

Pediatric Short Cuts



AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Fall 2018

Editor: Bermans J. Iskandar, MD, FAANS

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Words cannot express our collective sadness for the tragic loss of our wonderful friend and colleague, Sanjiv Bhatia, MD, FAANS. This loss is felt by those of us in pediatric neurosurgery who knew him and appreciated his thoughtful, caring personality, as well as those who did not; his passing serves as a reminder of the fragility of life. To honor Sanjiv's memory, the Section, ASPN, ABPNS, ACPNF and Sanjiv's colleagues at the University of Miami have initiated an NREF Honor Your Mentor fund. Because Sanjiv was passionate about international pediatric neurosurgical care and education, his family and the Miami team will likely direct the money toward that purpose. Launched by a generous donation of \$30,000 by the four officers of the Section as well as the President and a member of the ABPNS, we hope that you will all contribute to the fund to help Sanjiv's passion live on. Our thoughts are with Sanjiv's wife, Rita, and his two sons, Ritwik and Shobvan.

Sanjiv's drive and accomplishments are not uncommon among pediatric neurosurgeons. Most importantly, we have lifelong impact on whole families when caring for their children. In addition, we collaborate well with each other as well as with various other specialties (orthopedics, rehabilitation, pediatrics, plastic surgery, etc.), and we have a diverse practice ranging from tumors to peripheral nerve, vascular, congenital illness and endoscopy. Although the trend is increasing toward sub-specialization, our care remains holistic, multi-disciplinary and patient- rather than disease-driven. Pediatric care is a team sport with compassion as its central element.



Mark Proctor, MD, FAANS

As a pediatric neurosurgeon, I really cherish the spirit of collaboration and that is what our section would like to encourage, starting with this year's Annual Meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery in Nashville. Jay Wellons, MD, MSPH, FAANS, and his team have put together an outstanding conference focusing on different facets of collaboration, including a request for proposals on collaborative research projects, with a cash reward for the best proposal along with a promise of biostatistical support from Vanderbilt's Surgical Outcome Center for Kids (SOCKS) for the project. In the same spirit, the Section is offering a complimentary room with video equipment to groups planning collaborative meetings while in Nashville. Please contact us if you would like to take advantage of the room during the meeting on Thursday, Friday or Saturday, and note that the room will not be offered when the scientific sessions are in progress.

The Pediatric Section continues to have a substantial focus on education and research, as well as on sharing and distributing member expertise across various educational forums. As an AANS/CNS Section, we represent the pediatric interests of the parent organizations. Therefore, while the annual Section meeting is our main educational venue, our National Meetings Subcommittee, chaired by Lissa Baird, MD, FAANS, and Elias Rizk, MD, FAANS, works hard to coordinate lecture and abstract programs between the AANS, CNS and Section conferences, ensuring relevance, timeliness, consistency and complementarity.

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Pediatric neurosurgery remains a vibrant field. We continue to attract some of the top North American trainees, with 20 or more residency graduates entering pediatric fellowships every year. Furthermore, caring for children is a noble endeavor that we are privileged to engage in. I believe it is in the best interest of our patients that we collaborate as best we can and use our individual expertise in research, education or administration to enhance our communal knowledge and skills. I hope to see you all at the CNS meeting in Houston and at the Annual Pediatric Section Meeting in Nashville.



Sincerely,

Mark R. Proctor, MD, FAANS

TREASURER'S REPORT

Matthew D. Smyth, MD, FAANS

The Pediatric Section remains in good financial health. Total net assets as per the last (3/31/2018) financial statement totaled \$861,132. This reflects a net gain of \$110,286 over the prior, in large part due to investment earnings as well as successful meetings in Orlando and Houston. This represents the total cumulative revenue of the Section since its inception and is in line with the AANS recommended reserves for our Section.

Annual Meeting

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the AANS/CNS Section in Pediatric Neurological Surgery in Houston had a projected net excess of \$95,000. Final numbers were not available at the time of this report. This is compared to a net excess of \$60,995 at the 2016 Annual Meeting in Orlando. The net revenue has now been positive for three years in a row, as a result of continued efforts by Section officers to reduce costs in collaboration with local meeting hosts and AANS staff. The Section's long-term investment account remains favorable at \$763,491, as per the 3/31/2018 financial report. The Section's long-term investments are handled via a pooled investment portfolio with the other sections, which allows the sections to get into funds not otherwise available to smaller investors.

Specific Expenses and Financial Resolutions

The Section continues its commitment toward its educational and research missions. Yet again in the 2018 budget, there is renewed financial commitment toward the Pediatric Neurosurgical Research & Education Foundation (NREF) Fellowship grant, Section research awards and domestic and international traveling fellowships.

Overall, there appears to be no concerns.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Toba N. Niazi, MD, FAANS

As of late 2017, applicants for AANS membership have the option to check a box that gives them both AANS and Pediatric Section membership upon approval of their application. This option saves the applicants the extra step of applying for Section membership separately and saves the Section the effort of reviewing and approving applications that have already been reviewed by the AANS Membership Committee.

Membership in the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery continues to grow. The current roster includes 350 active, 12 associate, 76 lifetime, 35 international, 40 resident/fellow and 4 medical student members for a total of 517 members, up from 491 this time last year. We have had three resignations during this time as well.

