

Pediatric Short Cuts

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

CHAIR'S MESSAGE



It is a profound honor to serve as your Chair of the Pediatric Section for the next two years. I have large shoes to fill after the stellar leadership of my predecessors and friends Matt Smyth, Benny Iskandar, Mark Krieger, Mark Proctor, Al Cohen and others. Most importantly, however, I am grateful for the trust that all of you have placed in

me and the other outstanding officers including Ruth Bristol (Chair-elect), David Limbrick (Secretary), Amy Lee (Treasurer), and the entire executive committee, to lead the Section during this time.

Please join me in congratulating Jeff Campbell and Hal Meltzer for putting together a wonderful pediatric program at the recent Congress of Neurological Surgeons Annual meeting in Los Angeles. Thanks to many excellent faculty from the Section, the program was informative and comprehensive including sessions on epilepsy, spinal deformity, tumors, dysraphism, myelomeningocele guidelines, vascular bypass, hydrocephalus, and work/life balance. The feedback has been exceptional.

We are all very excited for the upcoming Annual Pediatric Section meeting which takes place from Thursday December 4th to Sunday December 7th at the historic Peabody Hotel in Memphis, TN. Paul Klimo and his team have been hard at work planning a cutting-edge scientific program including morning sessions highlighting the top ranked abstracts as well as mixing in some local culture and cuisine with social events. And for those of you who are Elvis fanatics (yes this means you Al Cohen), please send in your Elvis impersonation video to our Communications Committee chairs Neena Marupudi (marneena@med.umich.edu) and Randi Barnett (rbarn4@gmail.com) to create what is certain to be a fun and memorable video!

I would like to remind members to sign up and participate in the major initiative that the Section has recently launched called the Pediatric Section Research Group (PSRG), a collaborative network that is designed to facilitate greater participation in research among Section members and overall higher quality research for our field. Under the PSRG, eight separate Research Interest Groups (RIGs) have been established that investigate different pediatric neurosurgical research areas. These initial RIGs will focus on Chiari, Craniofacial, Epilepsy/Functional, Hydrocephalus, Neuro-oncology, Spine, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Vascular. Section members are invited to participate in up to two RIGs at any given time and can change RIGs at any time if desired. Members of RIGs will meet to discuss collaborative research ideas virtually throughout the year and then in person with dedicated time and meeting space during the Annual Pediatric Section meeting. You can sign up for the RIGs while registering for the Annual meeting or by contacting the chair or vice chair of the RIG you are interested in. Please reach out to me, Todd Hankinson (PSSG Chair), or David Hersh (PSRG Vice Chair) with any questions or concerns.

In closing, I could not be more excited about serving the Section for the next two years. As always, and on behalf of all of the officers, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us with comments, concerns or ideas regarding the Section. We welcome and encourage involvement of all members. Please take the time now to register and make travel plans for the upcoming Memphis meeting. . . and with that. . .

. . . Thank you. . . Thank you very much.

Richard Anderson
Chair, AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

In this Issue...

Richard Anderson (Editor)

Chair’s Message 1

APP Committee 2

Membership Report..... 3

Industry Relations..... 3

Research Committee 4

Treasurer’s Report..... 5

ABPNS Update..... 6

Quality Improvement
Committee 7

International Relations..... 8
Committee

In Memoriam 10

Guideline Committee..... 12

Education Committee 13

The Timothy George
Committee on Diversity and
Inclusion in Pediatric
Neurosurgery 14

Communications Committee..... 15

Transition of Care Committee 16

Coding and Reimbursement
Committee..... 17

Awards/Lectures Committee 18

ACPNF Report..... 19

AANS Joint Section on
Pediatric Neurosurgery
Officers and Committees 25

APP COMMITTEE

Michelle Buontempo, MSN, RN, CCRN, CPNP

We have a lot of exciting updates to share. First, the 2025 APP course in Memphis is shaping up to be a great experience. This year we’re adding the hands-on session many of you requested, which will include VNS interrogation and endoscopy. We’re also planning a panel discussion highlighting Women in Neurosurgery, which I know many of you are looking forward to.

Looking ahead, we have our next journal club scheduled for January 28, 2026, discussing implanted EEG. We look forward to reviewing the evidence surrounding ICU bypass and discussion of different protocols across the country.

In May we engaged in discussion of APP orientation and training, preceded by a survey of what onboarding looks like across our APP membership. Our September journal club discussed the varying practices of tethered cord care in different institutions through the entire operative and post operative process.

Our October 2025 newsletter has gone out, and we’re planning to continue sending quarterly updates to keep everyone in the loop.

We also continue to stay involved with the Transition of Care Committee, where APP participation has been really valuable. In addition, we’ve created a welcome email that will be sent out quarterly to new members. It’s a simple way to help introduce them to the group, highlight the main meetings, and make sure they know about opportunities to get involved.

Finally, one of our ongoing projects includes supporting real-time clinical inquiry, helping to make sure questions that come up in practice can be quickly explored and addressed.

It is a great honor to serve among the respected APP’s of our committee. I would like to thank Haley and the leadership committee for their continued guidance through this transition, and look forward to learning from and supporting the APP members.

Our APP work is critical in the changing landscape of healthcare, and our committee embodies the dedication in service to our patients.

The views reflected in this newsletter are solely the views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views, opinions or positions of either the AANS or the CNS.

AANS / CNS SECTION ON PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Jennifer Ronecker

Membership Class	2025 Dues	2025 Fall	2025 Spring	2024 Fall	2024 Spring	2023 Fall	2023 Spring
Active	\$150	391	383	377	370	359	368
International	\$50	37	36	34	34	34	39
Adjunct/Associate	\$75	56	54	48	37	33	33
Lifetime	\$0	94	93	89	92	93	95
Med Student	\$0	47	43	29	19	45	38
Resident/Fellow	\$0	128	136	121	124	159	161
TOTAL		753	745	698	676	723	734

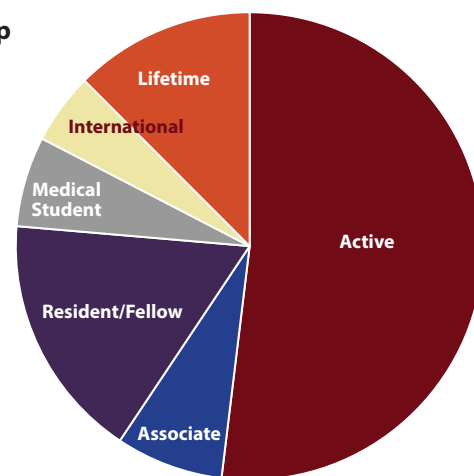
Membership Retention

-Members are inactivated if they have not paid their dues for more than 36 months. Those who have been inactivated are contacted and encouraged to reapply.

Category	Unpaid	Total	% Unpaid
Active	182	391	47
International	21	37	57
Adjunct/Associate	33	56	59

Current Membership Distribution November 2025

New members can apply online through at www.myaans.org.



INDUSTRY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Michael M. McDowell, MD and Brian W. Hanak, MD

The Industry Relations Committee is pleased to announce that at this year’s AANS/CNS Pediatric Neurological Surgery Section meeting in Memphis there will be two grant awards announced: the third annual KLS Martin Innovations Award (\$20,000) and the first annual Sophysa Research Award (\$20,000).

