Magnusson  
Residents Representatives ..... Gayle Burnett  
Residents Representatives ..... Darek Sokol-Randell and Alex Vu (Jr)

### CNS Representative(s) on:

WFN Representative ..... Andrew Kirk  
CNSF PDC Committee ..... Alex Henri-Bhargava and Resident Reps  
CNSF SPC Committee ..... Gerald Pfeffer, Draga Jichici, Veronica Bruno  
and Resident Reps  
CNSF Membership Committee ..... Courtney Casserly, Michael D Hill  
and Resident Reps  
CNSF Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee ..... Draga Jichici (Chair)  
CNSF Advocacy Committee ..... Michael D Hill (Chair), Linda Magnusson  
CNSF Board of Directors ..... Alice Schabas, Pardh Chivukula  
and Resident Reps  
CNSF Executive Committee ..... Michael D Hill (CNSF President)



The Canadian Neurosurgical Society  
Société canadienne de neurochirurgie

## Canadian Neurosurgical Society (CNSS)

CNSS President ..... John Wong  
CNSS Vice President ..... Gwynedd Pickett  
CNSS Secretary Treasurer ..... David Steven  
CNSS Past President ..... Dhany Charest  
Director from British Columbia ..... Ian Fleetwood  
Director from Alberta ..... Vivek Mehta  
Director from Saskatchewan ..... Luke Hnenny  
Director from Manitoba ..... Colin Kazina  
Director from Ontario ..... OPEN  
Director from Quebec ..... Louis Crevier  
Director from New Brunswick ..... Aaron Robichaud  
Director from Nova Scotia ..... Sean Christie  
Director from Newfoundland & Labrador ..... Roger Avery  
Director and CNSF CEO ..... Gayle Burnett  
Residents Representatives ..... Sam Molot-Toker and Eva Liu (Jr)

### CNSS Representative(s) on:

CNSS Choosing Wisely Campaign ..... Gwynedd Pickett  
CNSF PDC Committee ..... Cian O'Kelly (Chair), and Resident Reps  
CNSF SPC Committee ..... Joseph Megyesi (Chair), and Resident Reps  
CNSF Membership Committee ..... Ian Fleetwood, and Resident Reps  
CNSF Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee ..... Joseph Megyesi  
Tejas Sankar  
CNSF Advocacy Committee ..... Pat MacDonald  
CNSF Board of Directors ..... John Wong, Gwynedd Pickett  
and Resident Reps  
CNSF Executive Committee ..... Pat McDonald (CNSF VP)

## Canadian Society of Clinical Neurophysiologists (CSCN)

CSCN President.....	Steve Baker
CSCN Vice President.....	Marcus Ng
CSCN Secretary Treasurer.....	Christine Stables
CSCN Past President.....	Juan Pablo Appendino
EEG Section Chair.....	Michelle-Lee Jones, Robyn Whitney
EEG Section Secretary.....	Lauren Sham
EEG Chief Examiner.....	Cecil Hahn
EMG Section Chair.....	Katie Beadon
EMG Section Secretary.....	Adrian Opala
EMG Chief Examiner.....	Steve McNeil
Director and CNSF CEO.....	Gayle Burnett

### CSCN Representative(s) on:

CNSF PDC Committee.....	Amokrane Chebini
CNSF SPC Committee.....	Michelle Mezei (EMG), Michelle-Lee Jones (EEG)
CNSF Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee.....	JP Appendino Steve Baker
CNSF Advocacy Committee.....	Steve Baker, Fraser Moore
CNSF Board of Directors.....	Steve Baker, Marcus Ng
CNSF Executive Committee.....	Fraser Moore (CNSF VP)

## Canadian Association of Child Neurology (CACN)

CACN President.....	Michael Esser
CACN Vice President.....	Sunita Venkateswaran
CACN Secretary Treasurer.....	Anita Datta
CACN Past President.....	Michelle Demos
Director from Western Canada.....	Colin Wilbur
Director from Central Canada.....	Samantha Marin
Director from Eastern Canada.....	David Dufresne
Director and CNSF CEO.....	Gayle Burnett
Residents Representatives.....	Dakota Peacock, Gabrielle Herman (Jr)

### CACN Representative(s) on:

CACN Education Committee.....	David Callen (Chair) Sunita Venkateswaran, Aleksandra Mineyko
CACN Community Practice Pediatric Neurologist.....	Dragos Nita Wendy Stewart
CPSP.....	Elizabeth Donner
CNSF PDC Committee.....	Maryam Nouri, and Resident Reps
CNSF SPC Committee.....	Hugh McMillan, David Callen, Katie Siu and Resident Reps
CNSF Membership Committee.....	David Callen, and Resident Reps
CNSF Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee.....	Thilinie Rajapakse
CNSF Advocacy Committee.....	Elizabeth Donner, Natarie Liu, Stephanie DeGasperis
CNSF Board of Directors.....	Michael Esser, Sunita Venkateswaran
CNSF Executive Committee.....	Cecil Hahn (CNSF VP)

## Canadian Society of Neuroradiology (CSNR)

CSNR President.....	Matthias Schmidt
CSNR Vice President.....	Laila Alshafai
CSNR Secretary Treasurer.....	Jai Shankar
CSNR Past President.....	Rob Sevic
Director from Manitoba.....	Nima Kashani
Director from Ontario.....	Timo Krings
Director from Ontario.....	William Miller
Director and CNSF CEO.....	Gayle Burnett
Residents Representative.....	Jacky Chow

### CSNR Representative(s) on:

CSNR Social Media.....	Carmen Parra-Fariñas
CSNR Webinar Series.....	Jai Shankar, Carmen Parra-Fariñas
CSNR CING.....	Donatella Tampieri, Jai Shankar
CSNR ASNR.....	Timo Krings
CSNR Canadian Neuroradiology Course CNRC.....	Timo Krings
CSNR CAR.....	William Miller
CNSF PDC Committee.....	Jai Shankar and Resident Rep
CNSF SPC Committee.....	Jai Shankar, Laila Alshafai, Manohar Shroff and Resident Rep
CNSF Membership Committee.....	Carmen Parra-Fariñas and Resident Rep
CNSF Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee.....	Donatella Tampieri, Kathleen Jacobs
CNSF Advocacy Committee.....	William Miller, Jai Shankar
CNSF Board of Directors.....	Matthias Schmidt, Laila Alshafai
CNSF Executive Committee.....	Donatella Tampieri (CNSF VP)

## Canadian Stroke Consortium (CSC)

Chair.....	Andrew Demchuk
Past Chair.....	Mike Sharma
Board Member.....	Dylan Blacquiere
Board Member.....	Leanne Casaubon
Board Member.....	Dar Dowlatshahi
Board Member.....	Laura Gioia
Board Member.....	Tom Jeerakathil
Board Member.....	Maggie Moores
Board Member.....	Kanjana Perera
Board Member.....	Maher Saqqur
Board Member.....	Alexander Thiel
Board Member.....	Aleksander Tkach
Board Member.....	Lily Wenya Zhou

### CSC Representative(s) on:

CNSF SPC Committee.....	Brett Graham, Christine Hawkes, Mahesh Kate
CNSF Clinical Practice Guidelines.....	Christian Stapf
CNSF Advocacy Committee.....	Regan Cooley, Dylan Blacquiere
CNSF Board Member.....	Ashfaq Shuaib (CSC Member)
CNSF Executive Committee.....	Christian Stapf (CNSF VP)

# Benefits of CNSF Membership

## Our Member Societies

CNSF members belong to one, or more, of our Societies:



**Canadian Neurological Society (CNS)** [cnsf.org/cns/about-cns](https://cnsf.org/cns/about-cns)

**Annual General Meeting:** Tuesday, June 10 at 4:15 pm



**Canadian Neurosurgical Society (CNSS)** [cnsf.org/cnss/about-cnss](https://cnsf.org/cnss/about-cnss)

**Annual General Meeting:** Wednesday, June 11 at 4:30 pm



**Canadian Association of Child Neurology (CACN)** [cnsf.org/cacn/about-cacn](https://cnsf.org/cacn/about-cacn)

**Annual General Meeting:** Wednesday, June 11 at 4:30 pm



**Canadian Society of Neuroradiology (CSNR)** [cnsf.org/csnr/about-csnr](https://cnsf.org/csnr/about-csnr)

**Annual General Meeting:** Wednesday, June 11 at 4:30 pm



**Canadian Society of Clinical Neurophysiologists (CSCN)** [cnsf.org/cscn/about-cscn](https://cnsf.org/cscn/about-cscn)

**Annual General Meeting:** Wednesday, June 11 at 6:00 pm



**Canadian Stroke Consortium (CSC)** [cnsf.org/csc/about-csc](https://cnsf.org/csc/about-csc)

## Membership in the Community of Canadian Clinical Neuroscientists

The community of clinical neurologists, neurosurgeons, pediatric neurologists, neurophysiologists and neuroradiologists is a robust and growing family that has made a long-standing, international, and ongoing contribution to clinical neuroscience. The community provides continuing medical education for its members, teaching for residents, students and clinical fellows. There is strong clinical and discovery-based research in Canada.

Networking in this group provides for collaboration across the country, for mutual learning and the opportunity for training (e.g., fellowships).

## Congress

Our Federation, assisted by the Professional Development and the Scientific Program Committees, hosts a Canadian Congress geared towards the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) learning needs of Neurologists, Neurosurgeons, Pediatric Neurologists, Neurophysiologists, Neuroradiologists and Neuroscientists.

Our Congress is an accredited learning activity; therefore, you earn Maintenance of Certification (MOC) credits.

Gather with your colleagues and friends from across the country.

Learn, Mentor, Share, Teach, Collaborate, Advocate.

**Members attend the [CNSF Congress](#) at a generously discounted registration fee.**

## Society Prize Awards

**Members have the opportunity to win valuable [society prizes](#) by submitting an 'Abstract' to the Congress as well as an 'Expanded Abstract' to the society competitions.**

There are multiple first place prizes available to Junior Members or a Full Member within two years of receiving their Royal College certificate. Each valued at approximately **\$2500**.

Winners will be given a designated time to present their work at the CNSF Congress. Prize winners' will be announced in the Neuro|News newsletter, in the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences and on the CNSF website.

**\$500** second place prizes and additional subsidiary prizes may be awarded.

## Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences

The [Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences \(CJNS\)](#) is the official publication of our member Societies. The CJNS journal is an internationally recognized, peer reviewed medical journal, published through Cambridge University Press – Cambridge Core.

Members receive an online subscription with exclusive access to the most current year of publication.

CNSF Members submitting an article to the CJNS receive GOLD open access at half price.



## Not a member of the CNSF?

- ▶ **Would you like to become a member of one of the [CNSF National Specialty Societies](#)?**
- ▶ **Would you like to take advantage of the [Benefits of CNSF Membership](#)?**

Download the appropriate society application form by choosing your society of interest or contact CNSF Member Services at: [membership@cnsf.org](mailto:membership@cnsf.org)

## Become a Member | CNSF

[cnsf.org/about-cnsf/membership/become-a-member](https://cnsf.org/about-cnsf/membership/become-a-member)

## The CNSF & Why You Should Join

[cnsf.org/media/oq2lnex2/the-cnsf-why-you-should-join\\_2023-03-28.pdf](https://cnsf.org/media/oq2lnex2/the-cnsf-why-you-should-join_2023-03-28.pdf)

## Member Only Information

**Members receive CNSF Neuro|News bi-monthly electronic newsletter featuring:**

- Society and Federation news
- Congress details and updates
- Job postings
- Advocacy items
- Messages from the CNSF and Society Presidents
- CJNS Journal Highlights
- Webinars and other CNSF CME Opportunities
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities

**Access to additional information on the [CNSF website](#).**

Our website contains the latest information for our National Specialty Societies and all that the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation has to offer. Members receive the added benefit of 'member only' information such as CJNS journal access, past webinar recordings, quick access to Society driven initiatives, information, and resource links.

## Society Initiatives

Members receive all 'benefits' outlined in the sections above as well as any additional benefits provided by their individual Society, such as:

- CNSS and CACN Lifetime Achievement Awards
- CSCN EMG and EEG Certification exams
- CACN Grand Rounds
- CNS National Neurology Rounds
- CSC and CSNR Webinars and past recordings

## Residents

PGY1 residents can apply for complimentary first-year membership, paid by their member Society. Membership dues for subsequent years of residency are only \$80/year.

Congress registration fees for resident members is only \$250. This registration fee includes access to all Congress courses/sessions, course notes, luncheons, breaks and the Residents Social.

CNSF Society Resident Representatives help organize a resident social event at the Congress. This is a major networking event for trainees to connect with attending physicians from a wide variety of backgrounds and subspecialties.

The newest benefit for our Junior members are the virtual CNSF practice written exams for PGY4 members, and the virtual practice OSCE exams for PGY5 members. These were created to assist residents preparing for their Royal College certification exams.

Resident members receive all 'benefits' outlined in the sections above as well as any additional benefits provided by their individual Society, such as CNS and CACN Canadian Leaders in Neurology interviews for publication in the CJNS and the CNS and CACN Mentorship Programs. Resident representatives from both the CNS and CACN have also created listings for Canadian fellowship opportunities.

The CNS, CNSS, CACN and CSNR, all have resident representatives that sit on the CNSF Professional Development and Scientific Program Committees and attend the CNSF Board of Directors meetings, as well as their respective Society Board meetings.

Resident members are welcome to contact their society resident representative with any issues, concerns, or ideas that they would like to see discussed.



## Member Services

Available year round to assist with questions regarding your Society, your Membership or CNSF services.

[membership@cnsf.org](mailto:membership@cnsf.org)

▶ [cnsf.org/about-cnsf/membership/benefits-of-cnsf-membership](https://cnsf.org/about-cnsf/membership/benefits-of-cnsf-membership)



# <sup>Pr</sup>pdp-Levetiracetam

## ORAL SOLUTION 100 mg/mL

An adjuvant therapy for your pediatric epilepsy patients

### Preferred formulation over tablets for infants and children

pdp-LevETIRAcetam oral solution is the preferred formulation over tablets for use in infants and children<sup>1</sup>

- Under the age of 6 years, or under 25 kg,
- Unable to swallow tablets



pdp-LevETIRAcetam (levetiracetam oral solution) is indicated in pediatric patients as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of partial-onset seizures with or without secondary generalization in adolescents, children and infants from 1 month of age with epilepsy.<sup>1</sup>

Consult the Product Monograph at

[https://pendopharm.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/pdp-LEVETIRACETAM-pm\\_EN.pdf?x32799](https://pendopharm.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/pdp-LEVETIRACETAM-pm_EN.pdf?x32799) for indications, contraindications, warnings and precautions, adverse reactions, drug interactions, and dosage and administration. The Product Monograph is also available by calling us at 1-888-550-6060.