Since the last membership report, the newly approved Pediatric Section members are:

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Jason Elliott Blatt, MD
Adam Michael Conley, MD
Jason Scott Hauptman, MD, PhD
Dhruve Satish Jeevan, MD
Thomas Stephen Ridder, MD
Jennifer Strahle, MD
Karl Erach Balsara, MD
Robert Givens Kellogg, MD
Tanya Minasian, DO

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Patti L. Batchelder, RN, MS, CPNP
Chevis Shannon, MBA, MPH, DrPH
Elizabeth Haley Vance, DNP, CPNP
Emilie Miesner, MS, PA-C
Elisha Peregino, RN, MS, CRNP

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Ibrahima Berete, MD
Hellwag Flores Figueroa, MD

RESIDENTS

Taylor John Abel, MD
Lacey Carter, MD
Catherine Christie, MD
Reem Elwy, MBBS
Darian Esfahani, MD
Dalila Forte, MD
Kelly Gassie, MD
Hannah Goldstein, MD
Albert Isaacs, MD
Tyler Timothy Lazaro, MD
Nicholas Sader, MD
Tasha-Kay Walker-Palmer, MBBS
Samuel Estronza-Ojeda, MD
Smruti K. Patel, MD
Allison Elizabeth Williams
Marion Bercu, MD
Sultan Mohammad Jarrar, MD
Michael M. McDowell, MD
Joanna Gernsback, MD

MEDICAL STUDENTS

Rowland Han
Rebecca Houston

LIFETIME

W. Jerry Oakes, MD, FAANS(L)
Thomas Luerssen, MD, FAANS(L)

RESIGNATION

Jeffrey Brown, MD, FAANS
Ethan A. Benardete, MD, PhD, FAANS



Annual Meeting Highlight
Thursday Night Event
December 6th
Country Music Hall of Fame
Live music by Brother and the Hayes

For additional membership information, please visit the Pediatric Section website at <http://pedsneurosurgery.org/aans-membership/>.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

David Limbrick, MD, PhD, FAANS

The Education Committee and related subcommittees continue to work to synergize our educational programs with the Society of Neurological Surgeons Matrix and Portal initiatives and to prioritize education in pediatric neurosurgery broadly with partners in organized neurosurgery, both in North America and abroad.

In the spring of 2018, Education Chair-elect Susan Durham, MD, FAANS, and her team in Vermont conducted a survey of all ACGME-accredited neurosurgery training programs. The objectives of the survey are to inform our efforts to enhance training and education in pediatric neurosurgery and to identify program-level factors influencing resident interest in pursuing pediatric neurosurgery

fellowships. The results from the survey are expected to be available at the Section meeting in December in Nashville.

From the International Education Subcommittee, Jim Johnston, MD, FAANS, reports that Intersurgeon, a free interactive platform that establishes international partnerships, was launched in April 2018 with support from the ISPN and the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Intersurgeon is expanding rapidly, with involvement from over 200 pediatric neurosurgical centers/surgeons across 54 countries. Based on this success, an adult neurosurgery module is in development, and there have been discussions with representatives from global pediatric surgery and urology for similar initiatives. Dr. Johnston would like to encourage any

members of the Pediatric Section interested in collaborating with existing or beginning new partnerships to go to InterSurgeon.org and register.

Consistent with our goal of aligning Section education efforts with those abroad, Dr. Johnston also will serve as faculty at the ISPN/WFNS Pediatric Neurosurgery Symposium in Dakar, Senegal, Sept. 13-15, organized by Graham Fieggen, MD, IFAANS, and Seydou Badiane, MD. Topics include Management of CNS Infection, Hydrocephalus, Neurotrauma, Neuro-Oncology, Craniofacial Disorders and Spina Bifida. Faculty will include both local neurosurgeons and ISPN faculty from France, South Africa, Brazil, India and Uganda.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Lance Governale, MD, FAANS

The Examination Questions Subcommittee has begun to focus on updating the CNS SANS Pediatric exam. Although the exam remains the product of the CNS SANS Committee, we have added oversight by the Section. The Subcommittee would like to thank the question writers listed below who have contributed in 2018!

Jason Blatt, MD
Markus Bookland, MD
Annie Drapeau, MD
Mari Groves, MD
Joel Katz, DO
Ben Kennedy, MD
Andrew Kobets, MD
Kim Foster, MD
Neena Marupudi, MD
Jon Pindrik, MD
Rabia Qaiser, MD
Ammar Shaikhouni, MD, PhD
Eric Sribnick, MD, PhD
Tim Vogel, MD, FAANS

University of Florida Shands Children's Hospital
Connecticut Children's Hospital
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
University of New Mexico
Children's Hospital of Michigan
Nationwide Children's Hospital
West Virginia University
Ohio State University
Nationwide Children's Hospital
North Jersey Brain and Spine Center

TRAINING SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT: RESIDENT TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP IN PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY

David I. Sandberg, MD

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery offers a traveling fellowship for residents in accredited North American neurosurgical training programs. The fellowship is intended to cover one month of traveling and living expenses for a resident who wishes to obtain additional experience in pediatric neurosurgery during residency. The one-month fellowship can be spent at any pediatric neurosurgery program within North America to pursue an activity which broadens the resident's exposure to pediatric neurosurgery, including observation at a clinical or research center, participation in a research project or any other relevant activity. Up to four fellowships per year are awarded on the basis of a competitive evaluation by a committee of the Pediatric Section. The maximum fellowship stipend is \$2,500.

The application must include:

- 1) A statement defining the purpose of the proposed fellowship;
- 2) Written permission from the applicant's residency program director to pursue the one-month fellowship if it is awarded;
- 3) A letter of acceptance from the pediatric neurosurgical program where the applicant will seek the fellowship; and
- 4) The applicant's current curriculum vitae.

The deadline for application submission is November 1, 2018.