The KLS Martin Innovations Award is dedicated to supporting early-stage development of intellectual property for commercialization. At the conclusion of the scientific session on Friday December 5th of this year’s meeting Andrew T. Hale, MD, PhD (University of Alabama at Birmingham neurosurgery resident), last year’s recipient of the KLS Martin Innovations Award, will be presenting a virtual update on his research project: *Molecular test for personalized pharmacotherapy in*

arteriovenous malformations. Dr. Hale conducted this project in conjunction with Kristopher T. Kahle, MD, PhD and their work has resulted in a provisional patent filing (Hale & Kahle co-inventors) which has been licensed to a start-up company, exemplifying the goal of this funding mechanism.

The new Sophysa Research Award is dedicated to supporting neurosurgical trainee lead research related to traumatic brain injury, intracranial hypertension, and hydrocephalus. We were thrilled to receive 14 excellent grant applications for the inaugural edition of this funding mechanism.

Lastly, we are pleased to announce that we are in late stage talks with Aesculap, Inc. to sponsor a third pediatric neurosurgery research grant in 2026.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Laila Mohammad, MD and Brandon Miller, MD, PhD

This year, the committee has focused on expanding collaborative infrastructure, improving communication pathways, and enhancing the visibility of ongoing research initiatives. In partnership with Dr. Todd Hankinson, the committee is also supporting the integration of Research Interest Groups (RIGs). Research Committee members will attend all eight RIGs at the upcoming Memphis meeting and will distribute a new “Resources for RIGs” guide outlining committee-supported tools for study development. Maintaining an updated online presence and building a model for sustained collaboration remain key goals moving forward.

Across all subcommittees, the Research Committee remains deeply committed to fostering collaboration, supporting scholarship, and enhancing the research capacity of the pediatric neurosurgery community. Members interested in participating in any initiative or learning more are encouraged to reach out at pedssectionresearch@gmail.com.

Grants Subcommittee

Winson Ho and Afshin Salehi, Co-Chairs

The Grants Subcommittee reviewed fifteen applications for the Meghan Rose Bradley Foundation Pediatric Brain Cancer Pilot Grant and selected a recipient. Ongoing review is underway for fourteen Sophysa Young Investigator Award submissions and ten applications for the KLS Martin Innovations Challenge Award. Research Committee members also volunteered as reviewers for the NREF grant cycle, further strengthening the committee’s national footprint in grant evaluation. Preparation has already begun for the Pediatric Section Research Grant due April 1. The subcommittee remains committed to enhancing access to funding opportunities and supporting high-quality scientific inquiry.

Pediatric Section Research Group

Todd Hankinson, David Hersh

- Objective: establish an infrastructure for conducting multicenter, collaborative research among members of the Section.
- Structure: beginning with 8 individual Research Interest Groups (RIGs)
- Meetings taking place during lunch hours Fri/Sat



	RIG	Chair	Vice Chair	Existing Registry
Group A	Spine	Mari Groves	Raj Iyer	PSSG
	Epilepsy/Functional	George Ibrahim	Allyson Alexander	PERC
	Vascular	Alfred See	Jonathan Scoville	?
	TBI	Eric Sribnick	David Limbrick	?
Group B	Chiari	Brandon Rocque	Vijay Ravindra	CCRC; PRSRC
	Neuro-oncology	David Hersh	Paul Klimo	ATPC; NPA
	Hydrocephalus	Mandeep Tamber	Trey McClugage	HCRN/HCRNq
	Craniofacial	Jennifer Strahle	Alex Tucker	<u>SynRG</u>

Clinical Research Subcommittee

Hassan Akbari and Jonathan Pindrik, Co-Chairs

The Clinical Networks Subcommittee aims to establish a structured, scalable framework for multi-institutional clinical research across the Section. Efforts this year have included updating the website, developing a shared repository of clinical research resources, and advancing several ongoing collaborative projects. The multicenter sinogenic intracranial infection initiative was accepted by JNS Peds and multiple ancillary projects in development. To further support collaboration and idea generation, quarterly research clubs are in development to provide investigators with an opportunity to workshop proposals, receive feedback, and form new partnerships.

NeuroPoint Alliance (under Clinical Networks)

David Hersh, Chair

The subcommittee is also leading efforts to build the Pediatric Neurosurgical Oncology Registry in partnership with the NeuroPoint Alliance.

Basic Science Research Subcommittee

Wes Phillips and Jarod Roland, Co-Chairs

The Basic Science Subcommittee is committed to building a unified network of pediatric neurosurgeon-scientists and supporting those who wish to expand their involvement in laboratory, translational, or foundational research. This year, the subcommittee has planned a basic science scientific session and a networking and mentoring event for the annual meeting. These efforts will help identify member needs and inform future initiatives. Work is also underway to develop online resources, design a faculty mentoring program, and update the "Building a Successful Research Program" handbook, which will be hosted on the Research Committee website. Through these initiatives, the subcommittee aims to cultivate a supportive environment for basic science engagement across the Section.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Amy Lee, M.D.

The AANS/CNS Joint Section in Pediatric Neurological Surgery remains in sound financial health. Net assets as per the financial statement dated 6/30/25 totaled \$1,042,502, reflecting a decrease of \$89,349 from the prior year (\$1,131,851) mainly due to the \$250,000 donation to NREF's Champion fund in April of 2025. The net assets continue to maintain a comfortable reserve to support the annual meeting plus Section activities for two years without any additional revenue. As of 9/30/2025, the Pediatric section's investments have a market value of \$1,380,011 with the total cost of \$905,951.

Annual Meeting

Projections for the 2025 Memphis meeting are still pending.

Long Term Investments

The Section's long-term investment account experienced a robust increase of \$176,530 to \$1,380,011. Notably, the Section's long-term investments are handled via a pooled investment portfolio with the other sections, which allows the sections to participate in funds not otherwise available to smaller investors. The Section also holds \$500,000 of matched funds in the CNS Foundation.

Honor Your Mentor Funds

As of 6/30/2025, the A. Leland Albright fund has accumulated \$66,105, with \$16,757 in investment earnings, and has disbursed awards totaling \$45,906. The Sanjiv Bhatia fund has accumulated \$113,108, with \$32,832 in investment earnings and has disbursed \$7,717 (awards were previously subsidized by the Section and the ASPN). The Marion "Jack" Walker fund has accumulated \$28,790, with \$8,607 in investment earnings. The Walker fund is just over 50% of the way to the \$50,000 milestone to begin award disbursement. The Jerry Oakes HYM fund has accumulated \$14,610 with \$3,584 in investment earnings.

Specific Expenses and Financial Resolutions

The Section continues to maintain and even expand its commitment toward its educational and research missions. Between the section research awards, the pediatric NREF fellowship award, domestic and international traveling fellowships, and industry-matched innovation awards, and private foundation donations, the section continues to offer nearly 20 different awards, with others on the way soon.

ABPNS UPDATE

Mark Krieger, MD

Membership:

The American Board of Pediatric Neurological Surgery continues to independently oversee the certification of pediatric neurosurgeons. There are currently 355 dues-paying active pediatric neurosurgeons certified by the Board, with an additional 7 individuals in the certified-inactive category, 49 retired, 49 not recertified, and 21 deceased. The ABPNS Credential has always been time limited to 10 years.