1. pdp-LevETIRAcetam Product Monograph. PENDOPHARM, a division of Pharmascience Inc. December 15, 2021.

# NEURO CAREERS



- Looking for a new career opportunity?
- Looking to advertise a position at your center?

## Check out Neuro Careers!

Neuro Careers is an online, classified advertising resource on the CNSF website and linked on the CJNS page in Cambridge Core. Direct links to each classified ad are included in the CNSF members' newsletter, the Neuro|News.

Classified ads are posted online for 2 months, for less than \$500. They open as a full-color PDF complete with graphics and company logos. In addition to our public web postings, we also share on our social media sites.

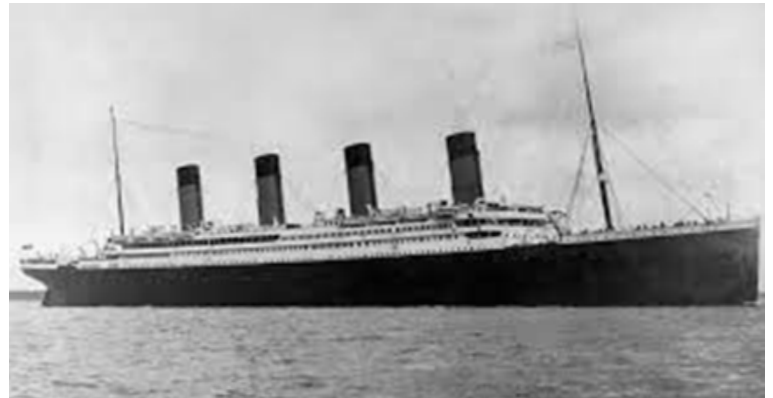
Neuro Careers is a great way to advertise job opportunities and fellowships to Neurologists, Neurosurgeons, Pediatric Neurologists, Neurophysiologists, Neuroradiologists and related health care professionals.

To find out more, contact [info@cnsf.org](mailto:info@cnsf.org).

[www.cnsf.org/neuro-careers](http://www.cnsf.org/neuro-careers)

## CNSF 2025 Congress Host Hotel The Fairmont Château Laurier, Ottawa's Castle

Did you  
know?



Fairmont Hotels have always been known for their beautiful interior design and furnishings, but do you know what happened to the original European dining room furniture that was ordered for the Fairmont Château Laurier Hotel?

In the early 1900s, the beautiful Château Laurier Hotel, was under construction. The managers of the grand hotel had ordered a shipment of exquisite furniture and fittings from London, England.

The furniture was loaded onto the ship with great care; however, the ship was the RMS Titanic. The Titanic was destroyed when it hit an iceberg and sank in the North Atlantic Ocean on April 15, 1912. Many lives were lost, and the hotel's beautiful furniture went down with the ship.



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(cenobamate tablets)

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XCOPRI is indicated as adjunctive therapy in the management of partial-onset seizures\* in adults with epilepsy who are not satisfactorily controlled with conventional therapy.<sup>1</sup>

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\* Partial-onset seizures are now referred to as focal seizures per the International League Against Epilepsy.<sup>2</sup>

**References:** 1. XCOPRI Product Monograph. Paladin Pharma Inc. May 15, 2024. 2. Fisher RS, Cross JH, French JA, et al. Operational classification of seizure types by the International League Against Epilepsy: Position Paper of the ILAE Commission for Classification and Terminology. *Epilepsia*. 2017;58(4):522-530.

XCOPRI<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of SK Biopharmaceuticals Co., Ltd.  
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April/2025



# Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation's 2025 Distinguished Service Award

## Dan Morin

2025 recipient, Awarded Posthumously



**Dan Morin**  
**CNSF CEO,**  
**2016-2024**

This is an award given to a senior member of the CNSF who has made an outstanding, notable, or special contribution to the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation, and to one or more of the Federation's Societies and/or the CJNS (Journal); either through participation in the CNSF's committees, involvement in the Congress, the performance of administrative duties, or involvement in promoting the CNSF and its member societies.



This year, the CNSF Distinguished Service Award is awarded in memoriam to Dan Morin, the former CEO of the CNSF. Dan was originally from Saskatchewan, ultimately settling in Calgary. He took on the CNSF later in his career and was the long-standing CEO originally hired by Mark Hamilton (Neurosurgery, CNSS), providing continuity and service to Canadian Neurosciences over 18 years. His presence was steadying and always in the background for our federation. Dan was sometimes gruff but had a heart of gold and always put the interests of the CNSF first. He also served for many years as the chair of the Neurological Health Charities Canada (NHCC), a coalition of organizations that represent people with neurological diseases, disorders and injuries in Canada.

Dan passed away of metastatic prostate cancer and had wonderful palliative care at the end of his life. The federation achieved many milestones under Dan's tenure, and we will always remember his time as CEO fondly and with thanks. It is wonderful that we can formally recognize his achievements on our behalf.

View previous recipients at:

[cnsf.org/about-cnsf/distinguished-service-award](https://cnsf.org/about-cnsf/distinguished-service-award)

**Presented on behalf of the CNSF Executive and Board, CNSF Members, and the Secretariat.**

# 2025 CNSS Lifetime Achievement Award (Charles Drake Medal)



Dr. J. Max Findlay, 2025 recipient



After graduating from medical school at the University of British Columbia in 1982, I interned at St. Michael's hospital in Toronto and then trained in neurosurgery at the University of Toronto, which, courtesy of Professor Hudson, included a very memorable rotation in South Africa. Starting out in Toronto's Gallie Surgery Program I had little experience (in fact none) in neurosurgery, but I quickly became enamored with the intellectual, physical and technical challenges of the specialty, along with the many colorful and wonderful surgeon teachers in the division. I would later write about these neurosurgical heroes in historical papers, tributes and memorials.

Gravitating towards the excitement of aneurysm surgery and with the expectation that residents pursue research, I applied to Dr. Bryce Weir's experimental surgery laboratory at the University of Alberta in Edmonton with a novel idea about

the prevention of post subarachnoid hemorrhage cerebral vasospasm. I eventually obtained a PhD in Experimental Surgery at the U of A in 1999, a very rewarding time spent in the lab.

My intent was to get back to Toronto, but I was offered a general neurosurgical practice in Edmonton, with a clinical and scientific focus on cerebrovascular neurosurgery, especially carotid artery surgery and cerebral aneurysms. My partner at the time, and now wife Sheila (who I had suggested stay home in Toronto for my "one year" on the prairie, but she came along anyways) had decided Edmonton was becoming home, with an appealing proximity to the Rocky Mountains. Bryce was interested in me bringing carotid surgery to his division, along with cervical and lumbar microdiscectomies, at that time new to Alberta, and helping him out on the aneurysm and microvascular decompression operations.

I went to work, clinically and academically, and have published to date 88 peer reviewed papers, 36 invited papers and chapters, including chapters on cerebral vasospasm in two editions (including the most recent) of *Youmans and Winn Neurological Surgery*. I have served on the editorial board of both neuroscience and neurosurgical journals, including *Neurosurgery*, *Stroke*, and the *Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences*, the latter as an associate editor.

I have been truly honored to be an invited speaker and visiting professor across our country and around the world.

I have held a number of both local and national leadership positions, including president of the Canadian Neurosurgical Society, president of the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation, and I have been a long-time member of the Royal College Examinations Board, including almost ten years as Chief Examiner. I was the creator of the "Canadian National Practice Exam" for neurosurgery and administered it annually for training programs across the country since 2005.

At home I have been a neurosurgery program and divisional director, and more recently a site chief at the University Hospital in Edmonton, positions thankfully taken over by younger and far more competent people long ago.

**It is a very great honour to be even considered for this lifetime achievement award from my society and my peers, much less receive it.**

**I extend my heartfelt thanks to my neurosurgical colleagues, past and present, who have made this award possible.**



The Canadian Neurosurgical Society

Société canadienne de neurochirurgie

View previous recipients at: [cnsf.org/cnss/about-cnss/lifetime-achievement-award](https://cnsf.org/cnss/about-cnss/lifetime-achievement-award)



# 2024 CACN – Henry Dunn Lifetime Achievement Award

## Dr. Simon Levin, 2025 recipient

Dr. Levin has inspired many throughout his incredible career in paediatric neurology. He is a true ambassador in the field, and an outstanding educator, introducing neurology to countless medical students and paediatric residents. He demonstrates passion in his work and compassion towards his patients. Dr. Levin is a physician with incredible clinical acumen and even on a tough day, he maintains both his sense of humor and his professional composure.

Born and raised in Bulawayo, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), Dr. Levin did his undergraduate medical training at the Godfrey Huggins School of Medicine at the University of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). His postgraduate training in Paediatrics and Paediatric Neurology was done at Birmingham Children's Hospital, the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh and Guy's Hospital, London. As a research fellow in Edinburgh, he examined the pathophysiology of hydrocephalus and during a research fellowship at Guy's Hospital demonstrated the usefulness of serial multimodal evoked potentials in children in coma.

Dr. Levin was always a clinician who enjoyed being at the bedside, interacting with children and their families. His special interest was in neonatal neurology, and he was lucky enough to have been training when neonatal ultrasound first became available in the United Kingdom,

and he was fortunate to have access to MRI for neonates when he came to London, Ontario. This was one of earliest centres in Canada to introduce this. His other interest was paediatric epilepsy, particularly quality of life for children with epilepsy and their families.

He came to McMaster University in Hamilton in 1986 and moved to the University of Western Ontario and the Children's Hospital of Western Ontario in 1990 where he was a Professor in Paediatrics and Clinical Neurological Sciences. An early objective was achieved with the development of outreach clinics in regional centres. With considerable help from his adult neurology and neurosurgical colleagues he started the paediatric epilepsy program and intrathecal baclofen pump program. He also served as Head of the Division of Paediatric Neurology at Western and LHSC Children's Hospital for 10 years. To this day, he remains an integral part of pediatric neurology education at Western, attending clinical rounds and sharing his clinical experience.

Having trained as a paediatrician, Dr. Levin was able to serve as an examiner in Paediatrics for the FRCPC, and he was Paediatric Program Director in the Department of Paediatrics at Western University. A believer in the Osler tradition of bedside teaching, he took great pleasure teaching both in paediatrics and neurology. Dr. Levin found that



Dr. Simon Levin

more than any other subspecialty, neurology provided the excitement of being a clinical detective, assembling the history, and physical examination to arrive at a diagnosis.

Dr. Levin has been a strong supporter of the Canadian Association of Child Neurology (CACN) joining the society in 1993. He served in various positions on the CACN board, including serving as the CACN President 2019 – 2021.

Dr. Levin has now transitioned to a busy community pediatric neurology practice and continues with tremendous compassionate care for some of the most complicated patients who often have no other physicians to care for them. He is an inspiration to his peers.

Always first and foremost for Dr. Levin, was the belief that being a physician, caring for children and their families, was meant to be fun!

**On behalf of your CACN colleagues,  
and all your patients and families,  
Thank you and Congratulations!**



View previous recipients at: [cnsf.org/cacn/about-cacn/lifetime-achievement-award](https://cnsf.org/cacn/about-cacn/lifetime-achievement-award)



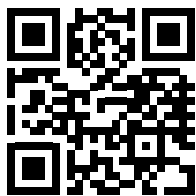
## Secure your future with Medicus

Medicus is the only pension plan in Canada designed exclusively for physicians. It offers predictable lifetime retirement income, helping you manage market volatility and ensuring your savings last throughout retirement. Medicus is currently offering a limited-time pension buyback opportunity, which allows you to increase your lifetime pension income.

### **What is a pension buyback?**

A pension buyback allows plan members to increase their monthly pension by making a one-time transfer of assets into the plan to purchase additional pension for past years of service with their corporation (or another eligible participating employer). Available to members who joined by June 30, 2025.

### **Act now — secure your retirement today.**



Connect with us to schedule a one-on-one meeting and have all of your questions answered

Join the growing community of Canadian physicians who've chosen Medicus for their retirement security. Your future self will thank you.

Medicus reserves the right to offer buybacks to plan members for limited periods of time. This limited pension buyback offering is available to physicians who join Medicus on or before June 30, 2025, and who elect to complete a buyback with an event date of June 30, 2025, by submitting a completed option form by September 30, 2025.

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# Society Prize Winners | CNSF Congress

## CONGRATULATIONS to the 2025 Society Prize Winners!

Expanded abstracts, submitted for a society prize, are judged on merit, by a board of faculty members in each society. Judges were impressed by the high quality of this years' submissions.

Winners will be presenting their work at the CNSF Congress, during the Grand Rounds session on Thursday, June 12th between 9:00 am and 12:00 noon.

The abstracts from these submissions, and all other CNSF accepted abstracts for the 2025 Congress, will be published within the [CNSF Congress Abstract supplement](#) within the [Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences \(CJNS\)](#).

## 2025 CNS | Society Prize Winners

CNS Francis McNaughton Memorial Prize for Clinical Research

**Emma Woo**

*Cost-effectiveness of Multidisciplinary Palliative Care Interventions in Advanced Parkinsonism Syndromes*

CNS André Barbeau Memorial Prize for Basic Research

**Shane Arsenault**

*Circulating Plasma Cytokines As Biomarkers of Inflammatory Activity in Radiologically Isolated Syndrome and Multiple Sclerosis*

## 2025 CNSS | Society Prize Winners

CNSS K.G. McKenzie Memorial Prize for Basic Neuroscience Research

**Yosef Ellenbogen**

*Identification of Molecular Biomarkers of Response to Combinatorial PARP Inhibition and Immune Checkpoint Blockade in IDH-Mutant Gliomas*

CNSS K.G. McKenzie Memorial Prize for Clinical Neuroscience Research

**Karim Mithani**

*Deep Brain Stimulation of the Nucleus Accumbens for Severe Self-Injurious Behaviour in Children: A Phase I Pilot Trial*

## 2025 CSCN | Society Prize Winner

CSCN Herbert Jasper Prize

**Nardin Samuel**

*EEG Biomarkers for Alzheimer's Disease: A Novel Automated Pipeline for Detecting and Monitoring Disease Progression*

## 2025 CACN | Society Prize Winner

CACN President's Prize

**Rowan Pentz**

*Mortality in Tuberous Sclerosis: Current Understandings*

# Congratulations



# The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences (CJNS)

The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences (CJNS) was founded in 1974 by Dr Robert T. Ross of Winnipeg, two years after attending the inaugural Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences in Banff in 1972. Dr Ross' vision was to create a forum to showcase the world class work being done by CNSF members in the clinical and basic neurosciences. In 1981, the CJNS became the official publication of the member societies of the CNSF and has remained so ever since.

