



CNSS Lifetime Achievement Award

Plenary Session - CNSS Neurosurgery

Room 204AB 08:30-10:00

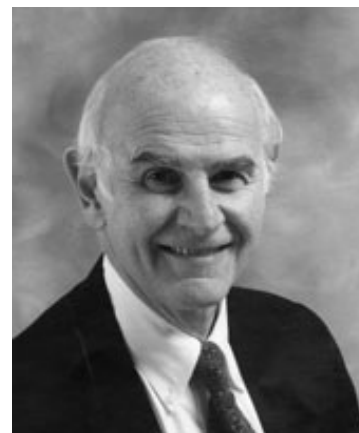
Learning Objectives: At the end of this session, participants will have gained knowledge on:
1. Understanding the mechanisms and recovery of the comatose human brain.
2. The surgical management of spinal neoplasms.

Learning Format: Plenary

08:30 Welcome & Presentation of CNSS Lifetime Achievement Award to Charles Tator
J. Max Findlay
08:40 **Inside the Black Box: Illuminating the Comatose Human Brain**
Stephan Mayer (New York, New York, USA)
09:20 **Surgical Management of Spinal Neoplasms**
Ziya Gokaslan (Baltimore, Maryland, USA)

Canadian Neurosurgical Society Lifetime Achievement Award Charles H. Tator

Dr. Tator is a professor in the Department of Surgery, at the University of Toronto, and a neurosurgeon at the Toronto Western Hospital. After graduating from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto in 1961, he trained in research in neuropathology at the University of Toronto and received an MA in 1963 and a PHD in 1965. He completed the Neurosurgery resident training program at the University of Toronto in 1969. He has been Chair of Neurosurgery at the University of Toronto and the Chief of Neurosurgery at Sunnybrook and the Toronto Western Hospitals. He started the first Acute Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) unit in Canada in 1974, and studied the epidemiology, prevention and treatment of acute SCI. He examined the role of surgery and acute spinal cord decompression in clinical and experimental studies. His laboratory research has been aimed at determining the pathophysiology of SCI, especially mechanisms of secondary injury including posttraumatic ischemia. His acute cord clip compression model was the first SCI model in rodents. His current laboratory focus is on stem cell research for regeneration after spinal cord injury.



He has held two research chairs at the University of Toronto, the Dan Family Chair in Neurosurgery and the Campeau Family-Charles Tator Chair in Brain and Spinal Cord Research. In 2000, he received the Order of Canada.

In 1985-86, he was President of the Canadian Neurosurgical Society, and from 2002-2007 he was Chair of the Canadian Brain and Nerve Health Coalition. In 1992, he founded ThinkFirst, Canada, a national brain and spinal cord injury foundation whose mission is to reduce the incidence of catastrophic injuries in Canada. He was President of ThinkFirst from 1992-2007. ThinkFirst is a leader in the promotion of safety for Canada's children and youth and has developed and disseminated targeted injury prevention programs in schools and in sports and recreation.

Dr. Tator, a pioneer "surgeon-scientist", has inspired a generation of neurosurgeons to follow suit, combining the practice of neurosurgery with the pursuit of high quality scientific research into neurosurgical conditions we struggle with daily in the clinic. In Dr Tator's name, the Charles H. Tator Surgeon: Scientist Mentoring Award has recently been established at the University of Toronto.