The current Board composition (which rotates its composition 12/4/25) is 11 Directors, with an Executive Committee consisting of Mark Krieger (chair), David Gruber (vice chair), Dody Robinson (secretary), Jodi Smith (treasurer), and Karin Muraszko (member-at-large). A new Director and a new slate of officers will take office as of today (12/4/25).

Credentialing:

The requirements for the Pediatric Recognition of Focused Practice Designation (RFPD) are: ABNS certification with a passing score on the ABNS pediatric focused oral examination, a passing score on the pediatric RFPD examination, and an approved case log (95 pediatric cases in 18 months or 65 pediatric cases in 12 months). 7 individuals are currently in this process. 2 additional individuals are in process via the Canadian pathway and the subsequent pathway (for individuals who have prior ABNS certification outside the standard pathway).

The case log requirements are being modified to focus on consecutive patients who had major surgical procedures.

Continuous certification is required for all Diplomats with the Pediatric RFPD. CC requires completion of the ABNS CC process, completion of the pediatric specific CC learning tool module, and an attestation of averaging at least 65 cases per year in children 21 years of age or younger over the prior 2 years. 4 individuals have lost the pediatric RFPD for failure to meet these requirements.

Recertification requires annual participation in the ABNS/ABPNS continuous certification process, regardless of lifetime ABNS certification. 16 individuals are up for their 10 year recertification this year; 4 additional individuals have requested a change of status.

Re-entry after loss of the RFPD requires a case log, reinstatement fees, participation in MOC/CC, and may require completion of the written exams.

Examinations:

The ABPNS written examination (aka pediatric RFPD exam) was administered on June 13, 2025-it is now administered only 1 date per year. 15 ABPNS Board eligible individuals took it for credit and all passed; and additional 7 individuals also took it and 6/7 passed it.

There is now a Pediatric Neurosurgery Exam Questions Master Committee, chaired by Ruth Bristol. This group works with representatives from the ABPNS, ASPN, and Pediatric Joint Section to develop exam items for the oral exams, primary exam, and continuous certification learning tools.

Future Directions:

Work continues on the ABNS and ABPNS merger. The goal is to preserve the mission and vision of the ABPNS which serves as the primary accreditation organization for certification in pediatric neurosurgery. Consolidation would provide better alignment of initial board certification, continuous certification, recertification, and disciplinary actions, as well as eliminate any redundant activities for improved efficiency and cost savings. The hope is that this can be completed over the next 6 months, after updating and alignment of the bylaws and governance documents.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Greg Olavarria, MD, Laura Prolo, MD and Viren Desai, MD

The QI Committee was ably led by Drs. Drapeau and Sandoval-Garcia as an inaugural committee for the Section. Filling those large shoes will be a challenge, but Drs Olavarria, Prolo, and Desai have taken on the challenge. Already published on the topics of quality and safety research as well as a review of standardized protocols in our field, a stellar team was assembled.

The original charter delineated the responsibilities of the committee to include: 1) evaluate the current state of quality initiatives around the country and at Canadian centers, 2) determine the infrastructure needed to develop new quality programs, and 3) provide education on the Science of Improvement and Safety to surgeons interested in broadening their “QI IQ”. Multi-center collaboration is the key to advancing the field and we intend to continue this work.

Future projects for our tenure include:

- A survey went out to the membership on the basics of preoperative and postoperative care. We all do things differently and can learn from tried-and-true techniques and protocols that reduce complications and enhance outcomes.
- We hope to increase the visibility of the QI committee at our national meetings in 2026 and 2027. Quality and safety initiatives will be featured in a selection of abstracts and a panel of experts on a specific topic to be determined.
- The Section website should be a repository of shared QI projects and protocols. Currently, the site contains several published papers on quality and safety, as well as a collection of management protocols. It is our goal to add to this repository with a list of institutional protocols from the broader membership.
- Educational material is available to patients and their families on most institution’s websites. There is a paucity of information in various languages for parents, and the QI committee page of the website could serve this purpose.
- Other ideas for consideration: query NSQIP database for quality and safety metrics on various disorders; postoperative antibiotic stewardship; location of patients postoperatively and to evaluate the trend toward lower levels of care for the appropriate patient; utilization of Section and AANS/CNS forums such as podcasts and webinars to promote quality initiatives, have experts weigh in on specific topics, and perhaps have panel discussions.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Vision Statement:

Providing a leadership role in promoting and coordinating global neurosurgical efforts among section members.

Primary Goal:

To determine global neurosurgical educational activities, identify regional international education experts, and promote international educational, collaborative, and research activities through these experts.

Leadership & Appointments

Co-Chairs:

- Tola Roberts (tolaroberts@gmail.com)
- Eisha Christian (eishaanne@gmail.com)

Advisors:

- Christopher Bonfield (chris.bonfield@vumc.org)
- Eylem Ocal (EOcal@uams.edu)
- Rebecca Reynolds (rebecca-reynolds@uiowa.edu)
- Heather Spader (heatherspader@gmail.com)

Subcommittee Updates

International Education Subcommittee Co-Chairs:

- Rebecca Reynolds
- Aaron Robison

Committee Members:

- Michael Dewan, Syed Hassan Akbari, Albert Tu, Patrick O'Brien, Carolyn Quinsey, Rachel Vaughan, Bruno Braga, Ariana Barkley

Vision Statement:

Provide neurosurgical education platforms that are free and accessible to English and non-English speakers, including international journal clubs and an open-access video library.

2026 Goals & Activities:

- ISPN Collaborations
- Exploring in-person Bootcamp for future.
- Standardizing global curriculum for pediatric neurosurgery.
- Hosting quarterly international journal clubs
- Next Journal Club is Japan: Spasticity Management Feb 8, 8 AM JST, Feb 7 6PM EST
- Developing international educational mentoring programs.
- Establishing a research collaborative framework.
- Regional focus: Philippines (Phil Aldana / Patricia Clerkin), Vietnam (Brandon Rocque), Pakistan (Raheel Ahmed, Hasan Raza Syed, Hassan Akbari).

International Clinical Collaboration Subcommittee

Chair:

Patricia Clerkin

Committee Members:

- Megan Still, Raheel Ahmed, Chris Bonfield, Ros Whelan

Vision Statement:

Centralize and promote clinical collaborations globally, providing bi-directional partnerships in pediatric neurosurgery.

2026 Goals & Activities:

- Compiling a repository of ongoing international clinical collaborations from survey to put on website
- Partnering with global research committees to establish population registries.
- Providing career counseling and mentoring advice.
- Seeking funding for fee waivers and additional annual projects.



International Liaisons

Vision Statement:

Cultivate meaningful connections between the AANS/CNS Pediatric Neurosurgery Section and global neurosurgical societies.