The CJNS has established its reputation over the past half century as a highly respected, impactful, and multidisciplinary publication. Through a longstanding relationship with Cambridge University Press, the Journal publishes articles spanning the breadth of the neurological sciences, from basic laboratory and translational studies, to clinically themed papers across neurology, neurosurgery, child neurology, and neuroradiology, to original research and commentary in neuroethics.

## Journal Leadership

In 2024 **Dr. Tejas Sankar** became the new CJNS Editor-in-Chief. A clinician-scientist based at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Dr. Sankar is the first neurosurgeon to serve as Editor-in-Chief, ascending to the role after several years as an Associate Editor. Dr. Sankar is enthusiastic about growing the CJNS and its impact, and is supported in this mission by a strong team of Associate Editors, a Social Media Editor, a growing Editorial Board, and volunteer peer reviewers from the CNSF membership and beyond. Welcome to all new members joining the Editorial Board in 2025.

## The CJNS is excited to launch the "CJNS Reviewer-in-Training" program

A competition was held with many high calibre candidates submitting applications for this program.

The successful participants this inaugural year include the following:

Dr Alwyn Gomez (CNSS),  
Dr Yasamin Mahjoub (CNS)  
Dr Dakota Peacock (CACN)  
Dr Ann Subota (CNS).

These resident members will network with CJNS Associate Editors and the Editorial Board members as they are mentored through the program. They will learn about the peer review process and gain experience in both critically reviewing manuscripts, and editorial decision-making.

## The CJNS welcomes your submissions of scholarly papers

### Why submit to Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences?

- We are an internationally recognized and respected publication with a distinctive Canadian flavour!
- CJNS is indexed in SCI (Clarivate), Scopus, Medline/PubMed, Google Scholar, and more ([cambridge.org/core/journals/canadian-journal-of-neurological-sciences/information/about-this-journal/abstracting-and-indexing](https://cambridge.org/core/journals/canadian-journal-of-neurological-sciences/information/about-this-journal/abstracting-and-indexing)).
- Fast peer review times – average time to first decision was approximately 30 days in 2024, and on track to be even quicker in 2025.
- Articles are viewable online immediately after acceptance.
- Original articles are now accompanied by highlights, reviewer commentaries, and social media promotion to increase their reach and to foster scholarly discussion.
- CJNS offers authors the option to publish open access for a fee (article processing charge, or APC). CNSF members receive a 50% discount on Cambridge's standard 2025 APC of US\$ 3550 (CNSF member Rate: US\$ 1775). CJNS is also a part of Cambridge's robust Transformative Agreement program, meaning many authors will be able to publish open access at no additional charge to them. Please visit our online tool to check if your institution is part of the Transformative Agreement: [cambridge.org/core/services/open-access-policies/read-and-publish-agreements](https://cambridge.org/core/services/open-access-policies/read-and-publish-agreements).



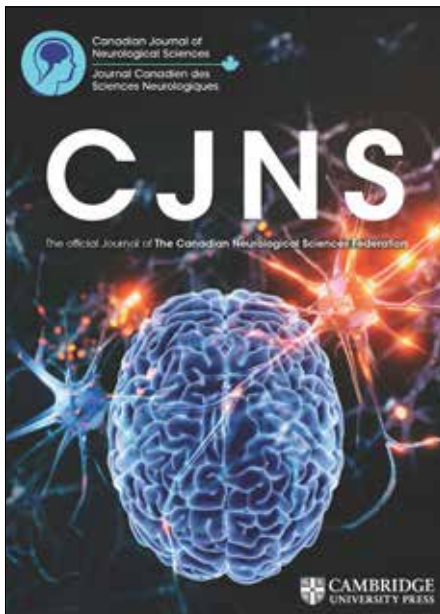
Dr. Tejas Sankar

**Editor-in-Chief:**  
Tejas Sankar

### 2025 Associate Editors:

Nishita Singh  
Michael Shevell  
Jodie Roberts  
Gwynedd Pickett  
Manav Vyas  
Andrew Kirk  
Kristopher Langdon  
Philippe Huot  
Manas Sharma

**Social Media Editor:**  
Amit Persad



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## CJNS Distinguished Reviewer of the Year 2024

### Dr. Cameron Elliott

The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences (CJNS) sincerely appreciates the numerous, timely, and high-quality manuscript reviews completed by Dr. Elliott over the past year. This award is based on review statistics from 2024.

Dr. Cameron Elliott is an epilepsy and pediatric neurosurgeon at the University of Alberta Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta. Cam was born and raised in Lac La Biche, Alberta.

Following high school, he attended the University of Alberta, earning a BSc Honors degree in Neuroscience (2006) and an MD (2010). Also, at the University of Alberta, he completed his neurosurgical residency training, during which time he obtained a PhD in experimental surgery (2018) in the Clinical Investigator Program, examining the postoperative structural changes of the brain after temporal lobe epilepsy surgery as detected by MRI.

Dr. Elliott then went on to complete a fellowship in Complex Epilepsy surgery under Mr. Andy McEvoy at The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery in London, United Kingdom, followed by a fellowship in Pediatric Neurosurgery under Mr. Greg James at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London, UK.



Dr. Cameron Elliott



Dr. Elliott is currently Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Alberta as well as the Residency Wellness Director. Dr. Elliott's clinical interests include pediatric neurosurgery as well as the neurosurgical treatment of both adult and pediatric patients with drug resistant epilepsy. His research interests are broadly centered on how point-of-care brain imaging in the perioperative period may impact clinical outcomes

**Thank you, Dr. Elliott. We appreciate your dedication and support of the CJNS.**

[cnsf.org/journal/reviewer-of-the-year](https://cnsf.org/journal/reviewer-of-the-year)

*Presented in 2025*



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Canadian Journal of  
Neurological Sciences  
Journal Canadien des  
Sciences Neurologiques

# Imagine...

...a world where women, the backbone of a thriving and resilient society, can readily access solutions which meet her health needs. A world where she prospers, and so does her family, her community, and her world for generations to come.

# Imaginez...

...un monde où les femmes, qui constituent l'épine dorsale d'une société prospère et résiliente, peuvent facilement accéder à des solutions qui répondent à leurs besoins en matière de santé. Un monde où elle prospère, ainsi que sa famille, sa communauté et son monde pour les générations à venir.



At Organon, we are not just dreaming it, we are committed to building it. We are a different kind of healthcare company. We envision a better and healthier every day for every woman. By addressing health conditions that are unique to women, affect her disproportionately or impact her differently, we are igniting our purpose to help advance the complete health of women at all stages of her life journey.

Our diverse portfolio offers products across a range of areas including reproductive health, cardiovascular disease, neurology, autoimmune, oncology, and respiratory conditions.

We're there for patients and caregivers, adapting to an ever-changing healthcare landscape so we can do our part to help improve access to treatment options, and strive to deliver solutions for important issues that matter.

Together, we are creating a brighter future for her.  
Organon, here for her health.

Chez Organon, nous ne nous contentons pas d'en rêver, nous nous engageons à le construire. Nous sommes une entreprise de soins de santé d'un genre différent. Nous envisageons un quotidien meilleur et plus sain pour chaque femme. En nous attaquant aux problèmes de santé qui sont propres aux femmes, qui les affectent de manière disproportionnée ou qui ont un impact différent sur elles, nous poursuivons notre objectif d'aider à améliorer la santé des femmes à tous les stades de leur vie.

Notre portefeuille diversifié offre des produits dans toute une série de domaines, notamment la santé reproductive, les maladies cardiovasculaires, la neurologie, les maladies auto-immunes, l'oncologie et les affections respiratoires.

Nous sommes là pour les patient.e.s et les aides-soignant.e.s, nous nous adaptons à un paysage de la santé en constante évolution afin de contribuer à améliorer l'accès aux options de traitement, et nous nous efforçons d'apporter des solutions à des questions importantes qui comptent.

Ensemble, nous créons un avenir meilleur pour elle.  
Organon, engagée à soutenir la santé au féminin.



# CNSF Committees

## Membership Committee

The issue of expanding membership numbers has never been as important as it is today. Every CNSF Society believes this objective is of the highest priority. Membership retention and growth is vital to the continued success and stability of each of our Societies and the increased numbers will result in higher revenues as well as increased interest and participation by registered delegates at the Congress, the CJNS journal and our various Committees. This makes us stronger and more relevant as individual Societies and as a Canadian Federation.

The CNSF membership committee is chaired by Ian Fleetwood, and every CNSF Society has representation on this committee.

The primary goals of the Membership Committee are to:

- Increase the number of Full members in each Society.
- Increase the number of resident members in each Society.
- Expand the number of Societies to include related Neuroscience organizations whose membership is primarily Neurologists.
- Open membership to new categories of members (nurses, anesthesiologists, intensivists, pathologists etc.).
- Simplify the membership categories, review the costs of membership and potentially amalgamate certain categories.

The biggest and most important challenge that we need to address is how to increase our membership in each Society's Full category. We need to build a strong organization whose membership is PRIMARILY neurologists, neurosurgeons and neuroradiologists.

### Membership Committee Members are:

- Ian Fleetwood, Committee Chair – CNSS
- Sam Molot-Toker – CNSS Resident Rep
- Eva Liu – CNSS Jr. Resident Rep
- Courtney Casserly – CNS
- Darek Sokol-Randell – CNS Resident Rep
- Alex Vu – CNS Jr. Resident Rep
- David Callen – CACN, CSCN
- Dakota Peacock – CACN Resident Rep
- Gabrielle Herman – CACN Jr. Resident Rep
- Carmen Parra-Fariñas – CSNR
- Jacky Chow – CSNR Resident Rep
- Michael D Hill – CNS, CSC
- Gayle Burnett – CNSF CEO
- Donna Irvin – CNSF Member Services

## The CNSF Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee

### Committee Purpose:

- The purpose of the [Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee](#) (CPGC) is to encourage and support the development and implementation of best-practice guidelines by other groups such as the Affiliate Societies and, if requested, to consider the endorsement of these guidelines.
- The CPGC will also assist in the dissemination of these guidelines within the membership of the CNSF, considering the applicability of specific guidelines to the Canadian practice context.
- The CPGC will also consider, for endorsement or comment, guidelines developed by organizations external to the CNSF if the guideline is deemed important and applicable to the Canadian practice context. Guideline review and endorsement will occur in accordance with procedures outlined in the CPGC processes document (separate from this document).

### Committee Members include:

- Draga Jichici, Committee Chair – CNS
- Joseph Megyesi – CNSS
- Tejas Sankar – CNSS, CJNS
- Juan Pablo Appendino – CACN, CSCN
- Steve Baker – CSCN
- Thilinie Rajapakse – CACN
- Kathleen Jacobs – CSNR
- Christian Stapf – CSC
- Donatella Tampieri – CSNR
- Michael D Hill – CNS, CSC
- Gayle Burnett – CNSF CEO

Submit CPGs for Endorsement to:

Gayle Burnett, CNSF CEO

[info@cnsf.org](mailto:info@cnsf.org)

[cnsf.org/education/clinical-practice-guidelines](https://cnsf.org/education/clinical-practice-guidelines)

# CNSF Committees

## Advocacy Committee

[Advocacy](#) is an important part of the CNSF mission to support the neuroscience professions in Canada. The work of CNSF members and CNSF Member Societies is essential to the wellbeing of individuals affected by diseases, disorders, and injuries of the nervous system, therefore we must advocate with a strong and effective voice to support this work.

In an effort to Advocate Nationally the CNSF several years ago joined Neurological Health Charities of Canada (NHCC). The NHCC share our objectives and have formed a strong coalition in order to serve as one voice with a stronger sense of community and influence for positive change across Canada. For more information and to see the work of Neurological Health Charities Canada (NHCC) visit [mybrainmatters.ca](http://mybrainmatters.ca).

In 2022 CNSF President Michael D Hill reconstituted the CNSF's Advocacy Committee. Each CNSF Society appointed its Advocacy Committee representatives.

### Members Include:

- Ian Fleetwood – Committee Chair – CNSS
- Linda Magnusson – CNS
- Pat McDonald – CNSS
- Steve Baker – CSCN
- Fraser Moore – CSCN
- Elizabeth Donner – CACN
- Stephanie DeGasperi – CACN
- Natarie Liu – CACN
- William Miller – CSNR
- Jai Shankar – CSNR
- Regan Cooley – CSC
- Dylan Blacquiére – CSC
- Gayle Burnett – CNSF

**Advocacy:** [cnsf.org/about-cnsf/advocacy](https://cnsf.org/about-cnsf/advocacy)

### Advocacy Committee's Objectives and Activities going forward include:

- Influence public policy decisions on matters related to the CNSF Vision concerning the prevention, diagnosis, and management of neurological conditions.
- To advocate on behalf of the Neurosciences' profession to policy makers or elected officials on those issues relevant to the neurosciences' profession.
- To enhance public access to neuroscience services through advocacy initiatives.
- To advise and make recommendation to the CNSF Executive/Board on issues that merit involvement of the Federation in responding to any relevant issues.
- To support government relations strategies.
- To identify advocacy needs and resources.
- To communicate advocacy efforts to stakeholders.
- Work and/or partner with Affiliate and Associate Societies and other organizations to increase awareness of neurological conditions.
- To promote the Neurosciences' profession to the public through education activities.
- Advocate for effective fundamental and applied research support.

It is important for us to advocate for our patients. If there are relevant issues that affect neurological care in Canada, I encourage you to bring them forward so that the CNSF can take a proactive role in advocacy.