Email the completed application to:

David.I.Sandberg@uth.tmc.edu

INTERNATIONAL TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP IN PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery offers an international traveling fellowship for neurosurgeons who, at the time of their application, are either training in a residency program outside the United States and Canada or who have completed residency training outside the United States and Canada within the past five years.

The fellowship will cover traveling and living expenses for a three-month period spent observing the activities of an established pediatric neurosurgical institution of the applicant's choosing in the United States or Canada. Up to two fellowships will be awarded yearly on the basis of a competitive evaluation by a committee of the Pediatric Section at the annual meeting in December. The maximum fellowship stipend is \$7,500.

The application must include:

- 1) A statement defining the purpose of the proposed fellowship;
- 2) A letter of recommendation from the applicant's current neurosurgical program director;
- 3) A letter of acceptance from the institution where the applicant intends to take the fellowship, confirming the description of the fellow's potential activities during the period of the award;
- 4) The applicant's current curriculum vitae.

The deadline for application submission is November 1, 2018.

Email the completed application to:

David.I.Sandberg@uth.tmc.edu

NATIONAL MEETINGS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Lissa Baird, MD, FAANS | Elias Rizk, MD, FAANS

The National Meetings Subcommittee is charged with helping to plan the Pediatric Section activities at the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) national meetings. We follow recent changes in the field to try and improve the quality of lectures and abstracts. The overarching goal is to promote discussions that would address timely topics and updates as well as consensus management from experts in the field.

Notably, unlike our annual pediatric conference at which the majority of

attendees are pediatric neurosurgeons, the AANS and CNS meetings also include a large fraction of general neurosurgeons and residents. It seemed that this was the right time to continue with the redesign format started by Catherine Mazzola, MD, FAANS, and Bermans Iskandar, MD, FAANS, to appeal to a wider audience and tailor to meet Pediatric Section priorities so that they complement the annual pediatric meeting. This is work in progress (feedback and recommendations are strongly encouraged).

The 2018 CNS Annual Meeting will be held in Houston, October 6-10.

The Pediatric Scientific Sessions will be held Monday-Wednesday, October 8-10. The CNS meeting will include luncheon seminars on the Management of Brachial Plexus Injuries, Pediatric Dystonia and Pediatric Head Trauma. Case-based discussions will review practice management for Myelomeningocele and Associated Pathologies and the Management of Pediatric Spine Trauma.

We want to thank everyone participating in the educational and scientific program and look forward to seeing you there.

ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE REPORT: NASHVILLE 2018

Jay Wellons, MD, MSPH, FAANS

We look forward to seeing you at the 2018 AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery Annual Meeting occurring Thursday, December 6 through Sunday, December 9 in Nashville at the Omni Nashville. The theme is Setting the Stage for Collaboration and, accordingly, there are opportunities not only to present scientific abstracts, but also to propose studies for multicenter collaboration. The following are a few program highlights:

- There is a cash prize and biostatistical support for the study voted "Best in Show," in addition to the standard abstract awards.
- The APP course on Thursday is shaping up nicely, with Chief Nursing Officer at Vanderbilt, Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, giving the keynote address on Nursing Leadership.
- The Raimondi Lecturer is the Pulitzer Prize winning author Jon Meacham.
- The AAP/SONS lecturer is CMO of the NFL Allen Sills, MD, FAANS.

- Three thought-provoking seminars on collaborative research, international pediatric neurosurgery service opportunities and the use of social media in our practices are offered.

- We have confirmed plans for the opening reception and we are excited to announce that the Thursday night event will occur at the internationally renowned Country Music Hall of Fame with live music by Brother and the Hayes, with a private showing of the Hall of Fame for all meeting attendees.

All in all, we have a terrific meeting ahead and we encourage you to make plans to join us here in Nashville this December!

Host Committee

Chevis Shannon, MPH, MBA, DrPH
Haley Vance, DNP, APRN, CPNP-AC
Rob Naftel, MD, FAANS
Chris Bonfield, MD, FAANS



AAP SONS REPORT

Andrew Jea, MD, FAANS

Section on Neurological Surgery (SONS) is routinely consulted by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) when composing policies and guidelines related to pediatric neuroscience issues. Sandi Lam, MD, FAANS, and the Advocacy and Policy Committee have vetted a number of these documents, including The Choosing Wisely campaign (recommendations to help pediatricians reduce unnecessary imaging and procedures) and Beyond Fee-for-Service: New & Evolving Payment Models and Pediatrics.

Ann-Christine Duhaime, MD, FAANS, Dr. Lam and SONS are participating in and acting as a resource for the public FDA meeting in August on pediatric device development. Moreover, David Bauer, MD, FAANS, was selected for a Task Force to update the guidelines for the determination of brain death in infants and children.

Jon Martin, MD, FAANS, published

an article in AAP News, “Protocols for cervical spine clearance can provide roadmap for patient care”. In it, Dr. Martin reviews the state-of-the-art for algorithm-based cervical spine clearance after pediatric trauma. He concludes that currently there is no national standard for pediatric cervical spine clearance and calls for collaboration among pediatric subspecialists to address this gap in pediatric health care and to determine best practices.

Greg Albert, MD, FAANS, Lance Governale, MD, FAANS, and Francesco Mangano, DO, will be attending the 2018 AAP National Conference and Exhibition in Orlando, Fla. Accepted SONS topics include:

- The MRI Showed What? – A Review of Common Finding on Cranial Imaging
- Head to Head: Craniosynostosis

Versus Positional Plagiocephaly

- Neurosurgical Presentations in the Pediatrician’s Office

SONS continues to mourn the loss of one of our own, Sanjiv Bhatia, MD, MBBS, FAANS. Dr. Bhatia served as a pediatric neurosurgeon and chief of surgery at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital and the University of Miami Department of Neurological Surgery. He developed a distinguished career, focusing on children with epilepsy. But his care for children knew no boundaries nor borders, as his humanity was on full display with his volunteer efforts in Haiti. Sanjiv walked around with a full heart and loved his family, friends, colleagues and patients; we, in turn, loved Sanjiv. We will continue to keep Sanjiv, his wife, Rita, and his two sons, Ritwik and Shobvan, in our prayers.