Region / Organization	Liaison(s)	Email(s)
WFNS	Hassan Syed	hsyed@childrensnational.org
ISPN	Zulma Tovar Spinoza, Albert Tu	tovarspsz@upstate.edu, albertdtu@gmail.com
ESPN	—	—
APP SONS/SOICH/GICS	Eylem Ocal	EOcal@uams.edu
ASPN	Albert Tu	albertdtu@gmail.com
AANS/CNS	Patricia Clerkin	quebadaclerkin@att.net
Brazil	Bruno Braga	bruno.braga@utsouthwestern.edu
Australia/New Zealand	Sarah McNutt, Victor Lu	mractorlu@gmail.com
South America	Zulma Tovar Spinoza, Victor Lu	tovarspsz@upstate.edu, mractorlu@gmail.com
Middle East	Kaveh Asadi	kaveh.asadi@me.com
Africa	Tola Roberts	tolaroberts@gmail.com
India	Aaron Mohanty	aarmohanty@yahoo.com
Pakistan	Hasan Raza Syed, Hassan Akbari, Raheel Ahmed	hsyed@childrensnational.org, raheel.ahmed@neurosurgery.wisc.edu, sakbari3@jhu.edu
Southeast Asia / Philippines	Phillip Aldana, Patricia Clerkin	Philipp.Aldana@jax.ufl.edu, quebadaclerkin@att.net
Japan	Kaveh Asadi	kaveh.asadi@me.com
Central America & Caribbean	Louis Valery Carius	louisval.carius@gmail.com

2026 Goals & Activities:

- Form relationships with neurosurgical societies in appointed areas.
- Encourage participation in the AANS/CNS Pediatric section.
- Facilitate educational and research exchanges.
- Support subcommittees in achieving their goals.
- Notable activities: Brazil Journal Club led by Bruno Braga; Japan Global Journal Club (Feb 8, 8 am JST; Feb 7, 6 pm EST).

Sanjeev Bhatia Fellowship

Coordinator:

Heather Spader/Tola Roberts

2025 Activities:

- Two applications received: Amanda Stanton (Gainesville, working with Vanderbilt/Dewan) and Rachel Vaughan (Dalhousie/Halifax—South Africa).
- Next steps for 2026: Fellowship committee formation, advertising, mentor recruitment, selection and presentation at section meeting, involvement of Bhatia family, coordination with host site, abstract presentation.

Website & Communications

Website Officer

Megan Still (advisor: Pat O Brian)

2026 Activities:

- Coordinating changes to the Pediatric Section website, hosting on own web domain, medical student volunteer support, liaison with ISPN (Ronnie Battialon).

Topics for Executive Committee Meeting:

- Publicity and compensation proposals for the Bhatia Fellowship
- Scheduled presentations by Bhatia fellows at annual meetings (2025, 2026)
- Planning for a global session in San Francisco
- Coordination with the 2026 meeting host
- Website updates

Summary of Committee Impact:

The IRC continues to advance global pediatric neurosurgery through education, clinical collaboration, and international partnerships. The committee's efforts in standardizing curriculum, expanding mentoring, and fostering research collaborations are central to its mission. The Sanjeev Bhatia Fellowship, Member Survey and international journal clubs remain highlights of the year, reflecting the committee's commitment to global engagement and professional development.

IN MEMORIAM

Andrew B. Foy, MD, FAANS, FCNS, FACS

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of Andrew B. Foy, MD, FAANS, FCNS, FACS, Professor of Neurosurgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and pediatric neurosurgeon at Children's Wisconsin (CW).

A Chicago-native, Dr. Foy's first foray into Milwaukee was as an undergraduate student at Marquette University, from which he graduated cum laude with a B.A. in English in 1999. He obtained his MD at Georgetown University in 2003, where he was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Medical Honor Society. Dr. Foy completed his neurosurgical residency training at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN in 2010, during which time he also completed a two-year research fellowship in neuro-oncology. He then went on to complete a fellowship in pediatric neurosurgery at Lurie Children's Hospital and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, IL in 2011.

Dr. Foy joined the MCW Department of Neurosurgery and the staff of Children's Wisconsin in 2011 and spent his entire neurosurgical career there. He established a broad practice in pediatric neurosurgery, while cultivating interests and expertise in fetal/neonatal care and pediatric brain tumors. He performed the first fetal myelomeningocele repair in Wisconsin in 2014, and achieved several other "firsts" at CW, including endonasal/endoscopic pituitary surgery and endoscopic third ventriculostomy with choroid plexus coagulation for hydrocephalus. In 2019, Dr. Foy became the medical director for the Comprehensive Spina Bifida Program which he transformed into a top-tier program. He collaborated with colleagues in neonatology, child neurology, and neuropsychology in the development of neonatal intensive care unit follow-up clinics, which has become a national model for optimal care in this vulnerable population.

Dr. Foy was passionate about delivering the best care possible to his patients and their families; in turn, he was beloved by them. He routinely received recognition at CW for his high patient satisfaction scores and has been listed as a Castle Connolly Top Doctor since 2019. Andy was a strong advocate within the spina bifida community both locally, nationally, and internationally. He was actively involved with the Global Alliance for Prevention of Spina Bifida (GAPSBiF), and served on the board of Spina Bifida Wisconsin. He published dozens of peer-reviewed articles and served as a reviewer for multiple neurosurgical journals. He was a dedicated educator, having given numerous invited lectures nationally and internationally, as well as serving as an instructor for various practical courses in addition to his MCW teaching activities. As part of his national service, Dr. Foy was also an exam question developer, case reviewer, and guest examiner for the American Board of Neurological Surgery.

Outside of work, he was known for his sardonic humor, Chicago Cubs fandom, enthusiasm for travel and music, and his devotion to his wife Michelle Clarke, and their daughter, Annika.

Dr. Foy was a passionate supporter of many local charities in Wisconsin, including Spina Bifida Wisconsin, the Urban Ecology Center, and Lake Park Friends. He would undoubtedly be honored by any contributions made in his memory.

Dr. Foy will have a lasting impact on the MCW/CW community and on the patients and families he has served over the course of his career. He will be sorely missed.

Sean M. Lew, MD, FAANS

Professor of Neurosurgery
Mardak Vandenberg Chair in Pediatric Neurosurgery
Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery

Shelly D. Timmons, MD, PhD, FACS, FAANS

Professor of Neurosurgery
Sanford J. Larson, MD, PhD Chair in Neurosurgery
Neurosurgery Department Chair

IN MEMORIAM

Arnold H. Menezes, M.B.B.S.

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Arnold H. Menezes, M.B.B.S., Professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Iowa.

Dr. Menezes was born in Bombay (now Mumbai), India, where he attended Topiwala National Medical College at Bombay University, graduating in 1967. He completed his neurosurgical training at the University of Iowa in 1973 under George Perret, MD, and Carl Graf, MD, and added fellowship training in pediatric neurology under William Bell, MD. He joined the University of Iowa faculty in 1974 and remained throughout his distinguished career, continuing to care for patients until the very end.

Over five decades at Iowa, Dr. Menezes became an internationally recognized authority on disorders of the craniovertebral junction and skull base. His pioneering work defined the natural history and management of congenital, developmental, and acquired abnormalities of the craniovertebral junction. Blending expertise in pediatric neurosurgery, spine, and skull base disorders, he created a unique clinical practice with a major focus on congenital and acquired conditions of the developing spine.

Dr. Menezes authored hundreds of peer-reviewed publications, wrote foundational textbooks on craniovertebral junction abnormalities, and delivered numerous presentations throughout the U.S. and abroad. He was a founding member of the North American Skull Base Society and played a key role in developing the first practical, “hands-on” spinal surgery courses in the United States. His commitment to education extended worldwide, as he helped establish training programs across the world. In recognition of his extraordinary contributions, the University of Iowa established the Arnold H. Menezes Chair in Neurosurgery in 2016. He later received the Franc D. Ingraham Award for Distinguished Service and Achievement in 2019 from the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery.

More than anything, Dr. Menezes was a devoted teacher and mentor. He inspired generations of residents and fellows through his humility, meticulous surgical approach, and dedication to excellence. His influence lives on in the countless surgeons he trained and the patients whose lives he transformed.