Michael D Hill  
President, CNSF  
Chair, CNSF Advocacy Committee

**Advocacy Hub:** [cnsf.org/for-members/advocacy-hub](https://cnsf.org/for-members/advocacy-hub)

# CNSF Committees

## CNSF Professional Development and Scientific Program Committees

[www.cnsf.org/congress/about-congress/planning-committee](http://www.cnsf.org/congress/about-congress/planning-committee)

These Committees, with input from each CNSF Society, are essentially responsible for planning, developing, and implementing the Congress Program. They are informed by feedback from previous Congress attendees through the individual session evaluations, the overall Congress assessments, CNSF Membership Surveys, and other related information and feedback.

These (PDC-SPC) members have worked collaboratively throughout the year with the CNSF and all Societies to develop an excellent Program for 2025.

**Thank you.**

### Scientific Program and Professional Development Committee members

- Joe Megyesi, CNSF SPC Chair, CNSS
- Gerald Pfeffer, CNSF SPC Vice Chair, CNS
- Michelle Mezei, CNSF SPC Vice Chair, CSCN
- Cian O’Kelly, CNSF PDC Chair, CNSS
- Draga Jichici, CNS SPC
- Veronica Bruno, CNS SPC
- Alex Henri-Bhargava, CNS PDC
- Darek Sokol-Randell, CNS Resident Rep
- Alex Vu, CNS Jr Resident Rep
- Sam Molot-Toker, CNSS Resident Rep
- Eva Liu, CNSS Jr Resident Rep
- Michelle-Lee Jones, CSCN SPC
- Amokrane Chebini, CSCN PDC
- David Callen, CACN SPC
- Hugh McMillan, CACN SPC
- Katie Siu, CACN SPC
- Maryam Nouri, CACN PDC
- Dakota Peacock, CACN Resident Rep
- Gabrielle Herman, CACN Jr Resident Rep
- Laila Alshafai, CSNR SPC
- Manohar Shroff, CSNR SPC
- Jai Shankar, CSNR SPC
- Jacky Chow, CSNR Resident Rep
- Brett Graham, CSC SPC
- Christine Hawkes, CSC SPC
- Mahesh Kate, CSC SPC
- Cecil Hahn, CNSF Vice President (CACN)
- Michael Hill, CNSF President (CNS)
- CNSF CEO, Gayle Burnett

### Evolving Professional Development at CNSF

The CNSF Board approved changes to the Professional Development Committee on April 1, 2025. Thanks to the leadership and dedication of past members, the committee is now poised to evolve its work even further — shaping a bold vision and clear goals for continuing professional development. It will steward our Royal College accreditation and drive a dynamic annual cycle of learning opportunities, empowering our societies and strengthening CNSF’s leadership and partnerships across the clinical neurosciences.



# Think UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup>: a new therapy option for managing AQP4-IgG+ NMOSD

UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> (inebilizumab for injection) is indicated as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders who are anti aquaporin-4 immunoglobulin G (AQP4-IgG) seropositive.<sup>2</sup>

Treatment should be administered under the supervision of a qualified healthcare professional.<sup>2</sup>

## How Much Time Stands Between Your AQP4-IgG+ NMOSD Patient and a Relapse?

In the N-MOMentum trial, UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> significantly increased the time to the first adjudicated relapse vs. placebo in patients with AQP4-IgG+ NMOSD.<sup>1\*</sup>

• **77% relative risk reduction** with UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> (vs. placebo;  $P < 0.0001$ ).<sup>1</sup>

### Contraindications:

- Hypersensitivity to UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> or to any ingredient in the formulation, including any nonmedicinal ingredient, or component of the container.
- History of life-threatening infusion reactions to UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup>.
- Severe active infection including active chronic infection such as hepatitis B.
- Active or untreated latent tuberculosis.
- History of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML).
- Patients in a severely immunocompromised state.
- Active malignancy.

### Relevant warnings and precautions:

- To reduce the risk of infusion reactions, administer pre-medications and monitor patients for at least one hour after the completion of infusion.
- UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> may increase the susceptibility to infections. Before initiation of UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup>, a recent complete blood cell count should be obtained, and reassessments are recommended.
- Perform hepatitis B screening in all patients before initiation of UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup>.
- PML has been observed in patients treated with other B-cell-depleting antibodies.
- Cases of late onset of neutropenia have been reported. In patients with signs and symptoms of infection, measurement of blood neutrophils is recommended.

- Administer all immunizations according to guidelines at least 4 weeks prior to initiation of UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup>. The safety of live or live-attenuated vaccines after UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> therapy has not been studied. Therefore, vaccination with these types of vaccines is not recommended during treatment or until B-cell levels have recovered.
- The time to B-cell repletion following administration of inebilizumab is not known.
- Recommended monitoring of the levels of quantitative serum immunoglobulins.
- Immunomodulatory therapies may increase the risk of malignancy. While current data from limited experience with inebilizumab in NMOSD do not indicate an increased risk, the potential for developing solid tumors cannot be ruled out.
- Limited data are available on the effects of UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> on human fertility.
- Contraception use.
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- Pediatrics.
- Geriatrics.

### For more information:

Please consult the UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> Product Monograph at [www.amgen.ca/en-CA/about/-/media/Themes/CorporateAffairs/Redesign/Amgen-ca/Amgen-ca/pdf/products/en/en-uplizna-pm-hc.pdf](http://www.amgen.ca/en-CA/about/-/media/Themes/CorporateAffairs/Redesign/Amgen-ca/Amgen-ca/pdf/products/en/en-uplizna-pm-hc.pdf) for important information relating to adverse reactions, drug interactions and dosing and administration which have not been discussed in this piece.

\* Clinical significance has not been established.

† N-MOMentum was a phase 2/3, multicentre, multinational, double-blind, randomized (3:1) placebo-controlled trial with an open-label period. The randomized controlled period studied 213 patients with NMOSD who were anti-AQP4 antibody positive. The use of immunosuppressants during the blinded phase of the trial was prohibited.

The use of oral or intravenous corticosteroids during the blinded phase of the trial was prohibited, with the exception of premedication for investigational treatment and treatment for a relapse. The primary efficacy endpoint was the time to the onset of the first adjudicated relapse on or before Day 197.

AQP4-IgG, aquaporin-4 immunoglobulin G; NMOSD, neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder.

**References:** 1. Amgen Canada. Data on File. April 10, 2025. 2. Amgen Canada. UPLIZNA<sup>®</sup> Product Monograph. March 31, 2025.

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CAN-335-0325-80005



## Resident Interviews with

# Canadian Leaders in Neurology | Pediatric Neurology

The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences (CJNS) publishes a series of resident interviews with Canadian Leaders in Neurology. These interviews focus on mentorship, career pearls, and the future directions of Canadian neurology. This is an initiative of the Canadian Neurological Society and the CNS Resident Representatives. The resulting interviews have proven to be intelligent, insightful, and fun. They also provide rewarding experiences and connections for both the resident and their featured “leader”.

### Most recent accepted manuscript — interview:

Featured: **Dr Adrian Budhram**

Interviewed by **Dr Alex Vu**

<https://doi.org/10.1017/cjn.2025.57>

This interview is still in process on the Cambridge site. It can be viewed as an Accepted Abstract. It has not yet been finalized or assigned to a specific CJNS issue yet. The “doi” is assigned on submission and does not change.



**View all previous Canadian Leader in Neurology interviews:** [cnsf.org/cns/about-cns/canadian-leaders-in-neurology](https://cnsf.org/cns/about-cns/canadian-leaders-in-neurology)

In 2023, the series expanded to include Canadian Leaders in Pediatric Neurology, accepting interview submissions from CACN resident members.

### Most recent interview:

Featured: **Dr O. Carter Snead III**

Interviewed by **Dr Mohammed Azib AlQahtani**

<https://doi.org/10.1017/cjn.2024.316>

**View all previous Canadian Leader in Pediatric Neurology interviews:** [cnsf.org/cacn/about-cacn/canadian-leaders-in-pediatric-neurology](https://cnsf.org/cacn/about-cacn/canadian-leaders-in-pediatric-neurology)



If you are a Junior member of the CNS or the CACN, and you are interested in interviewing a leader in your specialty, please contact your society Resident Reps and include [info@cnsf.org](mailto:info@cnsf.org).

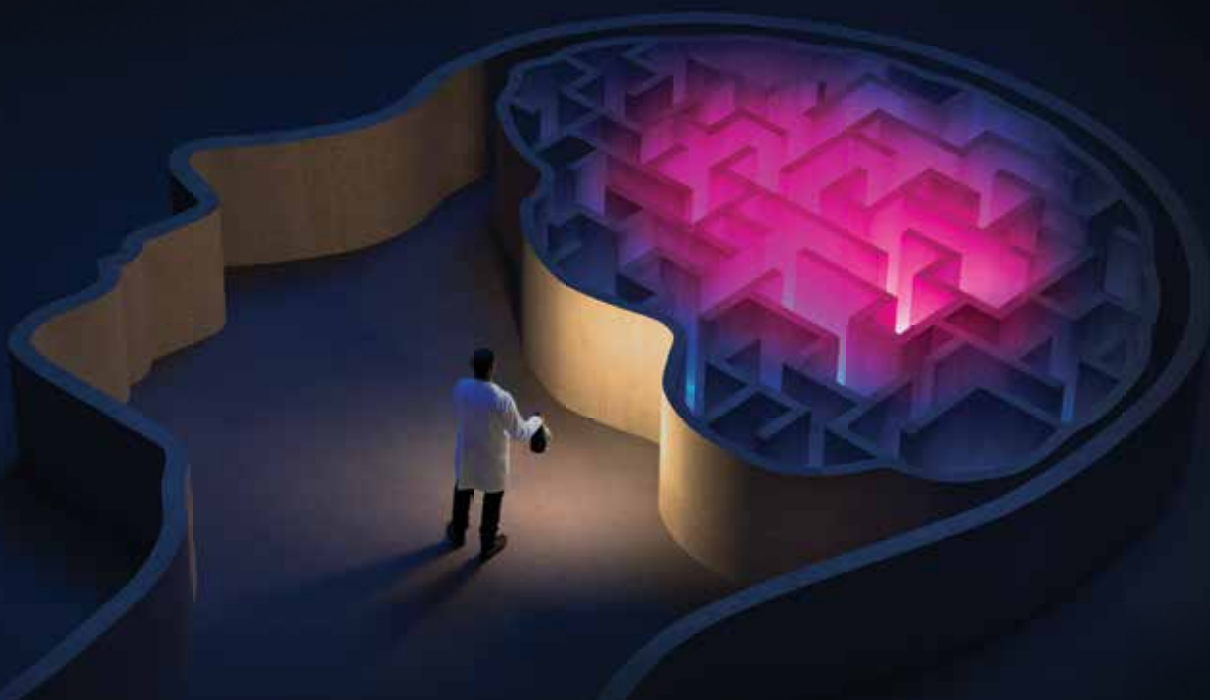
## 2025 CNSF Congress Schedule

Browse the full schedule and all the 2025 CNSF Congress program and event details at [2025cnsfcongress.eventscribe.net](https://2025cnsfcongress.eventscribe.net) or scan the QR code:



# VISUALIZE WITH GLEOLAN™

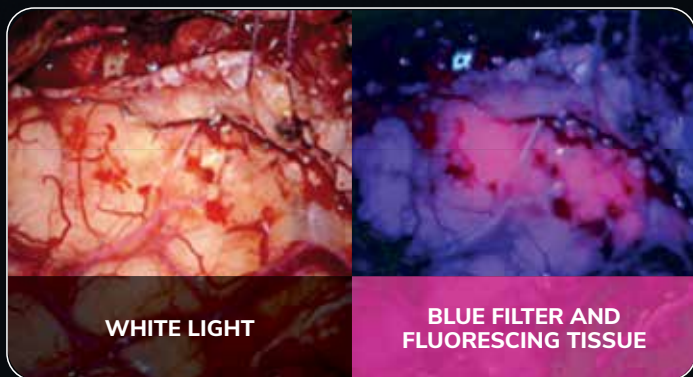
Precise, real-time visualization for a more complete resection.



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(aminolevulinic acid HCl)

**See More. Resect More. Safely.**

Gleolan™ (Aminolevulinic Acid Hydrochloride) is indicated in patients with glioma World Health Organization (WHO) Grades III or IV (suspected on preoperative imaging) as an adjunct for the visualization of malignant tissue during surgery.<sup>1</sup>



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# Additional Learning Opportunities

## CNS Canadian National Neurology Grand Rounds

The Canadian Neurological Society (CNS) organizes the Canadian National Neurology Grand Rounds to highlight major clinical and research updates for Canadian neurologists, neurology learners, and researchers. These rounds take place four times per year and are held on Fridays at Noon ET. While attendance is restricted to Canadian neurologists, trainees, and researchers, membership in the CNS or CNSF is not required. With the permission of speakers, sessions may be recorded for future viewing by CNSF members.

The CNS National Neurology Grand Rounds is a self-approved group learning activity (section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, with an online record of attendance. These rounds provide an excellent opportunity to highlight faculty and exciting clinical and research programs at a national level. They also provide a wonderful opportunity for neurologists across Canada to interact and to facilitate collaborative opportunities.

### Topics from the 2024-2025 season have included.

- Emerging Disease Modifying Therapies for Alzheimer Disease
- Changing Diagnostic and Treatment Paradigms in Multiple Sclerosis
- Modernizing Migraine Care: Insights from the New CHS Guidelines, CGRP Advances, and Emerging Therapies
- Updates of Cerebral Venous Thrombosis

Emails are sent to the membership, and pre-registration is required in advance of each session.

Recordings of previous events are available to members on the CNS Neurology Rounds webpage:  
[cnsf.org/cns/about-cns/neurology-rounds](https://cnsf.org/cns/about-cns/neurology-rounds)



Canadian  
Neurological Society



Société  
canadienne de neurologie

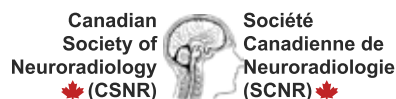
## CSNR Canadian Neuroradiology Course

[cnsf.org/csnr/about-csnr/neuroradiology-course](https://cnsf.org/csnr/about-csnr/neuroradiology-course)

The Canadian Neuroradiology Course (CNRC) is offered annually in November. It will be held virtually and aims to be as interactive as possible with multiple “Case-based” sessions, presenting interesting and challenging cases to the audience.