ACPNF UPDATE

Cormac Maher, MD, FAANS

There are 28 currently accredited pediatric neurosurgery fellowship programs. One program was offered new accreditation in 2018. The list of currently accredited programs is available at www.acpnf.org.

Our agreement with the SNS/CAST remains in effect. As a result of the agreement between CAST and the ACPNF, CAST no longer accredits pediatric neurosurgery programs, except through their relationship with the ACPNF. All ACPNF-accredited programs are now considered accredited by the ACPNF and CAST through the single accreditation process directed by the ACPNF.

Beginning in 2019, it is possible that pediatric fellowship programs will be required to provide a small amount of information to the ACGME Accreditation Data System (ADS). Pediatric neurosurgery participation in the ADS, if it occurs, is intended to improve data sharing and coordination of neurosurgical training across residency and fellowships and does not constitute ACGME accreditation or oversight over pediatric neurosurgery fellowships.

There are a few new accreditation requirements beginning with the next cycle. Most importantly, programs will be expected to match and train at least one fellow in a three period

in order to maintain accreditation. In addition, minor changes in case category requirements were made to account for laser tumor ablation and stereo-EEG procedures.

Current ACPNF directors are Doug Brockmeyer, MD, FAANS; Cormac Maher, MD, FAANS; Ian Pollack, MD, FAANS; James Drake, MD, FAANS; R. Michael Scott, MD, FAANS(L); Robert Tasker, MBBS, MD (neuro critical care); and Phillip Pearl, MD (neurology). Drs. Scott and Tasker will finish their terms following the section meeting this year. David Limbrick, MD, PhD, FAANS, and Jodi Smith, MD, PhD, FAANS, will begin ACPNF terms following the pediatric section meeting.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Edward Robert Smith, MD, FAANS

The Research Committee is currently directing two major initiatives: (1) the third year of a successfully revamped Pediatric Section Grant and (2) ongoing participation in the Neurosurgical Research & Education Foundation (NREF) grant program.

In 2016, the Section approved a significant change in the format of the annual research award in response to several years of limited applications. The Fellow/Junior Faculty Research Grant was initiated, changing the target population of the grant to fellows/new faculty in order to recruit and retain pediatric neurosurgeons engaging in research focused on problems unique to pediatric neurosurgery. The funding level is \$10,000/year, with discretion to award as a single grant or divide

it into two grants of \$5,000. The response to this new format has increased each year, all of them of high quality. Two grants of \$5,000 each were awarded for 2018-19:

- Brian Kelley, MD, PhD (Texas Children's Hospital)
– Selective Vulnerability of Unmyelinated Axon Segments Following Diffuse Traumatic Brain Injury (New staff)
- Annie Drapeau, MD (Nationwide Children's, Ohio)
– The Blood Tumor Barrier in Pediatric Primary Malignant Brain Tumors (New staff)

We are eager to continue this process, and application information

can be found on the website. The deadline will be extended this year to allow for additional input, given the timing of this newsletter.

The Section is also actively involved in the NREF grant program with an interest in promoting applications with a pediatric focus, and Section officers and committee members are now directly involved in grant review. There was only one submitted dedicated pediatric grant this year, suggesting an increased capacity for pediatric-focused research. We would strongly encourage applications, with information present on the website. Please encourage your colleagues and trainees to apply for NREF grants with a pediatric focus, as our section helps to support these grants.



Photo Credit: travel.usnews.com

PEDIATRIC SECTION GUIDELINES COMMITTEE REPORT

Catherine Mazzola, MD, FAANS | David Bauer, MD, FAANS

The Pediatric Section Guidelines Committee met April, 29, 2018, at the AANS Annual Scientific Meeting. Catherine Mazzola, MD, FAANS (chair until autumn 2018); David Bauer, MD, FAANS (chair-elect/ vice chair); Susan Durham, MD, FAANS; Catherine McClung-Smith, MD; Ann Marie Flannery, MD, FAANS; Rachana Tyagi, MD, FAANS; Luke Tomycz, MD; Brandon Rocque, MD, FAANS; Lissa Baird, MD, FAANS; and Trish Rehring (CNS staff) were in attendance. Dr. Bauer will assume the Chair position of the Pediatric Section Guidelines Committee beginning fall of 2018. Drs. Mazzola, Tamber and Tyagi (Dr. Flannery's term also expired in 2017) will also rotate off the JGRC in fall 2018 and Drs. Rocque, Stone and Bauer were nominated to these positions by the Pediatric Section leadership.

All new guidelines authors will have to complete a three-hour training course (online) for CME on CNS Guidelines. CNS staff will forward the links to training materials. Per recent discussions between the neurosurgery leadership and the CNS Guidelines Committee leaders, all CNS guidelines projects will be kept to a "concise number of minimum chapters (ideally five chapters or less).

1. Plagiocephaly Guidelines update

- a. Plagiocephaly guidelines published in Neurosurgery in November 2016
- b. A review takes place 2020-2021 to determine if an update is needed.
- c. Dr. Bauer will appoint the review group.