Matthew A. Howard III, MD
Professor & Chairman
Department of Neurosurgery
University of Iowa

Brian J. Dlouhy, M.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Neurosurgery
University of Iowa

GUIDELINE COMMITTEE

David Bauer, MD and Dan Donoho, MD

The Pediatric section Guideline Committee has been active over the last six months. This committee serves many purposes. We initiate the production of practice guidelines by submitting ideas to the CNS Guidelines Committee, and we create guidelines through members volunteering to be in a guidelines working group. We also nominate committee members to the CNS/AANS Joint Guideline Review Committee (JGRC), where we review internally and externally produced guidelines for endorsement by the CNS/AANS, a review which serves as ad hoc peer review for publication in Neurosurgery. Finally, we serve as an internal pediatric section review committee for any pediatric specific practice parameter, guideline, or practice statement that might be submitted from external sources to the section. Overall, the committee provides many services to the section, all of which revolve around the goodwill of section membership donating time to these efforts. The defining attribute of a committee member is either a knowledge of methodology or a desire to learn the methodology through CNS sponsored methodology educational courses.

Our committee members have been involved in many projects. The Guidelines for the Treatment of Myelomeningocele were featured at the last CNS meeting, with many authors of the guidelines volunteering as course faculty. An update to the Guidelines for Positional Plagiocephaly has been completed, and it is in review by the Joint Guidelines Review Committee. We expect publication in Neurosurgery this spring. We are finishing our new guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of tethered spinal cord, with submission to JGRC by the end of the year, and publication this spring in Neurosurgery. The Spina Bifida Association is working with this effort, and we are appreciative of their support and endorsement. Our next project is an update of our previously published Guidelines for the Treatment of Myelomeningocele. The working group is being formed, and an updated literature review will be performed this spring.

Outside of the section, section committee members are currently helping with the SFNS Surgical Treatment of Epilepsy guidelines with AAN/AES/CNS. This process is being expedited through outsourcing of the systematic literature review. Pediatric section members have been involved in this process, and the group is nearing completion of this project. Manuscript preparation is set to begin in the spring.

As chair of the guideline committee, I truly appreciate the many hours committee members have donated to producing and reviewing guidelines! I also look forward to new leadership for this committee from Dr. Dan Donoho, who just took over as chair. I look forward to continuing guideline committee work in an advisory role for the section.

I would like to thank the following members for serving on the **Joint Guideline Review Committee** this year: Dan Donoho, Tina Sayama, Carolyn Quinsey, Jennifer Strahle, Mari Groves, Raj Iyer, Peter Chiarelli, and Nisha Gadgil. I would like to thank the following members for giving talks at the **Myelomeningocele Sunrise Session** at the last CNS meeting: Susan Durham, Mandeep Tamber, Jeff Blount, Dan Donoho, and George Koutsouras. I would like to thank the following members for serving on the **plagiocephaly update working group**: Alex Beier, Cathy Mazzola, Catherine McClung-Smith, George Koutsouras, and Brandon Laing. I would like to thank the following members for serving on the **tethered cord working group**: Mari Groves, Daniel Donoho, Peter Chiarelli, Alex Ropper, Rich Anderson, Carrie Muh, Eylem Ocal, Raj Iyer, Steve Hwang, Nisha Gadgil, Zulma Tovar-Spinoza, Jon Pindrik, Jen Strahle, and Greg Heuer. I would like to thank **prior committee chairs** Cathy Mazzola and Ann Flannery for continued mentorship and support, and Angela Price and Howard Wiener for volunteering for the **AES Epilepsy Guideline project**.

If anyone is interested in helping with future projects, or if you would like to learn more about the development of guidelines, please reach out to our new chair, Dr. Dan Donoho. It has been my absolute pleasure to serve as the chair of the AANS/CNS Pediatric Section Guideline committee for the past 6 years!

Our very best,

David F. Bauer, MD, MPH
Dan Donoho, MD

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Hal Meltzer, MD and Eric Thompson, MD

The National Meetings Committee with Jesse Winer, Jay Hauptman, Scott Wait, David Bauer, and Jeff Campbell put together an exciting and educational pediatric program for the 2025-2026 National Meetings. Highlights from the recent CNS Annual Meeting included the practical courses collaborating with the spine, stereotactic and functional/pain/and peripheral nerve sections, a pineal/intraventricular tumor sunrise session, and afternoon sessions highlighting innovations in hydrocephalus care, tethered spinal cord, work life balance, and adult and pediatric vascular bypass procedures. Additionally, there was a myelomeningocele guideline session and a ticketed pediatric cervical spine instability/deformity lunch seminar. The AANS is in San Antonio May 1–4, 2026, and the CNS in Washington DC October 31–Nov 4, 2026. The AANS program will feature discussions on the surgical management of pediatric pain from Dr. Jeff Raskin as well as scientific updates on hydrocephalus from Dr. Kris Kahle and Dr. Jen Strahle. The theme of this next years' CNS is "Evolve" and the pediatric section looks to feature topics on how the evolution in treatment of trauma and spina bifida have modernized neurosurgery.

The Traveling Fellowship Committee is collecting applications for the domestic and international fellowship cycle in 2025. The committee is co-chaired by Jason Blatt and Kristin Weaver. This year we will be offering six Pediatric Traveling Fellowships (four domestic and two international), after an increase was approved by the executive committee last year. We have received a combined 23 applications for the six Fellowships this year, an increase from last year! Winners will be announced after the selection committee meets and the awards are approved by the EC.

The podcast committee, led by Heather Spader and Vijay Ravindra continues to produce innovative content with "Insights in Pediatric Neurosurgery." Podcasts featuring Dr. Scott Wait, Dr. Jeff Ojemann, and Dr. Eisha Christian are in the process of being produced. Future podcast topics will include child maltreatment, plastic and reconstructive surgery, and the potential impact of the H1B visa changes on fellowship training in pediatric neurosurgery. **The Podcast Committee is soliciting recommendations for podcasts; contact Heather Spader, MD.**

The Lectures and Webinars committee is chaired by Sean McEvoy and Tracey Flanders. Members include Kristen Stabingas and Jeff Leonard. This year, the Webinars Sub-Committee is excited to announce national and international neurosurgical leaders to serve on panels for stimulating presentations and discussions on the following topics: neuroendoscopic lavage for post-hemorrhagic hydrocephalus of prematurity, innovative therapies for craniocervical pathologies, breakthroughs in management of spinal tumors, and advances in epilepsy treatment.

The Examinations Questions Committee, led by Jessica Lane, strives to continue to provide high-quality questions for the SANS CNS Exam relevant to pediatric neurosurgery. In addition to the current group of question writers, they seek expand the number of question writers by recruiting individuals based on subspecialty expertise in order to encompass the breadth of pediatric neurosurgery. They will continue collaborating with the ABNS in creating answer choices and educational narratives for the ABNS question stems.

TIMOTHY GEORGE COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY

Meena Vessel, MD and Viren Desai, MD

"I truly enjoyed the conference, and I found it gave me a new sense of hope. The doctors allowed me to realize that no matter how many obstacles life throws at you, we always have the choice to move forward."