Topics include NeuroPediatrics, Tumors, Neurodegenerative, and Metabolic Diseases in the first part of the course while in the second part Vascular Diseases, Infectious/Inflammatory pathologies, Head and Neck as well as the Spine are covered. This course attracts high-level speakers from across Canada, the US, and the United Kingdom.

The CSNR endorses this course as an official teaching course for neuroradiologists and offer free registration to CSNR members. Registration details will be shared with the membership when available.



## CSNR Webinars

The Canadian Society of Neuroradiology (CSNR) offers a series of accredited webinars covering a wide variety of Diagnostic Neuroradiology and Interventional Neuroradiology topics. These sessions run on selected **Tuesday afternoons at 3:00 pm Eastern time.**

### Topics from the 2024-2025 season have included:

- CT Arteriography of the head/neck: Indications, Limitations and Strategies for Reasonable Use
- Imaging In Movement Disorders: Key Information Clinicians Need
- Multimodality Imaging of CSF Leaks in the Workup and Treatment of Intracranial Hypotension
- Pediatric Neuroradiology: Genetic causes of pediatric stroke and arteriopathies
- Large core infarcts and distal vessel occlusions: who and how to treat in 2025?
- Oro-maxillo facial dentist and ENT surgeon

Emails are sent to the membership, and pre-registration is required in advance of each session.

Recordings of previous webinars are available on the CSNR webpage:  
[cnsf.org/csnr/about-csnr](https://cnsf.org/csnr/about-csnr)



# iD-AD

An accredited section 3 self-learning program on **Alzheimer's disease awareness and management**



Earn **section 3 credits** with this accredited e-learning activity **developed by and for neurologists and neuroradiologists**.

- ✓ Cased-based learning
- ✓ Links to resources and guidelines
- ✓ Pause and resume at your pace
- ✓ Certificate upon completion
- ✓ Immediate feedback
- ✓ Up to 6.0 MOC credits

## PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK



**92%** stated that the program offered **balanced and relevant perspectives**



**93%** stated that the **insights gained will influence their clinical practice**



**91%** found the program **highly relevant and important**

Scan the QR code or visit [id-alzheimers.ca](http://id-alzheimers.ca) to register



## SCIENTIFIC PLANNING COMMITTEE



**Dr. Santanu Chakraborty**  
Neuroradiologist  
Ottawa, ON



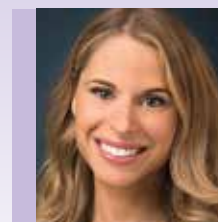
**Dr. Rafael Glikstein**  
Neuroradiologist  
Ottawa, ON



**Dr. Alex Henri-Bhargava**  
Neurologist  
Victoria, BC



**Dr. Andrew Kirk**  
Neurologist  
Saskatoon, SK



**Dr. Sara Mitchell**  
Neurologist  
Toronto, ON

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Use clinical tools to assess signs and symptoms for diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease (AD).
2. Assess the role of different biomarkers in the detection and diagnosis of AD.
3. Interpret neuroimaging findings to detect structural abnormalities associated with AD.
4. Explain use of non-pharmacological and symptomatic interventions for AD.
5. Discuss the status of emerging disease-modifying therapies and identify potential associated adverse events such as ARIA-E and ARIA-H.
6. Explain how and when to monitor disease progression and determine the next steps in clinical management.

This event is an Accredited Self-Assessment Program (Section 3) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and approved by the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation for 3.0 credits per hour, up to a maximum of 6.0 credits total. This program was co-developed by the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation and Eli Lilly Canada, and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance.

VV-Canada Medical-US-DEL-0306



# Members views on work and life



## Dr. Lyle Weston

MD, MD, FRCPC

- Assistant professor, Division of Neurology Moncton Hospital New Brunswick
- CNS and CSCN Member (since 1989)
- CNS President 2009 – 2011

### Q. Was there a defining moment that led you to choose the neurosciences as your career, and why?

- A. Some of my medical school classmates knew from day one the specific path in medicine they wanted to take. I found the choice difficult, as most areas of medicine seemed interesting to me.

It wasn't until my internship when I was fortunate to work with a neurologist in a community hospital that I decided to pursue Neurology as my career. I saw it as an opportunity and challenge to impact patients' health in an area many fellow physicians admitted being uncomfortable with.

### Q. What was the greatest piece of advice you have received?

- A. One of the many excellent neurologists that I had the good fortune to learn from was Dr. R. A. Purdy. There is an old adage that he would often remind me to strive for, the "Three A's of Success: Affability, Availability and Ability".

Dr. Purdy would reflect on how affability and availability were the most important components to colleagues and patients alike. I too appreciated the ability to contact a colleague who was both friendly and available when tough problems arose, often on holidays or in the middle of the night!

I believe these principles remain a strong foundation for physicians starting their career and will guide their understanding of the quality of the colleagues with whom they work.

### Q. What do you do when you have downtime?

- A. Top of mind for me is time with family and friends. Whether it is your children, colleagues, or good friends, take the time to enjoy their company, as all too soon the opportunity won't be there anymore.

I find that interacting with others, or helping with even the simplest of tasks, is a great way to unwind.

### Q. What do you think of when you hear the words brain health?

- A. Protect your brain from injury, and pursue balance in work, rest, diet and exercise. Actively engage with all things in your environment that stimulate your interests.

### Q. What is your favorite book and why?

- A. *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* by Robert Pirsig. The "gumption traps" he references can occur with physicians. As doctors, we are accustomed to giving orders and seeing them enacted in a timely fashion.

It is when we move beyond individual patient care, to developing programs or influencing policy, that physicians often become disenchanted. The less familiar arena, of interaction with hospitals, health authorities and government, is often fraught with delays and rejection. This can cause physicians to become frustrated, discouraged and sometimes give up.

Learn from each rejection and don't lose sight of the reason you started on the path, the patients. Important things can take years to accomplish.

### Q. Which technology could you do without?

- A. Social media. Great tool for dissemination of information but no quality control and too easily weaponized.

### Q. What one thing could everyone do to stay brain healthy?

- A. Find work and life balance. Easier for some. More challenging for those whose work is also their hobby.

### Q. How has your career in medicine created value in your life?

- A. My interaction with patients, other medical professionals, medical students and residents motivates me. To be asked for advice and to help others navigate difficult situations is privilege and honour.

### Q. What advice would you give to someone aspiring to be successful?

- A. **Colleagues:** Be good to your patients, but also to your colleagues. There will be times when dealing with colleagues will be much more challenging than the most complicated of patients. Remember, we are all on a journey through life and career and some may be facing unseen challenges that impact their interactions. Be a good listener and do your best to explain your perspective if asked.

**Community practice versus academic career:** A resident once confided to me that when they informed their program director that they were considering a community practice, they were made to feel they were "giving up on themselves". For some, the pursuit of an academic career is important. However, there is also a tremendous amount of important face-to-face clinical care that happens every single day in community practice. Choose a path that you feel will give you the greatest satisfaction and the best work-life balance.

**Advice to patients and colleagues:** Mark Twain is often cited for the statement "Good decisions come from experience, and experience comes from bad decisions". If invited to do so, don't be shy to share the "wisdom" you have acquired, often through your own "bad decisions".

Will Rogers is usually credited with saying, "There are three kinds of men. The one that learns by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence for themselves."

Passing along your "wisdom" won't always mean that people will follow your advice. It is important to allow people to make their own decisions, even if it means allowing them to "pee on the electric fence". Don't be frustrated; if your advice is accurate and fairly presented, many will eventually come around to see the value in what you have said.



# Members views on work and life



## Dr. Dragos A. Nita

MD, PhD, FRCPC

- Consultant Neurologist & Epileptologist, NYGH, SHN
- Founder and Medical Director, “Neurocare – Neurology, Neurophysiology & Brain Health”
- Assistant Professor, University of Toronto
- CACN Member (since 2008)

### Q. Was there a defining moment that led you to choose the neurosciences as your career, and why?

- A. I always aspired to become a physician, believing it to be the most meaningful way to understand life and humanity. This eventually evolved into a deeper fascination with the brain, which I came to see as the ultimate frontier in science: complex, mysterious, and central to who we are. A defining moment came early in my medical studies in Romania, when I was first exposed to epilepsy research. I saw firsthand the profound burden this condition places on patients, not only medically, but socially and emotionally, as many faced isolation and discrimination. That experience made a lasting impression and shaped my decision to focus on neuroscience. I pursued this path initially through doctoral studies at Laval University under the mentorship of Professor Mircea Steriade, where I began to explore the mechanisms of epilepsy in depth. My journey continued with clinical and research training at the University of Toronto, where I had the privilege of working alongside a remarkable team of clinicians and scientists led by Dr. Carter O. Snead. Their commitment to both scientific excellence and compassionate care reinforced my belief that advancing our understanding of the brain is not only intellectually compelling but profoundly human.

### Q. What was the greatest piece of advice you have received?

- A. The greatest piece of advice I’ve ever received is: “Focus on what you can control.” While at first it seemed trivial, over time I realized its profound power, especially in a world full of uncertainty, setbacks, and constant change. Real freedom is about having the power to act and the liberty to choose your response, no matter the situation. So much of life is spent wrestling with the tension between what we wish was different and what actually is. That is where this advice becomes transformative, it cuts through the noise, it points you toward your choices, your attitude, your effort, your mindset. These are the things no one can take from you.

### Q. What do you do when you have downtime?

- A. I don’t particularly like the term “down time.” It evokes the image of a computer undergoing an unplanned upgrade, passive and disconnected. Personally, I prefer to think of that time as an opportunity to engage with life in a different, enriching way, outside the structure of my professional responsibilities. Whenever possible, I travel. I find great value

in exploring new places and immersing myself in different cultures, histories, and traditions. These experiences offer not only a refreshing change of pace but also a broader perspective. Engaging with diverse beliefs and ways of life deepens my understanding of the world and reaffirms the importance of curiosity and empathy in all aspects of life. Rather than disconnecting, I aim to use that time to reconnect with history, with people, and with the broader human experience.

### Q. What do you think of when you hear the words brain health?

- A. When I hear the words brain health, I think beyond just the physical well-being and I see it as deeply connected to one’s mindset. To me, brain health is as much about maintaining a healthy attitude as it is about adopting healthy habits. It involves staying intellectually active, nurturing curiosity, and constantly challenging what you think you know. A healthy brain thrives on engagement. That means seeking out new hobbies, developing new skills, and expanding your knowledge in unfamiliar areas. It is about cultivating a mindset of inquiry, asking questions, welcoming diverse perspectives, and not shying away from intellectual discomfort. I believe we should all strive to learn more than we forget, and never lose the willingness to be challenged or to grow. Ultimately, brain health is not a fixed state, it is a lifelong pursuit of learning, adaptation, and exploration.

### Q. What is your favorite book and why?

- A. As someone who enjoys collecting both old and new books, I often wish I had more time to read, and even more to write. I equally value 19th-century Gustave Le Bon’s “La Psychologie des Foules”, as I do the post-modernism of Umberto Eco. Eco’s “Foucault’s Pendulum” stands out as my favorite novel. It is, in my view, one of the most intellectually complex and rewarding books ever written. Situated at the intersection of history, philosophy, and semiotics, the novel explores humanity’s enduring desire to find meaning, even when that pursuit leads into abstraction or illusion. It examines the seductive nature of conspiracy theories, the construction of false narratives, and the fine line between reality and fabrication. What I find particularly striking is the novel’s reflection on the power of storytelling and the human tendency to build meaning, even on uncertain or inaccurate information. Decades after its publication, Foucault’s Pendulum remains profoundly relevant, especially in an age where misinformation and constructed realities often shape public discourse.

### Q. Which technology could you do without?

- A. Social media is the one technology I could do without. While I acknowledge its value as a widely accessible communication tool, I find its impact increasingly disheartening. The absence of meaningful regulation, the lack of mechanisms to validate information, and its tendency to amplify narcissistic behavior all raise serious concerns. Rather than fostering genuine connection or informed dialogue, social media often promotes a culture of constant comparison and superficial validation.

# Members views on work and life

I believe it's far more important to focus on cultivating inner peace and personal fulfillment, rather than seeking approval through curated digital personas. In many ways, disconnecting from social media can be an act of reclaiming attention, clarity, and authenticity.

## Q. What one thing could everyone do to stay brain healthy?

- A. In addition to following all the well-established science-based practices, I believe there is one often-overlooked yet essential action: take time to pause and reflect and "count your blessings". In the pace of modern life, we often prioritize productivity and routine over emotional well-being. Yet, true brain health involves more than cognitive stimulation and physical care; it requires a sense of inner balance and fulfillment. Making space for stillness, reflection, and self-awareness allows us to reconnect with what brings us joy and meaning. Ultimately, sustained brain health is not just about how we care for our minds, but also about how we nourish our sense of purpose and emotional well-being.

## Q. How has your career in medicine created value in your life?

- A. Practicing clinical medicine, particularly as a pediatric neurologist, has brought profound meaning and value to my life. Being part of the journeys of children and their families, often facing chronic, complex, and sometimes life-altering conditions, provides a powerful reality check. It is impossible not to be humbled when you witness the resilience of children coping with a neurologic disorder, and the strengths of parents navigating uncertainty with hope and determination. These experiences continually put my own stresses and challenges into perspective. What I may find overwhelming in a given

moment often pales in comparison to what many of my patients and their families endure daily. This perspective has not only made me more grounded and empathetic but has also deepened my commitment to the field. It reminds me that the work I do matters, not just medically, but emotionally and socially as well. It is this sense of purpose and connection that continues to motivate and fulfill me daily.

## Q. What advice would you give to someone aspiring to be successful?

- A. First, know that there is no universal definition for success. Second, being successful is not necessarily difficult, it only means being able to accomplish the aims that you set for yourself. Our unique values, education, experience, culture, and priorities shape what "being successful" means. What is indeed difficult is to identify that particular purpose for you. For some, it could mean achieving a small victory on a daily basis. For others, positively impacting people or society, or some personal recognition or amassing wealth. I personally value success mostly when it comes to creating a legacy. The truth is that your definition will never perfectly align with other people's. Therefore, defining what success means for you is not only essential, but also empowering. The sooner you embark on this journey of self-discovery, the sooner you can focus your time and resources into pursuits that resonate with who you are.