2. Hydrocephalus Guidelines

- a. Published in the Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics in 2014.
- b. The guidelines should be reviewed to determine if an update is needed in 2019.
- c. Dr. Bauer is waiting to hear back from AHRQ, regarding the decision to do the update of the systematic review.
- d. Dr. Bauer will appoint the review group.

3. Spina Bifida

- a. Spina bifida: Guidelines (one intro, five chapters) were sent to the Joint Guidelines Review Committee. We should get these back with suggestions in September 2018. Hopefully, will be ready to publish in fall 2018.
- b. The guidelines were sent to AAP, SBA and the Child Neurology Society.

4. Epilepsy

- a. The guideline will be led by Dr. Gonzalez-Martinez (ASSFN section) who asked Dr. Bauer to help identify pediatric neurosurgeon representatives. This guideline will focus on surgical management of epilepsy. The Task Force has been finalized and key questions were drafted, but CNS needs to clarify agreements previously discussed with AES and AAN leadership before moving forward to ensure efforts are coordinated. A task force has been appointed.

5. AAN Brain Death Summit

- a. Dr. Bauer and Maya Babu, MD, MBA, represented CNS and AANS at the AAN April 2018 Brain Death Summit. There is very little evidence available on this topic and likely not enough to support an evidence-based guideline, but Drs. Babu and Bauer will continue to be involved in discussions and if the work product results in more of a consensus-based product, will work through the Pediatric Section (in coordination with the JGRC) for endorsement. Dr. Bauer will work to develop a "statement or consensus" from neurosurgery to bring to the next meeting.

6. Brain Trauma Foundation (BTF)

- a. The CNS will take over the TBI guidelines from BTF, which include adult, pediatric and prehospital. Adult TBI was published in 2017, Pediatric TBI will likely be published by the end of 2018 and prehospital by the end of 2019. After publication, the CNS will assume responsibility for updates. The CNS Guidelines committee, in coordination with the CNS and Section leaderships will appoint task forces for these three guidelines as well as a review schedule (based on new literature and available resources), and the CNS Guidelines Committee (with the task force) will determine updates when needed. This guideline requires more resources than a more "standard" topic because of the increasing availability of literature and the importance to neurosurgery. The CNS will seek external support (via AHRQ and/or funding through the CNS foundation) to contract OHSU or some other entity to do the literature search updates and systematic reviews.

The Pediatric Guidelines Committee will be meeting Sunday at the CNS and before the Opening Reception at the Pediatric Section meeting. Please email Drs. Catherine Mazzola (cmazzola@njpn.com) or David Bauer (David.F.Bauer@hitchcock.org) for more information.

SANJIV BHATIA, MD, FAANS: BELOVED HUSBAND, TEACHER AND PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGEON

John Ragheb, MD, FAANS

Dr. Sanjiv Bhatia passed away on May 24, 2018, after a brief illness. Sanjiv was a beloved father, husband, teacher and pediatric neurosurgeon at Nicklaus Children's Hospital and the University of Miami/Holtz Children's Hospital. With his passing, the neurosurgery community has lost one of our finest clinicians and an exemplary man of great kindness and humility. Sanjiv was born, raised and educated in India by parents that emphasized education and service to others. He attended the prestigious All India Institute of Medicine (AIIMS) for medical school and his neurosurgery residency, completing his training in 1986. He then joined the faculty at AIIMS and practiced general neurosurgery with a special interest in epilepsy surgery. He left India to spend two years at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. to study the use of PET and MR imaging in epilepsy.

Drawn to the United States as the land of opportunity, he took a clinical position at the Boston VA, where he practiced general neurosurgery from 1997-2000. His desire to stay and practice in the U.S. and to become ABNS certified brought Sanjiv to the University of Miami (UM) in 2000, where he completed a second neurosurgery residency. Sanjiv was adored by his fellow residents for his fatherly mentoring and was known affectionately as "Uncle Sanjiv". After residency Sanjiv stayed on at the University of Miami, where he was the first pediatric neurosurgery fellow at the Miami Children's/University of Miami fellowship. He was certified by the ABNS and the American Board of Pediatric Neurological Surgery, in addition to being a Fellow of the

American College of Surgeons and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Sanjiv joined the University of Miami Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery faculty in 2004 and because of his extraordinary skill, clinical acumen, dedicated teaching and academic productivity was promoted to clinical professor of neurosurgery and pediatrics in 2016. He was recognized nationally and internationally for his expertise in pediatric epilepsy surgery, on which he published extensively and was a frequent invited lecturer. He was a reviewer for several journals and a regular contributor to neurosurgical literature. Sanjiv was active in many administrative and committee positions at both the University of Miami and at the Nicklaus Children's Hospital, most notably as the chief of the department of surgery and director of the operating room at the Children's Hospital. He could be counted on to be firm, but fair and to be the calming voice of reason, which could quell most any challenge.

The lessons of service to others and kindness to all, taught by his father's example when Sanjiv was a child, were evident throughout Sanjiv's professional career. As a pediatric neurosurgery fellow in 2003, he was part of the first University of Miami pediatric neurosurgery team to provide neurosurgical care for children with hydrocephalus in Haiti. Over the next 15 years, Sanjiv continued to lead surgical teams in Haiti to



provide care for hundreds of Haitian children. He was also a founding board member of Haiti Healthy Kids, a non-profit established to create neurosurgical education and provide care in Haiti. These efforts in Haiti were instrumental in the establishment of Haiti's first neurosurgical training program in 2017, for which Sanjiv was an active participant. His commitment to those in the developing world was also evident in his enthusiastic involvement in the educational efforts of the International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery and in the organization's online open access educational tool "The Guide", intended to bring neurosurgical

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SANJIV BHATIA, MD, FAANS: BELOVED HUSBAND, TEACHER AND PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGEON Continued

knowledge to the developing world without the cost of textbooks or journal subscriptions.