—Laura Morel, age 16, high school student

During the 2024 Pediatric Neurosurgery Joint Section meeting, with the help of our hosts and partners at the Center for Excellence in Youth Education (CEYE) in New York City, we successfully hosted 60 local high school and 10 undergraduate students of varying backgrounds and ethnicities. Given the sheer number of students, CEYE was able to secure a venue the American Museum of Natural History where the program faculty were able to share stories of resilience, their journeys into neurosurgery and provide information about our field.

- 70 students last year in NYC at the American Museum of Natural History
- 5 faculty/speakers
- Industry Support: Integra LifeSciences, Anuncia Medical

Just as in the prior year, our visiting undergraduate students were provided with an immersive experience in all that is pediatric neurosurgery, to include one on one time with their faculty or advanced practice provider chaperones, visiting the exhibit hall, and attending the general and luncheon sessions. We surveyed the students and received 52 responses with great feedback regarding their experience. Most students noted that they were equally or more likely to pursue medicine in the future with the majority stating that they were equally or more likely to consider neurosurgery!

The winners of this year's Timothy George DEI awards were as follows:

Timothy George DEI Award for Best Oral Presentation
Neighborhood Level Socioeconomic Status is Associated with Pediatric Hydrocephalus Outcomes: A Cohort Study
Author: Yifei Sun

Timothy George DEI Award for Best Poster Presentation
A Retrospective Analysis of the Socioeconomic Benefit of Telehealth for Appalachian Families Before, During, and After the COVID-19 Pandemic
Author: David Fletcher

Congratulations to each of the winners on their work to help highlight disparities in the field of pediatric neurosurgery and addressing health inequities that exist in our patient population!

Annual Outreach Program—Memphis, 2025

- Hosting local high school and undergraduate students at the Peabody Hotel
- Thursday, 12/04/25 9 am to 12 pm
- Industry Support: Stryker

If you are interested in volunteering or being involved on the committee, please reach out to Smruti Patel or Kurtis Auguste at smruti.patel@cchmc.org or kurtis.auguste@ucsf.edu.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Neena Marupudi, MD and Randaline Barnett, MD

The Communications Committee continues to strengthen and modernize the ways we share information across the Pediatric Section, embracing new tools and streamlined processes to better support our members at every career stage. Our efforts span four active subcommittees—Website, Social Media, Survey, and Listserv—each working toward the shared goal of making communication more connected, accessible, and responsive to the evolving needs of our community.

The **Website Subcommittee** is undertaking a comprehensive rebuild of the Section website to make it more intuitive, user-friendly, and easier to maintain. This includes reorganizing high-value content, highlighting upcoming meetings and news directly on the homepage, improving page ownership across committees, and eliminating outdated or redundant sections. The goal is to create a sustainable structure that keeps information accurate, accessible, and aligned with the pace of modern communication.

The **Social Media Subcommittee** continues to expand our presence across Twitter (X), Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, with steady growth in followers and engagement on all platforms. These channels now play a central role in raising awareness, amplifying educational content, promoting meetings and deadlines, spotlighting Section leaders, and connecting with trainees, colleagues, foundations, and patient advocacy groups. Upcoming initiatives include case challenges, paper-of-the-month features, leadership spotlights, fellowship-match guidance, and ongoing promotion of scholarships and grants.

The **Survey Subcommittee** has implemented a clearer, more efficient distribution process to ensure surveys reach the membership promptly and reliably. All surveys should now be submitted to our new secure email, PedsNSGsurvey@gmail.com. Once received, the Survey Subcommittee Chair, **Nikita Alexiades**, reviews each submission for clarity and completeness. Approved surveys are then forwarded to the Communications Committee Chairs for final review and tracking before being sent to the Website Committee Lead for Web Blast distribution. A brief confirmation is provided to the submitting member once the survey has been released. **We hope these updates will create a more predictable, transparent, and timely process for all survey requests.**

Finally, the **Listserv Subcommittee** continues to maintain an organized, reliable communication channel to ensure important announcements and discussions reach members efficiently.

Across all subcommittees, the Communications Committee remains committed to improving clarity, accessibility, and connectivity within the Pediatric Section. We look forward to continued collaboration and welcome ideas from all members as we further modernize and strengthen communication across our community.

TRANSITION OF CARE COMMITTEE (TOC) TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD COMMITTEE

Benny Iskandar, MD and Brandon Rocque, MD

The transition and transfer of care to adulthood have faced significant obstacles, primarily due to a lack of interest, training, or practicality among adult neurosurgeons in continuing such specialized care. While some pediatric neurosurgeons have committed to following their patients into adulthood, logistical difficulties and institutional constraints, such as limitations imposed by children's hospitals and the complexities of adult medical care, make this increasingly unsustainable. As a result, many patients struggle to access the same high-quality care they received in childhood. The TOCC aims to develop strategies, processes, and templates to support neurosurgical programs in implementing transition-of-care initiatives. Initially, the committee will focus on transitioning patients with hydrocephalus and spina bifida, expanding later to other congenital conditions. Our efforts will address challenges at multiple levels, including patient care (Readiness and Transition Subcommittee), healthcare providers (Transfer & Continuity Subcommittee), infrastructure and reimbursement (Business Model & Coding Subcommittee), and policy (upcoming subcommittee). Specifically, the TOC Committee is dedicated to 1) developing standardized transition-of-care templates to help neurosurgical programs enhance continuity and quality of care at their institutions, and 2) establishing structured APP-led clinics to manage the complex non-surgical aspects of patient care, ensuring a more seamless and comprehensive transition into adulthood. Under this model, APPs would receive specialized training and work in structured collaboration with neurosurgeons within a rational infrastructure and sustainable financial framework. The following are updates from the main TOC subcommittees:

Readiness and Transition Subcommittee

Laila Mohammad and Dorothy Poppe, Co-chairs

The Readiness and Transition Subcommittee has completed interviews with 15 programs nationwide that have established structured transition pathways from pediatric to adult neurosurgical care. Findings from these interviews will be presented at the upcoming Joint Section meeting, and a manuscript is currently in progress.

At the Council of State Neurosurgical Societies (CSNS) Fall 2025 meeting, a resolution was passed to launch a national survey to adult neurosurgeons to better understand current practices in transitioning patients with spina bifida and pediatric hydrocephalus. The survey will examine referral and follow-up patterns, transition mechanisms, use of physician extenders, resource needs, and overall comfort managing these patients. This initiative marks an important step toward improving lifelong continuity of care for patients with congenital neurosurgical conditions. This was made possible through the collaboration of Megan Still, Policy Subcommittee Chair and CSNS Liaison to the Transition of Care Committee, and Michael Feldman, newly appointed CSNS Liaison to the Pediatric Section.

Transfer & Continuity Subcommittee

Haley Vance and Smruti Patel, Co-chairs

The Transfer and Continuity Subcommittee goals include identifying the appropriate providers to deliver neurosurgical care for adults requiring transition. The main focus during this past term has been to address the population of patients transitioning care with the diagnosis of hydrocephalus. Our subcommittee continues to work on establishing clinical practice guidelines for transition and management of patients with hydrocephalus, which is intended for use by providers interested in transitional care including advanced practice providers. We aim to provide a comprehensive tool for transition providers that can be utilized in a variety of practice settings as well as by those with variable experience. This document will include general hydrocephalus education as well as consensus-based recommendations for managing a variety of clinical scenarios that any transitional provider may encounter.