## Stay connected: Download the CNSF Congress App

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# 2025 Grand Plenary Speakers

**Tuesday, June 10, 8:00 am – noon**

**Featuring the following special guest lecturers!**

## CSNR – Terbrugge Lecture

### Cognitive errors in Neuroradiology and how to prevent them!



#### **Carlos Torres, MD, FRCPC FCAR**

Dr. Carlos Torres is a Full Professor at the Department of Radiology, Radiation Oncology and Medical Physics at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Medicine, and a neuroradiologist and CME Director at the Department of Medical Imaging at The Ottawa Hospital.

He is the immediate Past President of the Ibero Latin American Society of

Neuroradiology (SILAN), a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR) and a member of the Executive Committees of the American Society of Spine Radiology (ASSR) and of the Eastern Neuroradiological Society (ENRS).

Dr. Torres has given more than 500 national and international invited lectures in 45 different countries and is regularly invited to speak at all the major Radiology and Neuroradiology Meetings, on a wide range of Neuroradiology topics. He has been a National and International Visiting Professor to multiple academic centres in the US and Canada as well as in Asia, Central and South America, including Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Chile, Bhutan, China, Myanmar and Mongolia.

Dr. Torres is actively involved in medical education and research; his main areas of interest include vascular pathologies, demyelinating disease, spine and brachial plexus imaging, as well as tumor imaging. He has over 100 peer-reviewed publications and 22 book chapters. He is an Associate Editor of the Canadian Association of Radiologists journal CARJ, an Editor of the journal 3D Printing in Medicine and a reviewer for multiple journals including AJNR, Neuroradiology Journal and European Radiology.

He has received numerous departmental, national and international awards for his teaching and research including the uOttawa Faculty of Medicine Educator of the Year Award, the Undergrad Teacher of the Year Award, the Radiology Staff Teacher of the Year Award, the prestigious RSNA Honored Educator Award and the National Order of Merit Award in the Rank of Officer from the Republic of Colombia (equivalent to The Order of Canada) for his scientific contributions in the field of Diagnostic Neuroradiology.

## CNS – Richardson Lecture

### Expanding Global Access to Neurology Care through Education



#### **Aaron Berkowitz, MD, PhD, FAAN**

Dr. Aaron Berkowitz is a professor of clinical neurology at UCSF, where he serves as a neurohospitalist, general neurologist, and clinician-educator at San Francisco General Hospital. He previously served as director of global neurology at Brigham and Women's Hospital and associate professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School after graduating

from the Harvard Brigham and Women's Hospital-Massachusetts General Hospital neurology residency, where he served as chief resident.

Dr. Berkowitz has worked tirelessly to improve access to neurologic care and education worldwide, collaborating with organizations including Partners In Health, Doctors Without Borders, and the Indian Health Service of the Navajo Nation. This work has been recognized by the Mridha Humanitarian Award from the American Brain Foundation in 2018 and the Viste Patient Advocate of the Year Award from the AAN in 2019.

Dr. Berkowitz's work as a neurology educator has been recognized by the UCSF Academy of Medical Educators Excellence in Teaching Award in 2024, Residency Teacher of the Year Award from the Harvard Neurology Residency program in both 2019 and 2020, the O'Hara Excellence in Preclinical Teaching award from Harvard Medical School in 2016, and appointment to the editorial boards of Continuum and Practical Neurology. He has published over 90 peer-reviewed articles, several book chapters including the neurology chapter for the Oxford Manual of Humanitarian Medicine, and four books including the neurology textbook Clinical Neurology and Neuroanatomy: A Localization-Based Approach and One by One by One: Making a Small Difference Amid a Billion Problems about his work caring for patients with brain tumors in rural Haiti.



# 2025 Grand Plenary Speakers

## CSCN Gloor Lecture

### Autoimmune Autonomic Disorders



#### Steven Vernino, MD, PhD

Steven Vernino, MD, PhD is Professor and Vice Chair of Neurology at UT Southwestern Medical Center. He is director of the autonomic disorders program and the multidisciplinary clinical center of excellence for multiple system atrophy clinic. He holds the Dr. Bob and Jean Smith Foundation Distinguished Chair in Neuromuscular

Disease Research and the Rex Griswold Distinguished Professorship in Multiple System Atrophy.

Dr. Vernino earned his MD and PhD in Neuroscience at Baylor College of Medicine. He completed neurology residency and fellowship training in neuroimmunology and EMG at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. He is Board Certified in Neurology, Neuromuscular Medicine, and Autonomic Disorders. He has served as president of the American Autonomic Society and the medical advisory boards of the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation, The MSA Coalition, Encephalitis 411 and Dysautonomia International. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology (AAN), American Neurological Association and American Autonomic Society. Dr. Vernino has been recognized as an outstanding clinician, researcher and teacher with numerous awards. He was recipient of the 1998 AAN Founders Award, 2013 AAN program director award, 2016 Regents Outstanding Teacher Award from the University of Texas system, and 2024 Irwin Schatz Award for Autonomic Disorders from the AAN. He is a past president of the American Autonomic Society.

Dr. Vernino has published over 180 peer-reviewed articles as well as dozens of book chapters. His main research interest has been in treatment of autonomic disorders and in helping to establish the field of autoimmune neurology. Most notably, he identified the presence of antibodies to ganglionic acetylcholine receptors as the cause of a rare disorder of the autonomic nervous system, autoimmune autonomic ganglionopathy (AAG), as well as characterizing several neurological antibodies related to paraneoplastic disorders. He established a multidisciplinary care model for multiple system atrophy (MSA) at UT Southwestern leading to the designation of MSA centers of excellence by Mission MSA. Dr. Vernino has been involved in numerous collaborative and investigator-initiated clinical trials. He was the co-chair of an NIH workshop on defining priorities for POTS research, and he was recently awarded an NIH R01 grant to better define the clinical features of POTS.

## CACN Tibbles Lecture

### Migraine: Better Understanding, Better Treatments, Better Future



#### David Dodick, MD, FACP, FRCP (C), FAAN

David W. Dodick, MD, is Emeritus Professor of Neurology. He is a Mayo Clinic Distinguished Investigator and Distinguished Educator. He founded and directed the headache and concussion programs at Mayo Clinic and co-founded the Vascular Neurology program. He is Affiliate Professor at the University of

Copenhagen, Guest Professor at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, and Adjunct Professor at Thomas Jefferson University.

He has authored more than 900 peer-reviewed manuscripts and abstracts and authored/edited 13 books. He is the Chief Science Officer and Co-Chair of the Atria Academy of Science and Medicine, and Chief Medical Officer of Atria Health. He is Co-Director of the World Federation of Neurology's World Brain Day and Co-Chair of WFN's Public Awareness and Advocacy Committee. He is the Co-founder International Concussion Society. He is the Immediate Past-Chair of the American Brain Foundation and Immediate Past Chair of the International Headache Society's Global Patient Advocacy Coalition. He is Past Chair of the American Migraine Foundation.

He is a former Editor-in-Chief of Cephalalgia, a Past-President of the American Headache Society and a Past-President of the International Headache Society.

# 2025 Grand Plenary Speakers

## CNSS Penfield Lecture

### Seven Cavernomas: Taxonomy, Cartography, and the Mind



#### Michael Lawton, MD

Michael T. Lawton, MD, is the President and CEO of Barrow Neurological Institute and the Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery. He is board certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery. Dr. Lawton's neurosurgical expertise includes cerebrovascular disorders (aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations, cavernous

malformations, and stroke) and skull base tumors. He has experience in treating more than 5,200 brain aneurysms, 990 AVMs, and 1,000 cavernous malformations, including more than 300 in the brain stem and other highly delicate areas of the brain. He is a member of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Society of Neurological Surgeons, American Academy of Neurological Surgery, and World Academy of Neurological Surgery.

Dr. Lawton received his medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering from Brown University. He completed his neurosurgery residency at Barrow, where he also completed a fellowship in cerebrovascular and skull base surgery. After joining the faculty at University of California, San Francisco, he later completed a fellowship in endovascular surgery there.

Dr. Lawton's research studies the formation, underlying genetics, and rupture of brain AVMs, as well as the hemodynamics, rupture, and computational modeling of brain aneurysms. His clinical research studies the anatomy of microsurgical approaches and clinical outcomes of microsurgery for aneurysms, AVMs, and bypass surgery. He is the principal investigator for the Brain Vascular Malformation Consortium, an NIH-funded multicenter group studying the genetics and clinical course of rare vascular diseases of the brain. He has published more than 770 peer-reviewed articles, six single-author textbooks, and more than 100 book chapters.

Knowing neurosurgical education must continue during the pandemic, Dr. Lawton launched Seven Series, a collection of narrated case studies with histories, imaging studies, and illustrations from the Barrow Neuroscience Publications animation studio. He also initiated Barrow Base Camp, a series of videos capturing resident teaching rounds to help neurosurgeons sharpen their skills.

## CSC Sandra Black Lecture

### Addressing Inequities in Stroke Care and Outcomes



#### Joanna Wardlaw, CBE, MD, FRSE, FMedSci

Professor Joanna Wardlaw, CBE, MD, FRSE, FMedSci, is Professor of Applied Neuroimaging at the University of Edinburgh, Foundation Chair in the UK Dementia Research Institute, and Consultant Neuroradiologist for NHS Lothian. Her work focuses on understanding the brain and its

blood supply, and on treatments to improve blood flow to the brain, including thrombolytic drugs that are now in routine use to treat stroke, and more recently on treatments for small vessel disease and vascular dementia. Working with many colleagues, she has been instrumental in advancing understanding of the causes of cerebral small vessel disease and is now testing treatments in clinical trials. She has set up national research imaging facilities, co-ordinated international research networks, advanced stroke care worldwide and published over 1000 papers. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and of the UK's Academy of Medical Sciences, she has received awards from many UK and international brain and heart organisations, and was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to Medicine and Neuroscience in 2016.

## Don't miss the Grand Plenary Speakers Download the CNSF Congress App

Access the most up-to-date information about the Congress, including schedules, session highlights, exhibitor info, maps and much more. Log in or create an account to favorite a presentation, access your personal schedule, take notes, or send feedback. Registered attendees have the added benefit of course material and evaluation surveys to claim CME credits.

Search for **CNSF Congress** in the App Store on your iPhone, iPad, or Android device. Download it for **free** and start planning your experience. **Watch for the 2025 CNSF event!**

Mobile App sponsored by  
**Ainylam Pharmaceuticals Canada.**





# MEET YOUR MENTOR!

## Canadian Association of Child Neurology (CACN) Mentorship Program



The Canadian Association of Child Neurology (CACN) Mentorship Program began in 2017 and has successfully connected dozens of pediatric neurology residents with staff pediatric neurologists across the country. Mentorship is a rewarding and beneficial experience.

Pediatric neurology is a diverse specialty. CACN mentor/mentee matches are made based on specific interests and career track within Pediatric Neurology, regardless of Canadian geographic locations.

The annual CNSF Congress is a great opportunity to meet your mentor in person!

If you are interested in participating in this program, as either a Mentor or a Mentee, you will find details on the CACN residents webpage: [cnsf.org/cacn/about-cacn/residents-page](https://cnsf.org/cacn/about-cacn/residents-page).

## Canadian Neurological Society (CNS) Mentorship Program



The Canadian Neurological Society (CNS) began a similar mentorship program in 2022.

This was created to bolster the professional development of trainees of all levels and early career neurologists by connecting them with experienced neurologists with similar career goals and interests.

The CNS Mentorship Subcommittee has designed a framework for matching mentors and mentees that takes into consideration the diverse landscape and evolving needs of neurology trainees and neurologists across Canada.

The annual CNSF Congress is a great opportunity to meet your mentor in person!

Skillful mentorship is an immensely fulfilling experience and it has enduring beneficial effects for both the mentee and mentor. If you are interested in becoming a mentee or a mentor, you will find all details on the CNS residents webpage: [cnsf.org/cns/about-cns/residents-page](https://cnsf.org/cns/about-cns/residents-page).

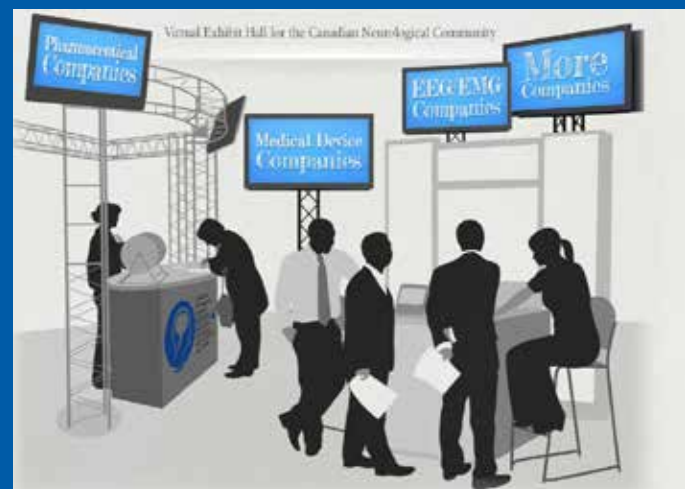
**The annual CNSF Congress is a great opportunity to meet your mentor in person!**

## Virtual Exhibit Hall

The CNSF online Virtual Exhibit Hall (VEH) provides the opportunity for the current year of Sponsors and Exhibitors to showcase their company and provide links to their websites.

We are proud to showcase these CNSF Supporters, and their contributions to the Canadian Neurological community.

**[veh.cnsf.org](https://veh.cnsf.org)**





# MEDEXUS PHARMA

Medexus Pharmaceuticals Inc.

## A Leading Innovative Specialty Pharmaceutical Company

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Medexus Pharmaceuticals Inc. is a leading innovative specialty pharmaceutical company with a highly scalable North American business model based on our fully integrated infrastructure (commercial operations, supply chain, regulatory, medical affairs and salesforce) already in place and a portfolio of specialty and rare disease products that will underpin our growth for the next decade.



1-877-422-5242  
**medexus.com**

***Medexus Pharma is proud to support  
the CNSF 2025 Congress in Ottawa***

# CNSF Congress Abstracts

The CNSF Congress continues to be the premier Canadian meeting for the combined neurosciences, attracting Neurologists, Neurosurgeons, Pediatric Neurologists, Neurophysiologists, Neuroradiologists, Neuroscientists, and those in training.