Sanjiv was a dedicated husband and father. He was married to Dr. Rita Bhatia – a distinguished and accomplished UM neuroradiologist. His eldest son, Ritwik Bhatia, and his daughter-in-law, Monisha Bhatia are both recent graduates from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and will be beginning neurology and internal medicine residencies respectively at UM/Jackson Memorial Hospital this summer. Sanjiv's younger son, Shovan Bhatia, graduated from Ransom Everglades High School and will be attending the Georgia Institute of Technology this fall, where he will study Mechanical Engineering

and participate in their Global Leadership program. Sanjiv relished his time with family, particularly the vicarious pleasures of their sons' successes: Ritwik's time at the University of Pennsylvania, the NIH and then medical school and Shovan's robotics, elevation to Eagle Scout and his accomplished high school rowing career. He also enjoyed keeping fit: joining Shovan on a rigorous hike at Philmont Scout Ranch in the Rocky Mountains as well as playing tennis regularly.

Heralded for his clinical skill as a neurosurgeon, Sanjiv's greatest gift was his humble, caring and compassionate persona. No matter how busy, he was never rushed nor short with his patients, families or hospital staff. His joy in seeing

a healed child and thankful parents was always obvious in the office in his broad smile and warm greeting for the children and families. He was at his happiest when a small child asked to sit in his lap or to pose for a photograph. The void left by Sanjiv's untimely death is deep and wide and noted across the neurosurgical world. He was loved and cherished by all of us that had the good fortune to work with him, especially during his 18 years in Miami. Sanjiv will be missed by many, especially the children and families that relied on him for his care and expertise.

EDWARD JAMES KOSNIK, JR., MD, FAANS(L)

Jeff Leonard, MD, FAANS

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Ed Kosnik, MD, FAANS(L); a long-time leader in pediatric neurosurgery at Nationwide Children's Hospital. Dr. Kosnik retired from Nationwide Children's in 2010. Prior to his retirement, his work for the organization benefited thousands of patients because of his outstanding neurosurgical career of over 34 years on the medical staff. As the first chief of the neurosurgical program, Dr. Kosnik also served as associate medical director of the Department of Surgery and clinical professor of surgery at the Ohio State University College of Medicine. In 2008, he was named Ohio Neurosurgeon of the Year.

His accomplishments as a surgeon, teacher, advocate and dedicated philanthropist are significant and his legacy carries on through his children, grandchildren and the generations who will be impacted by his lifetime of work. In pediatric neurosurgery, his legacy is also reflected in his daughter Libby Kosnik-Infinger, MD, MPH, a member of the Section, who is currently on staff in pediatric neurosurgery at Medical University of South Carolina. He was an outstanding clinician and teacher who will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him.



PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY'S NREF HONOR YOUR MENTOR FUNDS

According to the NREF Website, Honor Your Mentor (HYM) Funds recognize the incredible people who have advanced neurosurgery. Each mentor fund has a specific purpose. Your gift will fund a chosen research or educational endeavor in the designated mentor's name. There are currently two pediatric neurosurgery-specific HYM funds:

A Leland Albright Fund

Purpose: To support neurosurgery resident and fellow education in Africa.

Established: 2015

Balance (6/30/2018): \$39,657

Sanjiv Bhatia Fund

Purpose: To fund an international pediatric neurosurgery and/or pediatric epilepsy surgery traveling fellowship, a Bhatia lectureship and pediatric neurosurgery medical missions.

Established: 2018

Balance (6/30/2018): \$38,820

The balance on the pediatric HYM funds needs to reach \$50,000 within 5 years of fund initiation before the money can be used. *We challenge the Section membership to help reach/exceed that goal this year for both funds using tax-deductible donations.*



**SETTING THE
STAGE FOR
COLLABORATION**
DECEMBER 6-9, 2018
OMNI NASHVILLE HOTEL

American Association of Neurological Surgeons
Jointly Provided by the AANS

Logo of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS)

Logo of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS)

**47TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AANS/CNS SECTION ON
PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY**

ABPNS UPDATE

Frederick A. Boop, MD, FAANS

ABNS/ABPNS Merger

The merger between the ABNS and the ABPNS continues to evolve. The pediatric neurosurgery written examination will be offered in writing for a final time in conjunction with the AANS/CNS Pediatric Section meeting in Nashville this fall. Next spring, we will begin holding the pediatric written examination once per year online at the same time as the ABNS primary written examination held at academic neurosurgery training centers across the country. This will be held in late March. Although the cost of administering the examination online will increase, it is anticipated that those costs will be offset by examinees being able to take the exam at a local center, thus saving the cost of flights and hotel rooms.

Maintenance of Certification vs. Continuous Certification

Regarding re-certification, the idea of "Maintenance of Certification" is going away nationally and is being replaced with "Continuous Certification". As such, instead of re-certifying once a decade, the process is evolving to an annual online process, which will verify that each of us continues to practice life-long learning. At the same time, the concept of a punitive examination, which one could fail, is sun-setting in favor of an online adaptive learning tool module that will provide each of us with up-to-date, evidence-based concepts to help us stay conceptually current without the fear of failure. This will be updated annually with new general neurosurgery, as well as pediatric neurosurgery, concepts (remember that all pediatric neurosurgeons will soon hold both a general neurosurgery certificate from the ABNS and a document of focused practice from the ABNS and ABPNS).