Business Model & Coding Subcommittee

Andrew Kobets and Darian Esfahani, Co-chairs

The Business Model & Coding Subcommittee aims to develop and refine sustainable business strategies and reimbursement models that support transition-of-care initiatives. Our work includes creating a specialized Coding Guide and Tip Sheet to help both adult and pediatric providers optimize reimbursement for transition-of-care services, with sample vignettes clinicians can compare to when coding. In collaboration with national coding experts and the Coding Committee, we plan to publish this guide for broad dissemination and incorporation into

coding education programs. Additionally, the subcommittee is scheduled to present the poster “Financial Implications of Delayed Transition of Care in Neurosurgical Management of Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida: A Cross-Specialty Comparison with Tetralogy of Fallot” at the AANS/CNS Pediatric Section Meeting this December.

Pediatric neurosurgeons, APPs, fellows, residents, or students interested in serving on the TOC committee would be most welcome, and should contact Benny Iskandar (iskandar@neurosurgery.wisc.edu) or Brandon Rocque (Brandon.Rocque@childrensal.org).

CODING AND REIMBURSEMENT COMMITTEE (IRC)

Meena Vessel, MD and Viren Desai, MD

Mission & Purpose

The Pediatric Coding and Reimbursement Committee (PCRC), which was formerly an individual liaison position, continues to expand its membership since its inaugural year. We have expanded to 25 members and continue to welcome new membership. The PCRC provides a forum to deliberate on coding and reimbursement issues specific to pediatric neurosurgery, serving as a voice on behalf of our community. Within this realm, the PCRC is dedicated to advocacy, inquiry, education and study of pediatric neurosurgical coding. Clinical Resources PCRC remains committed to improving pediatric coding resources and enhancing value and accuracy.

Clinical Resources & Education

Our primary efforts over this coming term will be to create a pediatric-focusing coding manual in conjunction with the Pediatric Section and Karen Zupko and Associates. The manual will provide a dedicated guide to the nuances of coding for pediatric patients and will be a valuable membership benefit. The manual speaks to the PCRC’s larger mission of educational advancement in coding.

We have continued to add detailed pediatric coding recommendations to the 2025 AANS Guide to Coding book

edited by Joseph Cheng, John Ratliff and Luis Tumialan. We anticipate this will serve as a primary coding reference for daily practice. Education The PCRC served as course faculty for the AANS Coding & Reimbursement Pediatric-Focused Course 2025.

We are partnering with the Transition of Care Committee led by Subcommittee Chair Dr. Laila Mohammad and the Coding and Reimbursement Committee led by Dr. Anand Veeravagu to create an educational reference with common CPT codes used for pediatric patients transitioning to an adult neurosurgeon.

Study & Inquiry

In early 2024, PCRC released a survey to section members through the section Survey Committee. The survey was completed by 70 individuals, finding that over half of practicing pediatric neurosurgeons code by self or in concert with a billing department, about two thirds believe coding knowledge is very important although have not done a formal coding course. About 90% are unaware of or do not use online AANS resources but would find a Pediatric-focused coding manual valuable. We will work towards fellow coding education and potential inclusion of coding questions into the pediatric fellowship board examination. The Committee looks forward to reporting back on further work in the next edition of Shortcuts.

AWARDS/LECTURES COMMITTEE

Sara Hartnett-Wright, MD and Trey McCluggage, MD

At the upcoming annual section meeting, we are excited to announce our new award winners.

Ten awards were presented last year and are listed below:

Award Name	Recipient
2024 KLS Martin Innovations Challenge Award	Andrew T. Hale, MD, PhD
Best Oral Presentation Regarding Global Surgery	Rya Muller
Meghan Rose Bradley Foundation Award for Best Abstract on Tumor	Alexandra Giantini Larsen, MD
The Timothy George DEI Award for Best Poster Presentation	David Fletcher
The Timothy George DEI Award for Best Oral Presentation	Yifei Sun
Schulman Award for Best Overall Presentation by Resident	Karim Mithani, MD
The Bobby Jones Chiari & Syringomyelia Foundation Award Winner	Kelsi Chesney, MD
Hydrocephalus Association Award	Lauren Schulz
Molly Hubbard Award for Best Paper by Pediatric Neurosurgery Fellow	Bernardo Assumpcao de Monaco, MD
Franc D. Ingraham Award for Distinguished Service and Achievement	Jeffrey H. Wisoff, MD
Award for Exemplary Service	Haley Vance, DNP, CPNP-AC

We would like to share our gratitude to the following Pediatric Section members for their time and commitment as abstract judges!

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ackerman, Laurie | Magge, Suresh |
| Akbari, Syed Hassan A. | Mahadev, Vaidehi |
| Alexander, Allyson | Makoshi, Ziyad |
| Bookland, Markus | McClung-Smith, Catherine |
| Bowen, Ira | McDowell, Michael |
| Buccilli, Barbara | McEvoy, Sean |
| David, Raenette | Mohammad, Laila |
| Davies, Hunter | Opersteny, Esther |
| Dincer, Alper | Owen, Bryce |
| Ducis, Katrina | Patel, Smruti |
| Einhaus, Stephanie | Pearson, Matthew |
| Elton, Scott | Piatt, Joseph |
| Fagunloye, Adeola | Recinos, Violette |
| Flanders, Tracy | Ritter, Ann |
| Flannery, Ann Marie | Roberts, O. A. ('Tola) |
| Glaser, Adam | Rodgers, Shaun |
| Gruber, David | Ruge, John |
| Hamilton, Kimberly | Sader, MD, MSc, FRCSC, |
| Harter, David | FAANS, Nicholas |
| Holste, Katherine | Sandoval-Garcia, Carolina |
| Kameda-Smith, Michelle | Shao, Belinda |
| Kumar, Kevin | Shimony, Nir |
| Leonard, Jeffrey | Wedemeyer, Michelle |
| Lepard, Jacob | Wilkinson, Corbett |
| Limoges, Natalie | |
| Madsen, Peter | |

ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY FELLOWSHIPS (ACPNF) REPORT

Jodi Smith, PhD, MD and David Limbrick, MD, PhD

The 2025 fellowship match season is in the books! Applications were accepted between April 1 and July 31, with virtual interviews granted, in some cases followed by ad hoc, applicant-driven, optional in-person site visits. *Thirty-two ACPNF-accredited pediatric neurosurgery fellowship programs participated in the match this year. There were 29 applicants, with 24 matching into fellowships.*

Key fellowship program requirements were delineated by the ACPNF this year. Going forward, case logs and accreditation fees will be due on September 1st of each year, and programs who fail to submit their case logs and/or accreditation fees on time will be listed on the ACPNF website on September 2nd as non-compliant. Fellowship programs not matching a post-residency fellow (IMG, DO, or MD) once every 5 years will be required to provide a written statement of commitment from the program fellowship director and department chair that they are still dedicated to training pediatric neurosurgery fellows.

During the interview period, if a program enters the match, *out of match agreements and program withdrawal from the match are unacceptable.*

There is now a process for programs that desire to select an internal candidate for fellowship. Importantly, Program Directors should encourage Chief Residents to stay in the match; notably, *Programs that withdraw from the match and take a fellow will not get credit for matching a fellow that year.* If a program decides to accept someone outside the match, whether internal to their program or external, the program needs to be honest and take them.