Abstracts submitted to the CNSF Congress are reviewed by the Scientific Program Committee (SPC) and assigned to sessions, based on substantive grounds, to create a strong scientific program.

Don't miss these abstracts presented in the following formats.

## Electronic Poster Stations

Abstracts designated for an e-poster, are created by the authors, and included on multiple, large screen, poster-viewing stations throughout the Congress meeting space. Posters are searchable by author, subject, or by poster number. All posters are loaded on all of the poster viewing stations and available for delegates to view at any time.

## Poster Moderated Sessions

**Monday, June 9, 10:45-11:45 am**

**Wednesday, June 11, 10:45-11:45 am**

Want to find out more? Every e-poster is included in one of the poster-moderated sessions. These are separated and grouped by topic of interest. Authors are given a designated time to present their poster, concepts, methods, and research findings to the session attendees. Time is allotted for some questions and brief discussion.

On-site digital posters are also available in an online format for all delegates during the Congress from the 2025 [event website](#) and App. After the Congress, accessible through the [CNSF ePoster Gallery](#), for members only for one year.

## Society Mini-Platform Sessions

**Thursday, June 12, 8:00-9:00 am**

Mini-Platform sessions are separated by Society specific topics. Attend these brief oral abstract presentations on Thursday morning before heading over to the Grand Rounds session.

## Society Prize Winning Abstracts

Society Prize Winning abstracts will be presented during the Grand Rounds session: **Thursday, June 12, between 9:00 am and noon.**

Authors that have been awarded a Society Prize for an "Expanded Abstract" submission, will present a platform presentation during the Grand Rounds session. There will be time allotted for some questions and brief discussion.

## Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences (CJNS), 2025 CNSF Congress Abstract Supplement

All abstracts included at the CNSF Congress are published within the CJNS Abstract Supplement. [cnsf.org/congress/call-for-science/call-for-abstracts/abstract-supplements](https://cnsf.org/congress/call-for-science/call-for-abstracts/abstract-supplements).

**Consult the daily programs and include these presentations in your personal agenda.**

## Visit the CNSF website: [cnsf.org](https://cnsf.org)

- Quick access to Webinars, Neuro Career listings, CJNS Journal, Congress info and the latest News
- Keep up with society initiatives and highlights by visiting your Society page
- Visit the new Advocacy Hub and Neuro Surveys pages for Members

**We value our members' input and support — Thank you!**



## THE ONLY SCIG\* WITH 3- AND 4-WEEK DOSING OPTIONS IN CANADA†

HyQvia can be used to subcutaneously administer a full therapeutic dose for CIDP in **1, 2, or 3 sites every 2 to 4 weeks** after a gradual ramp-up dosing interval.

Please see the Product Monograph for complete dosing and administration details.

\*SCIG: subcutaneous immunoglobulin

†Comparative clinical significance is unknown.

*HyQvia is indicated for chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP) as maintenance therapy after stabilization with intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) to prevent relapse of neuromuscular disability and impairment in adults.*



### Recombinant human hyaluronidase (rHuPH20)

rHuPH20 facilitates the dispersion and absorption of IG, 10%.



### Human normal immunoglobulin (IG, 10%)

IG, 10% provides the therapeutic effect of HyQvia.

Clinical significance has not been established.



HyQvia [Normal Immunoglobulin (Human) 10% and Recombinant Human Hyaluronidase] is indicated for chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP) as maintenance therapy after stabilization with intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) to prevent relapse of neuromuscular disability and impairment in adults.

Consult the Product Monograph at <https://www.takeda.com/en-ca/hyqviapm> for important information on:

- **Contraindications** in patients with a history of anaphylactic or severe systemic reactions to immunoglobulin G (IgG), immunoglobulin A (IgA) deficient patients with antibodies to IgA, or known hypersensitivity to hyaluronidase (including rHuPH20 of HyQvia), any of the ingredients of HyQvia, or its containers.
- **Most serious warnings and precautions**, including thrombotic and thromboembolic events
- **Other relevant warnings and precautions**, including thromboembolic events, hemolysis, aseptic meningitis syndrome (AMS), renal dysfunction/failure, non-neutralizing rHuPH20 antibodies, non-cardiogenic pulmonary edema (transfusion-related acute lung injury [TRALI]), hypersensitivity reactions, spread of localized infection, viral or other undetermined diseases, the ability to drive or operate machines, laboratory tests or monitoring, and the use of HyQvia in pregnant or breast-feeding persons, or geriatric patients who are at an increased risk for renal failure or thrombotic events. No data on the use of HyQvia in pediatric patients with CIDP has been made available to Health Canada; therefore, they have not authorized this indication for pediatric use.
- **Conditions of clinical use, adverse reactions, drug interactions and dosing instructions**

The Product Monograph is also available upon request by calling us at **1-800-268-2772**.



# Don't miss these 2025 Congress sessions!

## Hot Topics

**Tuesday, June 10 - 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

**Gain some insights into the most current Hot Topics.**

- **Hot Topics in Neurology:**  
Biomarkers in Clinical Neurology
- **Hot Topics in Neurosurgery:**  
Innovations in Neurosurgery
- **Hot Topics in Neurophysiology:**  
Clinical Neurophysiology
- **Hot Topics in Practical Pediatric Neurology:**  
Navigating Sleep, Movement, Behaviour, and Balance
- **Hot Topics in Neuroradiology:**  
Inflammation
- **Hot Topics in Stroke:**  
Neurocardiology and Intracerebral Hemorrhage

► [2025cnsfcongress.eventscribe.net/SearchByBucket.asp?pfp=Track&bm=Hot%20Topics](https://2025cnsfcongress.eventscribe.net/SearchByBucket.asp?pfp=Track&bm=Hot%20Topics)

## Grand Rounds

**Thursday, June 12 – 9:00 am to 12:00 noon**

**CNSF 2025 Congress features the Grand Rounds session on Thursday morning.**

Time for a bit of fun and lively debate. Interesting cases are presented, and attendees have the opportunity to ask questions and suggest a diagnosis. What will the final outcomes reveal?

**2025 Society Prize Winners** will be in attendance and will present their work between the case presentations. Congratulations to this year's winners.

► <https://cdmcd.co/GwL5Q7>

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Mobile App sponsored by **Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Canada**.



# Congress Sessions Supported by Industry

These sessions are an opportunity for registered delegates to attend specific topics of interest and are developed by the CNSF and Industry. A light lunch will be served. **Pre-registration is required for each session through the Congress registration process.**

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## Monday, June 9, 2025

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm • Lunch 'n Learns

### 1. Inform PD: Identifying optimization strategies in the management of PD

**Faculty:** Barbara Connolly, Phillippe Rizek, Alex Escobar, Justyna Sarna

An informative presentation and discussion on optimizing care for patients with Parkinson's Disease through timely identification and streamlined referral.

*This program was developed by the CNSF and AbbVie and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. It is an unaccredited learning activity and not eligible for MOC credits.*

### 2. Advances in Myasthenia Gravis: Emerging Biological Therapies and Clinical Frontiers

**Faculty:** Carolina Barnett-Tapia, Hans Katzberg

The past decade has been transformative for the treatment of myasthenia gravis. In this symposium, we take stock of our current understanding of the disease and survey the current treatment landscape, with a focus on the evolving role of FcRn inhibitors and their place in therapy. We will explore promising developments and emerging approaches such as complement-targeted and CAR-T cell therapies. Join us for an exciting session with an updated take on myasthenia gravis and its present — and future — treatment.

*This program was developed and planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. It is an unaccredited learning activity and not eligible for MOC credits.*

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## Tuesday, June 10, 2025

12:15 pm – 1:45 pm • Lunch 'n Learns

### 1. Targeting FcRn in gMG: Bridging Clinical Trials to Real-World Outcomes

**Faculty:** Carolina Barnett-Tapia, Oliver Blanchard

Looking for targeted therapies for your generalized myasthenia gravis (gMG) patients? Join us for an interactive program that explores the game-changing role of FcRn inhibitors, bridging clinical trial data, the latest real-world evidence, and real Canadian patient cases. Through dynamic discussions and practical scenarios, you'll learn to apply shared decision-making and goal-setting to optimize gMG care. Engage, apply, and elevate your practice — because your patients deserve the best.

*This program was developed by the CNSF and argenx Canada and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. It is an unaccredited learning activity and not eligible for MOC credits.*

### 2. Unveiling the Power of Registries: Enhancing Care for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) and Rare Diseases

**Faculty:** Hanns Lochmuller, Megan Crone, Kathryn Selby

This session will raise awareness about the evolving role of registries in optimizing care in SMA in Canada and internationally. Disease registries are increasingly recognized as important repositories for real world evidence that can inform the management of patients — particularly those with rare diseases such as spinal muscular atrophy. This course will provide an overview of how registries have played an instrumental role in informing new clinical standards in other areas and explore opportunities for implementation in Canada.

*This program was developed by the CNSF and Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. It is an unaccredited learning activity and not eligible for MOC credits.*

# Congress Sessions Supported by Industry

## 3. THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE In the Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease

**Faculty:** Andrew Frank, Sara Mitchell, Paolo Vitali

The Symposium on Advancements in Alzheimer's Research offers an in-depth exploration of the latest breakthroughs in the understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. This comprehensive program is designed for clinicians, and healthcare professionals, who are dedicated to combating this debilitating neurological disorder.

*This program was developed by the CNSF and Eli Lilly Canada Inc. and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. It is an unaccredited learning activity and not eligible for MOC credits.*

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## Wednesday, June 11, 2025

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm • Lunch 'n Learns

### 1. Navigating CIDP: Diagnosis, Treatment, and the Road Ahead

**Faculty:** Hans Katzberg, Zaeem A. Siddiqi, Vincent Picher-Martel

CIDP management is evolving—are you keeping up? Explore the latest diagnostic strategies, uncover gaps in current treatment approaches, and discover how emerging therapies may change the landscape. Gain expert insights through real-world case discussions and practical clinical guidance. Don't miss this chance to refine your approach and improve patient outcomes!

*This program was developed by the CNSF and argenx Canada and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. It is an unaccredited learning activity and not eligible for MOC credits.*

## 2. A Beacon of Light: Advancing Care in Rare Neurological Disorders

**Faculty:** Michael Nicolle, Vijay Ramaswamy, Michelle Mezei, Mark S. Freedman

Join us at the CNSF conference for a compelling lunch and learn symposium, focusing on Generalized Myasthenia Gravis, Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder, Neurofibromatosis Type 1, and Hereditary Transthyretin Amyloidosis. Led by a panel of leading experts in each field, this session will explore the diagnostic and management strategies for these rare neurological disorders.

*This program was developed by the CNSF and Alexion AstraZeneca Rare Disease and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. It is an unaccredited learning activity and not eligible for MOC credits.*

### 3. Foundations & Frontiers: Advancing Care in Friedreich's Ataxia

**Faculty:** Massimo Pandolfo, Oksana Suchowersky

We're pleased to present an insightful webinar on the latest breakthroughs in Friedreich's Ataxia (FA) diagnosis and patient management. As new treatments emerge, this lunch & learn will equip you with the essential knowledge you need to stay ahead in patient care.

Join renowned experts as they share their expertise on developments in FA care.

*This program was developed by the CNSF and Biogen Canada and was planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. It is an unaccredited learning activity and not eligible for MOC credits.*

These programs are developed by the CNSF and Industry Partners and are planned to achieve scientific integrity, objectivity and balance. They are unaccredited learning activities and not eligible for MOC credits.



# Exhibitor Listing

## AbbVie

● Gold

We do more than treat diseases—we aim to make a remarkable impact on people's lives. We are AbbVie, a highly focused research-driven biopharmaceutical company

## Acadia Pharmaceuticals Canada

### Alexion AstraZeneca Rare Disease

● Gold

AstraZeneca is a science-led biopharmaceutical company pushing the boundaries of science to deliver life-changing medicines in Oncology, and Biopharmaceuticals, including Cardiovascular, Renal & Metabolism, and Respiratory & Immunology.

At Alexion, our mission is to transform the lives of people affected by rare diseases through the development and delivery of innovative medicines, as well as supportive technologies and healthcare services.

### Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Canada

● Bronze

Alnylam is the leading RNAi therapeutics company. We believe our efforts have the potential to improve the lives of Canadian rare disease patients.

### Amicus Therapeutics Canada Inc

Amicus Therapeutics is a global, patient-dedicated biotechnology company focused on developing and delivering high-quality medicines for people living with rare diseases.

## argenx Canada

● Diamond

Where critical patient need meets breakthrough science, that's where we are redefining immunology. argenx is a global immunology company committed to improving the lives of people suffering from severe autoimmune diseases.

## Baxter

At the forefront of innovation in the surgical suite, we design technologies to enhance your technique, increase efficiencies and improve outcomes.

## Biogen Canada

● Gold

Caring deeply. Working fearlessly. Changing lives.

## Carl ZEISS Canada

ZEISS is a global leader in microsurgery solutions, delivering cutting-edge optical technologies that empower surgeons to achieve greater precision, efficiency, and better outcomes across various medical specialties.

## CSL Behring

● Gold

A biotechnology company involved for more than a century with research and development related to severe and rare diseases, giving our support to patients with severe diseases.

## Eisai Limited

● Silver

Tokyo based, family-owned, and deeply entrepreneurial, Eisai focuses its efforts on areas of unmet patient needs. As a result, we currently have 18 compounds in clinical development across neurology and oncology. Each has a unique mechanism of action and are first to market compounds in their space.

## Eli Lilly Canada Inc.

● Diamond

Established in 1938, Eli Lilly produced the world's first commercially available insulin. Today, Lilly focuses on neurology, oncology, diabetes, autoimmunity, and pain.

## Fine Science Tools

For nearly 50 years, Fine Science Tools has been a leading distributor of surgical products and precision microsurgical instruments for scientific and biomedical research, with offices in Foster City (USA) and Heidelberg (Germany).

## Galen Medical Ltd.

Galen Medical is a Canadian supplier of innovative medical technologies in neurosurgery and spine. Visit our booth and try the latest Leica neurosurgery microscope — the future is ARveo 8!