The new Continuous Certification annual process will be comprised of four parts:

- Part I and Part IV is fulfilled through a Chief of Service letter sent out by the ABNS annually to be completed by your hospital medical director,

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Richard Anderson, MD, FAANS

The AANS/CNS Pediatric Section website (www.pedsneurosurgery.org) is functioning well. A few updates and reminders:

1. The Section website posts the most current information for the upcoming Section meeting in Nashville, Tenn. Dec. 6-9, 2018.
2. All members of the Section need to have an up-to-date profile on the website with an active email address. This is critical because email is the most common form of communication from Section leadership to the membership. Via the website, eblasts are now sent out to Section members who have registered on the website. If you have never logged into the website or have changed your email address, please go to the website and create or update your profile. This is the only way to ensure you receive important communication from the Section.
3. A "Quality Improvement Initiative" page under the "Education" tab has been created in conjunction with Sandi

Lam, MD, FAANS. It lists quality improvement projects that many Section members are conducting locally. It has been designed to serve as a resource to host project ideas, descriptions and contact information, so additional members can participate in multicenter projects and develop and/or adopt applicable protocols. A submission form is available on the site to download and submit for approval and posting.

4. A link for InterSurgeon has been added to the "Useful Links" page under the "About Us" tab. Developed by Jim Johnston, MD, FAANS, and William Harkness, MD, InterSurgeon serves as a platform for clinical, research and resource sharing across the globe.

5. Job postings on the website are free and can be maintained until the position is filled. If you have a position available, send me the posting with contact information to place on the site.

Please reach out to me (rca24@columbia.edu) if the website can be modified to help Section members in any way.

leader of your group, a senior partner, etc. This will verify your unrestricted license to practice, unrestricted hospital credentialing and acknowledgement that you participate in a Practice Improvement Program, such as your hospital's Morbidity and Mortality conferences.

- Part II is verification that you have completed a minimum of 20 hours of CME per year through either meeting attendance, online courses or others. These hours are neurosurgical hours not necessarily specific to pediatrics.
- Part III is completion of the ABNS online adaptive learning module that will give you updated evidence-based

knowledge that you can use to care for your patients (www.abns/moc-requirements).

The ABPNS is now asking that all pediatric neurosurgeons enroll in and participate in the Continuous Certification process, regardless of whether you have a time-limited or non-time-limited certificate. Given that the annual process is designed to update and improve your skill and knowledge, we hope that you will find it useful to begin participation as soon as possible.

CODING AND REIMBURSEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Lance Governale, MD, FAANS | Curtis Rozzelle, MD, FAANS

The Coding and Reimbursement Committee is looking forward to the upcoming half-day course at the Pediatric Section meeting in Nashville entitled "Pediatric Neurosurgical Coding: Current Challenges, Practical Strategies." The course will take place Thursday, December 6, 1-5 p.m. It will provide a balanced perspective on coding challenges in pediatric neurosurgical practice to train you and your staff in best practices for coding/billing. Case scenario presentations will discuss CPT coding for common and uncommon, but uniquely pediatric neurosurgical cases/procedures, emphasizing how documentation impacts the process. Appropriate use of modifiers and frequently encountered Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits will be included. Neurosurgeons, residents and advanced practice providers will benefit from this course.

After completing this educational activity,

participants should be able to:

- Identify and apply correct CPT codes to commonly performed pediatric neurosurgical procedures.
- Discuss application of new and revised neurosurgical CPT codes in reporting services.
- Describe the global surgical package, including the pre-, intra- and post-operative global period components.
- Apply CPT modifiers correctly, when appropriate.
- Discuss the correct method of reporting new procedures for which no specific CPT code exists.

See you in Nashville!

47TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AANS/CNS SECTION ON PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

You're invited

Join us in Nashville as we explore *Setting the Stage for Collaboration* and the advancement of the pediatric neurosurgery specialty.

Keynote Speakers



Raimondi Lecture

Jon Meacham presents *The Art of Leadership: Reflections from the American Presidency*.



AAP/SONS Lecture

NFL Chief Medical Officer, Allen Sills, MD, FAANS, addresses the question *Is There a Future for Football?*



Advanced Practice Provider Seminar Featured Speaker

Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, executive chief nursing officer at Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC).

Optional Courses Available

Pediatric Neurosurgical Coding: Current Challenges, Practical Strategies Course

Thursday | Dec. 6 | 1-5 p.m.

This half-day course provides a balanced perspective on coding challenges in pediatric neurosurgical practice and presents best practices for coding/billing. Case scenario presentations will address CPT coding for common and uncommon cases and procedures with emphasis on documentation. Appropriate use of modifiers and frequently encountered Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits are included.

Advanced Practice Provider (APP) Seminar

Thursday | Dec. 6 | 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

This full-day educational track for APPs offers lectures, concurrent breakouts, a hands-on component, as well as showcases APP research. Program topics are relevant to new and experienced APPs.

Gather in the Neuro Zone

- Join senior neurosurgeons Friday morning during breakfast
- Talk with key lecturers following their presentations
- Participate in a raffle to win great prizes

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 8, 2018

Advance Registration Deadline — **SAVE \$100**

Nov. 12, 2018 Hotel Reservation Cutoff

For more information and to register, visit www.aans.org/Peds

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery Officers and Committees

Officers

Mark Proctor, MD, FAANS
Chair (2017-2019)

Sarah Gaskill, MD, FAANS
Immediate Past Chair (2017-2019)

Mark Krieger, MD, FAANS
Chair-elect (2017-2019)

Benny Iskandar, MD, FAANS
Secretary (2017-2019)

Matt Smyth, MD, FAANS
Treasurer (2017-2019)

Members At-Large

Phil Aldana, MD, FAANS
(2016-2018)

David Limbrick, MD, PhD, FAANS
(2016-2018)