Programs with compliance issues will be sent the following types of letters: **1) A Citation letter** will be sent for the first documented problem (e.g., program not hitting case minimums and/or not paying dues) and the program will be listed as “Non-Compliant” on the ACPNF website. This will be removed when a formal response with action plan is submitted by the program Fellowship Director. **2) A Probation letter** will be sent for recurrence of the same problem in a successive year or occurrence of other problems as detailed in bylaws. “Non-Compliant” or probationary status remains on ACPNF website for the entire year. **3) A Revocation letter** will be sent to indicate that a program was revoked for problems as detailed in bylaws, and the program will be removed from the website. All programs are currently compliant.

Programs interested in providing international experiences or bolstering fellow case numbers abroad (e.g. myelomeningocele) will need to apply and get approval from the ACPNF board if they would like to have their international affiliations count in their case logs and case minimums. Importantly, *cases will require oversight by a board-certified pediatric neurosurgeon.*

AANS/CNS JOINT SECTION ON PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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Vijay Ravindra

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Kelly Chamberlin

Mustafa Moitwala

Amber Gaulden

Taylor Abel

Devon Mitchell

Victor Lieu

Survey Subcommittee

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Nominating Committee (6-year term after Section Chair)

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Bermans Iskandar

Mark Krieger

Lifetime Achievement Award

(Frank Ingraham Award for Distinguished Service):

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Suresh Magge, Chair

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David Limbrick

Amy Lee

Smruti Patel

Esther Dupepe

Stephanie Einhaus

Nir Shimony

Kurtis Auguste

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 Rebecca Reynolds, Advisor
 Heather Spader, Advisor
 Christopher Bonfield
 Elyem Ocal

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 Syed Hassan Akbari
 Albert Tu
 Patrick O'Brien
 Carolyn Quinsey
 Rachel Vaughan
 Bruno Braga
 Ariana Barkley

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 Christopher Bonfield
 Ros Whelan

International Liaisons Subcommittee

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 Liaison with WFNS Hassan Syed
 Liaison with South America Zulma Tovar Spinoza, Victor Lu
 Liaison with AAP SOICH/GICS Eylem Ocal
 Liaison with Brazil Bruno Braga
 Liaison with Middle East Kaveh Asadi
 Liaison with Africa Tola Roberts
 Liaison with India Aaron Mohanty
 Liaison with Pakistan Hasan Raza Syed, Hassan Akbari,
 Raheel Ahmed
 Liaison with Southeast Asia/Philippines Phillip Aldana,
 Patricia Clerkin
 Liaison with Japan Kaveh Asadi
 Liaison with Central America and Caribbean Louis Vlery Carius

The Timothy George Committee on Diversity and Inclusion in Pediatric Neurosurgery

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 Wes Phillips
 Krystal Tomei
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 Amber Gaulden
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 Marian Michael Bercu
 Mandeep Tamber
 Karim Nathani
 Krystal Tomei
 Jason Blatt
 Darian Esfashani
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 Afshin Salehi

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 Jonathan Pindrik

Basic Science and Research Subcommittee

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 Hanish Polavarapu
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 Nisha Gadgil
 Nolan Brown
 Darian Esfahani
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 Kelly Chamberlin
 Kendall Snyder
 Mohammed Shoaib
 Reem Elwy
 Shaan Mody
 David Hersh
 Joseph Mcabee
 Leondar Verhey
 Leopold Arko
 Matthew Adamo
 Mian Awais
 Natalie Limoges

Committee on Public Engagement, Education, and Advocacy

(SONS Chair and past Chair; 4-year term, switches after Section Mtg)

Greg Albert - Chair
 (2021-2025)
 Sandi Lam - Vice - Chair
 (2023-2027)

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Coding and Reimbursement Committee

Virendra Desai and Meena Vessell, Co-Chairs

Transition to Adulthood Committee

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 Bermans Iskandar, Advisor
 Laurie Ackerman
 Jen Amon
 Jeffrey Blount
 Mandy Breedt
 Sheila Buchanan
 Robert Buckley
 Renee Carpenter-Wells
 Samantha Carter (Himsworth)
 Kelsi Chesney
 Michael Cools
 Darian Esfahani
 Kaitlyn Esposito
 Garciela Gallo
 Aanda Garzon
 Diana Gray
 Christine Gumma
 Sarah Hartnett-Wright
 Betsy Hopson
 Dhruve Jevvan
 Andrew Kobets
 Joyce Koueik
 Mark Kraemer
 Trisha Leonard
 Lisa McLennan
 Laila Mohammad
 Smruti Patel
 Joseph Piatt
 Martin Piazza
 Dorothy Poppe
 Mary Poppe
 Natasha Raman
 Brandon Rocque
 Eric Sribnik
 Haley Vance
 Bradley Weprin
 Judy Thibadeu

APP Committee

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 Haley Vance, Advisor
 Alicia Cook, Advisor
 Lauren Delgado, Advisor
 Lisa McLennan, Advisor
 Blakely Weatherford
 Jennifer Amon
 Samantha Himsworth
 Amanda (Mandy) Breedt

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Dave Bauer, Advisor

History Committee

Andrew Kobets, Chair
Michael Edwards, Advisor
Ted Dagi, Advisor
Jack Walker, Advisor
John Duncan, Advisor
Clarence Green
Demetrios Nikas
Toba Niazi
Kimberly Hamilton
Michael McDowell
Laila Mohammad
David Gruber
Paul Kane
Afshin Salehi
Micahel Partington
George Koutsouras
Katherine Holste, Resident
Diane Aum, Resident
Elise Yoon, Resident
Pedram Maleknia, Resident

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Non-Profit Advisory Council

David Limbrick, Diana Grey, Dorothy Poppe, Co-Chairs

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Liaison to the CNS Executive Committee

Chair Elect Ruth Bristol

Liaison to the ABPNS

Current Chair of ABPNS Mark Krieger

Liaison with ACPNF

Current Chair of ACPNF Jodi Smith

Liaison with ASPN

Current President of ASPN Dody Robinson

Liaison with AAP Section of Neurological Surgery

Current Chair of SONS Albert Tu

Liaison to the Joint Council of State Neurosurgical Societies

Michael Feldman

Liaison to the Drugs and Devices Committee, AANS

Elizabeth Tyler-Kabara

Liaison to AANS/CNS Section on Tumors

Michael Dewan, Michelle Kameda-Smith

Liaison to AANS/CNS Section on Neurotrauma and Critical Care

Eric Sribnick

Liaison to AANS/CNS Section on History of Neurological Surgery

Andrew Kobets, John Duncan

Liaison to AANS/CNS Cerebrovascular Section

Shivani Rangwala

Liaison to AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of Spine and Peripheral Nerves

Luis Estrada, Taemin Oh

Liaison to AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic and Functional Surgery

Rob Bollo

Liaison to AANS/CNS Section on Women in Neurosurgery

Elise Yoon and Jennifer Quon

Liaison to AANS/CNS Washington Committee

Michael Feldman

Liaison to AANS/CNS JGRC

Tim Sayama	(2022–2025)
Daniel Donoho	(2022–2025)
David Bauer	(2022–2025)
Carolyn Quinsey	(2023–2026)
Mari Groves	(2023–2026)
Jen Strahle	(2023–2026)
Raj Iyer	(2024–2027)
Peter Chiarelli	(2024–2027)
Nisha Gadgil	(2024–2027)

Liaison to CNS Foundation

Jeff Campbell