## GeneDx

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

## Hoffmann-La Roche

● Bronze

Patients and science are at the heart of everything we do. With our combined strength in diagnostics and pharmaceuticals, we are advancing healthcare.

## Inomed Canada

For more than 30 years, Inomed's core competency has been intraoperative neuromonitoring. We enable our customers to achieve maximum treatment success that creates safety for doctors and patients.

## Interior Health Authority

Interior Health provides a vast array of specialty health care services. Experience unrivaled collegiality in stunning British Columbia.

## Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine

● Gold

Leading where medicine is going by applying rigorous science with compassion, we continue to confidently address the most complex diseases of our time and unlock the potential medicines of tomorrow.

## KEGO Corporation

KEGO Corporation is a manufacturer and distributor of medical equipment and supplies, specializing in products relevant to respiratory, sleep and neurodiagnostics.

## Lundbeck Canada Inc

● Supporter

As a subsidiary of H. Lundbeck A/S, a global pharmaceutical company specialized in brain diseases, we benefit from more than 70 years at the forefront of neuroscience research. We are tirelessly dedicated to restoring brain health, so every person can be their best.

# Exhibitor Listing continued

## MD Financial and Scotiabank Healthcare+ ● Silver

Together, MD Financial Management and Scotiabank provide a robust suite of comprehensive financial services tailored specifically to physicians' needs and circumstances, including the uniquely co-created Scotiabank Healthcare+ Physician Banking Program.

## Medexus Pharmaceuticals Inc ● Supporter

Medexus Pharmaceuticals Inc. is an innovative specialty & rare disease pharmaceutical company focused on neuro-oncology, hematology, auto-immune diseases, and allergy.

## Medtronic of Canada Ltd.

Through innovation and collaboration, Medtronic helps to improve the lives and health of millions of people each year. Learn more about our technology, services and solutions at Medtronic.ca.

## MitoCanada Foundation

MitoCanada is Canada's only registered health foundation dedicated to transforming the lives of individuals and families with mitochondrial disease by providing education and support, funding transformational research and raising awareness.

## Natus Medical Inc.

Natus provides leading solutions for the neurodiagnostic, neurosurgery, and neurocritical care markets.

## NeuroSource Medical

We are a Canadian-owned neurodiagnostic distribution company made up of clinical professionals with combined expertise in EMG, EEG, IONM, SEEG and Sleep.

## Neurovirtual Canada

Neurovirtual Canada provides innovative EEG, PSG, and ICU monitoring solutions with customizable protocols for hospitals and research centers. Trusted by leading institutions across Canada and globally.

## Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada ● Gold

Novartis is an innovative medicines company. Every day, we work to reimagine medicine to improve and extend people's lives so that patients, healthcare professionals and societies are empowered in the face of serious disease.

## Novus Medical Inc.

Novus is the exclusive Canadian representative for Cadwell neurology solutions.

## Organon Canada Inc. ● Supporter

We envision a better and healthier every day for every woman. By addressing health conditions that are unique to women, affect her disproportionately or impact her differently. Together, we are creating a brighter future for her. Organon, here for her health.

## Paladin Pharma ● Supporter

Headquartered in Montreal, Paladin is a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on acquiring or in-licensing innovative pharmaceutical products for the Canadian market. Paladin has a focused marketing and sales organization that has helped it evolve into one of Canada's leading specialty pharmaceutical companies.

## PENDOPHARM, a division of Pharmascience Inc. ● Supporter

Pendopharm, a leading Canadian specialty pharmaceutical company dedicated to developing, in-licensing and commercializing innovative products to improve the lives of Canadian patients and their families.

## PreventionGenetics

An accredited laboratory founded in 2004 and acquired in 2021 by Exact Sciences. We provide tests for nearly all clinically relevant genes and whole genome and whole exome sequencing tests.

## Sanofi

Sanofi is a global biopharmaceutical company committed to healthcare solutions from prevention to treatment. We turn scientific discoveries into medicine to improve health.

## Servier Canada Inc.

Servier is a privately-owned international pharmaceutical company, governed by a non-profit organization, focused on advancing treatments in neuro-oncology.

## Sun Pharma

Sun Pharma is a global, research-driven, specialty generic pharmaceutical company. Established in 1983, Sun Pharma develops, manufactures and markets affordable prescription and over-the-counter medications including Taro-Perampanel, Taro-Fampridine and Taro-Fingolimod.

## Surgi-One Medical Technologies Inc.

Surgi-One is pleased to be featuring the following products at this year's conference — Sugita T2 Aneurysm Clips and Appliers, Mizuho Micro Vascular Dopplers, Micro Surgical Instruments, Mizuho Neurosurgical Table, Ad-Tech Electrodes for Epilepsy Surgery, Thompson Spine Retractors, NSK Primado 2 Total Surgical System, DORO Cranial Stabilization and Retractor Systems, and SunOptics Surgical Headlights.

## Takeda Canada ● Supporter

Takeda is a patient-focused, innovation-driven global pharmaceutical company that builds on a distinguished 244-year history, aspiring to bring better health and a brighter future for people worldwide.

## UCB Canada Inc ● Silver

UCB is a global biopharmaceutical company, focusing on neurology and immunology. We are around 8,500 people in all four corners of the globe, inspired by patients and driven by science.

## UpCare Partners & Associates Inc.

UpCare Partners and Associates Inc. advances neuroscience in Canada through strategic partnerships with Hyperfine, Brainlab, Avicenna, Olea Medical, FHC, NordicNeuroLab, Icometrix, Pearl Technology, and iRegained, delivering impactful neuro innovations.

# 2025 CNSF Congress Schedule

Browse the full schedule and all the 2025 CNSF Congress program and event details (as of May 13, 2025). Visit [2025cnsfcongress.eventscribe.net](https://2025cnsfcongress.eventscribe.net) or scan the QR code:



## SUNDAY JUNE 8

### 9:00 – 11:30 am | RESIDENTS' COURSES

- **Neurology Residents':**  
Royal College Review: Neurocritical Care and Neuro-oncology
- **Neurosurgery Residents':**  
Skull Base Pathologies and Common Surgical Approaches – part 1

### 11:30 am – 12:30 pm | LUNCH

### 12:30 – 3:00 PM | RESIDENTS' COURSES

- **Neurology Residents':**  
Practical Neurology: Transition to Practice and Medicolegal Considerations
- **Neurosurgery Residents':**  
Skull Base Pathologies and Common Surgical Approaches – part 2

### 3:00 – 6:30 pm | CNSF AGM & BOARD MEETING

## 2025 CNSF Society Annual General Meetings

Please join your colleagues for your society AGM during the 2025 Congress.

These are in-person meetings that require a quorum of members to pass motions and engage in brief discussions.

Take this opportunity to find out what initiatives your society has been working on.

Vote for your society board members that will act on behalf of your society, in support of society projects and interests.

**CNS** ..... Tuesday, June 10, 4:15 pm

**CNSS**.... Wednesday, June 11, 4:30 pm

**CACN**... Wednesday, June 11, 4:30 pm

**CSNR** ... Wednesday, June 11, 4:30 pm

**CSCN** ... Wednesday, June 11, 6:00 pm

## MONDAY JUNE 9

### 8:00 – 10:30 am | MULTIDISCIPLINARY COURSES

- Vascular Neuroimaging — Basic to Advanced
- Interventions for Pharmacoresistant Epilepsy
- Approach to Mitochondrial Neurologic Disorders
- Advanced Therapies for Parkinson's Disease (New Advances in Movement Disorders)
- Neuropalliative Care: Palliative care needs in Neurology & practical pearls for clinical care

### 10:00 am – 5:30 pm | EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

### 10:45 – 11:45 am | POSTER MODERATED SESSIONS

### 12:00 – 1:30 pm | LUNCH 'N LEARNS

- Inform PD: Identifying optimization strategies in the management of PD
- Advances in Myasthenia Gravis: Emerging Biological Therapies and Clinical Frontiers

### 12:00 – 1:30 pm | LUNCH IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

### 1:45 – 4:15 pm

### MULTIDISCIPLINARY COURSES

- My Ear Rings (Tinnitus)
- Functional Neurological Disorder: A Journey from Diagnosis to Rehabilitation
- Neurogenetics
- Definition of Death: The New Guidelines and Definitions
- Competency by Design adaptations: Revising CBD in Neurosurgery

### 4:15 – 5:15 pm | SPC/PDC MEETING

### 4:15 – 5:15 pm | EXHIBITORS' NETWORKING SOCIAL

### 5:15 – 6:45 pm | CLINICAL CASE STUDIES (CCS)

- **CCS:** Hyperkinetic Movement disorders, and interactive Case Based Video Session
- **CCS:** Neurosurgery Fireside Chat
- **CCS:** Neuromuscular Case Discussion
- **CCS:** Video – EEG in epilepsy and other episodic events
- **CCS:** Neuroradiology – Interesting Case Sessions

### 7:30 – 10:30 pm RESIDENTS' AND FACULTY SOCIAL

## TUESDAY JUNE 10

### 6:30 – 8:00 am | CJNS BOARD MEETING

### 7:00 – 8:00 am | SECTION MEETINGS EEG & EMG

### 8:00 – 12:00 noon | GRAND PLENARY

- **CSNR Terbrugge Lecture:** Dr. Carlos Torres – Cognitive errors in Neuroradiology and how to prevent them!
- **CNS Richardson Lecture:** Dr. Aaron Berkowitz – Expanding Global Access to Neurology Care through Education
- **CSCN Gloor Lecture:** Dr. Steven Vernino – Autoimmune Autonomic Disorders
- **CACN Tibbles Lecture:** Dr. David Dodick – Migraine: Better Understanding, Better Treatments, Better Future
- **CNSS Penfield Lecture:** Dr. Michael Lawton – Seven Cavernomas: Taxonomy, Cartography, and the Mind
- **CSC Sandra Black Lecture:** Dr. Joanna Wardlaw – All small blood vessels in the brain are important: A tribute to Dr Sandra Black

### 10:00 am – 5:30 pm | EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

### 12:15 – 1:45 pm | LUNCH 'N LEARNS

- Targeting FcRn in gMG: Bridging Clinical Trials to Real-World Outcomes
- Unveiling the Power of Registries: Enhancing Care for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) and Rare Diseases
- THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE In the Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease

### 12:15 – 1:45 pm | LUNCH IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

### 2:00 – 4:00 pm | HOT TOPIC COURSES

- **Hot Topics in Neurology:** Biomarkers in Clinical Neurology
- **Hot Topics in Neurosurgery:** Innovations in Neurosurgery
- **Hot Topics in Neurophysiology**
- **Hot Topics in Practical Pediatric Neurology:** Navigating Sleep, Movement, Behaviour, and Balance
- **Hot Topics in Neuroradiology:** Inflammation
- **Hot Topics in Stroke:** Neurocardiology and Intracerebral Hemorrhage

### 4:15 – 5:15 pm | CNS AGM

### 4:15 – 5:30 pm | EXHIBITORS' NETWORKING BREAK

### 6:00/7:00 pm | SOCIETY DINNERS CNS, CACN, CNSS, CSNR



# 2025 CNSF Congress Schedule

Browse the full schedule and all the 2025 CNSF Congress program and event details (as of May 13, 2025). Visit [2025cnsfcongress.eventscribe.net](https://2025cnsfcongress.eventscribe.net) or scan the QR code:



## WEDNESDAY JUNE 11

7:30 am – 12:00 noon | EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

8:00 – 10:30 am | SOCIETY DAY

- **CNS Day:** Assessment and treatment of CNS Inflammatory Conditions
- **CNS Day:** Update on Headache
- **CNSS Day:** Complication Avoidance and Management in Neurosurgery- The Journey Continues
- **CSCN Day:** Autonomic Neurology
- **CACN Day:** Pediatric Migraine, Headaches and Pain – part 1
- **CSNR Day:** Imaging of the cranial and peripheral nerves
- **CSC Day:** Endovascular Escapades: A Hands-on Course in Neurointervention for Trainees

10:45 – 11:45 am | POSTER MODERATED SESSIONS

12:00 – 1:30 pm | LUNCH 'N LEARNS

- Navigating CIDP: Diagnosis, Treatment, and the Road Ahead
- A Beacon of Light: Advancing Care in Rare Neurological Disorders
- Foundations & Frontiers – Advancing Care in Friedreich's Ataxia

1:45 – 4:15 pm | SOCIETY DAY

- **CNS Day:** Brain cells and vessels on fire: Autoimmune encephalitis and CNS vasculitis
- **CNSS Day:** Future of Neurosurgery in Canada- Where are we Going?
- **CSCN Day:** Seizing the Moment: Exploring Recent Advances in FCDs and other MCDs
- **CSCN Day:** Therapeutic Advances in Neuromuscular Medicine
- **CACN Day:** Pediatric Migraine, Headaches and Pain – part 2
- **CSNR Day:** Distal Vessel Stroke session
- **CSC Day:** Stroke Resuscitation Course

4:30 – 6:00 pm | CACN, CNSS, CSNR AGMs

6:00 – 7:30 pm | CSCN AGM

## THURSDAY JUNE 12

8:00 – 9:00 am | SOCIETY MINI-PLATFORM

9:00 – 12:00 pm | GRAND ROUNDS

- Society Prize Winning Abstracts and Interactive Case Presentations

## Visit our 2025 Exhibit Hall

to view some of the latest technologies to assist in your practice

These exhibitors are here to see you, and they are proud to demonstrate the science behind their medical devices and the efficacy of their products. Drop by anytime the Exhibit Hall is open to enjoy some conversation and coffee while you take a look around.

Monday open .....	10 am – 5:30 pm
Monday Lunch .....	12:00 – 1:30 pm
Monday Exhibitors' Networking Social .....	4:15 pm – 5:15 pm
Tuesday open .....	10 am – 5:30 pm
Tuesday Lunch .....	12:15 – 1:45 pm
Tuesday Exhibitors' Networking Break .....	4:15 pm – 5:30 pm
Wednesday open .....	7:30 am – 12 noon

Thank you for supporting our industry partners as they support us.

## Stay connected:

### Download the CNSF Congress App

Access the most up-to-date information about the Congress, including schedules, session highlights, exhibitor info, maps and much more. Log in or create an account to favorite a presentation, access your personal schedule, take notes, or send feedback. Registered attendees have the added benefit of course material and evaluation surveys to claim CME credits.

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