Ann Ritter, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Greg Albert, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Eric Jackson, MD, FAANS
(2018-2020)

Jim Johnston, MD, FAANS
(2018-2020)

Standing Committees

Nominating Committee (2-year Term)
Sarah Gaskill, MD, FAANS - Chair
(2017-2023, Chair 2017-2019)

Al Cohen, MD, FAANS
(2013-2019)

Bruce Kaufman, MD, FAANS
(2015-2021)

Rules & Regulations Committee

(2-year Term)

Nick Wetjen, MD, FAANS
Chair (2017-2019)

Dean Hertzler, MD FAANS
(2017-2019)

Ruth Bristol, MD, FAANS
2017-2019)

Membership Committee (2-year Term)

Toba Niazi, MD, FAANS - Chair
(2017-2019)

Brent O'Neill, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Rob Bollo, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Education Committee (2-year Term)

Dave Limbrick, MD, PhD, FAANS
Chair (2017-2019)

Susan Durham, MD, FAANS
Chair-elect (2017-2019)

Education Subcommittees

Pediatric Section Annual Meeting Subcommittee

Howard Weiner, MD, FAANS
(2017-Houston)

David Sandberg, MD, FAANS
(2017-Houston)

Jay Wellons, MD, FAANS
Upcoming Meeting Chair

Mark Proctor, MD, FAANS
ex-officio – Section Chair

Mark Krieger, MD, FAANS
ex-officio – Chair-elect

Matt Smyth, MD, FAANS
ex-officio – Section Treasurer

Chevis Shannon, MPH, MBA, DrPH
(2018-Nashville)

Rob Naftel, MD, FAANS
(2018-Nashville)

Chris Bonfield, MD, FAANS
(2018-Nashville)

Haley Vance, DNP, APRN, CPNP
(2018-Nashville)

National Meetings Subcommittee

(2-year Term)

Lissa Baird, MD, FAANS
Co-chair (2017-2019)

Elias Rizk, MD, FAANS
Co-chair (2017-2019)

Todd Hankinson, MD, MBA, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Amy Lee, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Sandi Lam, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Communications Subcommittee

(2-year Term)

Richard C. E. Anderson, MD, FAANS
Chair (2017-2019)

Benjamin Kennedy, MD
Social Media (2017-2019)

Training Subcommittee

Traveling Fellowships and Training
(2-year Term)

David Sandberg, MD, FAANS
Chair (2017-2019)

Andrew Jea, MD, FAANS
Vice Chair (2017-2019)

Edward Ahn, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Erin Kiehna, MD
(2017-2019)

International Education Subcommittee

(2-year Term)

James Johnston, MD, FAANS
Chair (2017-2019)

Phil Aldana, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Examination Questions Subcommittee

(2-year Term)

Lance Governale, MD, FAANS

Rabia Kaiser, MD

Ad Hoc Committees

Pediatric Section Guidelines Committee

(3-year Term, Changed at CNS Meeting)

Cathy Mazzola, MD, FAANS
Chair (2015-2018)

Mandeep Tamber, MD, PhD, FAANS
(2015-2018)

Rachana Tyagi, MD, FAANS
(2015-2018)

David Bauer, MD, FAANS
Chair-elect (2017-2019)

Catherine McClung-Smith, MD
(2017-2019)

Demetrios Nikas, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Brandon Rocque, MD, MS, FAANS
(2017-2020)

Rob Naftel, MD, FAANS
(2017-2020)

Scellig Stone, MD, PhD, FAANS
(2017-2020)

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery Officers and Committees

Lifetime Achievement Award: Immediate Past Chair

Sarah Gaskill, MD, FAANS
(2017-2019)

Research Committee

(2-year Term)

Ed Smith, MD, FAANS

(2013-2019, Chair 2016-2018)

Cormac Maher, MD, FAANS

(2015-2019)

Eric M. Thompson, MD, FAANS

(2015-2019)

David Daniels, MD, PhD

(2017-2019)

Representatives and Liaisons

Liaison to the AANS Executive

Committee - Current Chair

Mark Proctor, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the CNS Executive

Committee - Chair-elect

Mark Krieger, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the Washington

Committee, AANS/CNS - Past Chair

Sarah Gaskill, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the ABPNS

Rick Boop, MD, FAANS

Current Chair of ABPNS

Liaison with ACPNF

(Accreditation Council of Pediatric
Neurosurgery Fellowships)

Cormac Maher, MD, FAANS

Current Chair of ACPNF

Liaison with ISPN

Eylen Ocal, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison with ASPN

Jim Drake, MD, FAANS

Current President of ASPN

Liaison with AAP Section of Neurological Surgery (SONS)

Andrew Jea, MD, FAANS

Current Chair of SONS

Liaison to the Joint Council of State Neurosurgical Societies

(2-year Term)

Curtis Rozzelle, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the Coding and Reimbursement Committee, AANS

(2-year Term)

Lance Governale, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Curtis Rozzelle, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the Drugs and Devices Committee, AANS location-specific

(2-year Term)

Joseph Madsen, MD

(2017-2019)

Sam Browd, MD, PhD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the Young Neurosurgeons Committee

Luke Tomycz, MD

(2017-2021)

Alt: Benjamin C. Kennedy, MD

Liaison to Quality/Outcomes Groups

(2-year Term)

Sandi Lam, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the NREF

(2-year Term)

Ed Smith, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

David Gruber, MD, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the American College of Osteopathic Surgery

(2-year Term)

Francesco Mangano, DO, FAANS

(2017-2019)

Liaison to the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors

(2-year Term)

Amanda Saratsis, MD

(July 2018-)