

Dear ANZCNS Members,

### **WELCOME TO THE ANZCNS E-NEWSLETTER FOR SEPTEMBER 2020.**

If members have brief paragraphs of news, stories or items of interest please forward them to Lejla ([admin@anzcns.org.au](mailto:admin@anzcns.org.au)) or Hooi Ling Teoh ([hooiling.teoh@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hooiling.teoh@health.nsw.gov.au)) and we are happy to include them in our newsletters.

### **SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER**

Members are reminded to ensure their ANZCNS membership dues are up to date including previous years.

To pay for membership for previous years, or to check if your membership is current, please contact the ANZCNS office at [admin@anzcns.org.au](mailto:admin@anzcns.org.au).

**To renew for 2020/2021 and/or update your details please [click here](#).**

The ANZCNS board has decided to alter the subscription fees for 2020/2021 to reflect the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic on our organisation's educational activities, in particular the need to cancel the 2020 Melbourne annual scientific meeting. Please note that the below fees are only for 2020/2021 and will be reviewed again the following year.

Ordinary membership \$250 and Overseas membership \$140. This is a 30% reduction from usual fees.

Trainees and Associate membership to be waived for 2020/2021 cycle, however we still ask that you renew your subscriptions so your record is up to date.

### **ANZCNS 9TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING**

**The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the ANZCNS will be held between 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021, at the Pullman Albert Park, Melbourne.**

### **WHAT YOUR BOARD HAS BEEN UP TO OVER THE LAST 2 YEARS**

The Society has had significant achievements in three priority areas from our 2018-2020 organisational strategic plan:

#### 1. Membership

- advertising of trainee positions via the ANZCNS newsletter

#### 2. Learning and development

- holding regular ANZCNS Clinical Case Forums, with improved attendance
- running successful annual scientific meetings in Perth and Sydney
- making significant progress in the organisation of BPNA PET courses with the establishment of a national steering committee, allocation of seed funding and drawing up of an MOU

#### 3. Governance and systems

- allocating officeholder roles among the directors
- convening a strategic planning day to identify priority projects aligned with the strategic plan to be funded by the Society. Priority options will be presented at the AGM and feedback will be sought from the general membership via a survey.
- commencement of work on an organisational financial plan, that includes 5-year financial projections, which aims to achieve a sound financial position to facilitate funding of priority projects, selected by the general membership over the next 3 years.

## **DEVELOPMENT OF ANZCNS PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY TEACHING PROGRAM**

Aligned with the strategic plan, the ANZCNS is seeking to establish a working group for the development of a national teaching program for trainees in paediatric neurology. The intention is to commence as a combined teaching program across Eastern seaboard, though help from other states is most welcome. Please email [Alexandra.Johnson@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Alexandra.Johnson@health.nsw.gov.au) (Chair, Education and Training Committee) for further information, and to express interest in contributing to the working group.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ANZCNS 2020 TRAINEE RESEARCH eFORUM**

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

**Location:** Online forum at NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS 11am-1pm; QLD/SA 10.30am-12.30pm, WA 9-11am, NZ 1pm-3pm;

#### **Prizes**

1st Prize: Dr Ian Hopkins Memorial Prize for best presentation - \$1000

2nd Prize: \$750

3rd Prize: \$500

\$300 prizes for all other accepted presentations

**Please join from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/393164061>

**Access Code:** 393-164-061

**You can also dial in using your phone.**

New Zealand: [+64 9 913 2226](tel:+6499132226)

Australia: [+61 2 8355 1038](tel:+61283551038)

## **RACP ANNOUNCEMENT**

If there are any supervisors and trainees concerned about training this year, please note the change to college requirements for this year. For further questions, please contact the RACP representative:

Australia: Dr Alexandra Johnson at [Alexandra.Johnson@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Alexandra.Johnson@health.nsw.gov.au)

New Zealand: Dr Gina O'Grady at [GinaO@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:GinaO@adhb.govt.nz)

<https://www.racp.edu.au/news-and-events/covid-19/education-and-training/changes-to-requirements>

## **NATURAL HISTORY STUDY OF PELIZAEUS-MERZBACHER DISEASE (PMD) AT RCH/MCRI – INVITATION FOR FAMILIES**

The Murdoch Children's Research Institute, in collaboration with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, is studying the natural history of PMD in order to understand how PMD progresses over time in individuals of all ages. This study will involve the collection of information from existing medical records of individuals with PMD with consent from the individual, parent or guardian. The study is retrospective and will not require these individuals to do anything other than provide consent to access medical records.

If you know of a family with a child who has been diagnosed with PMD and they are interested in participating, please pass on their details so that we can contact the family and/or send the information and consent form.

Please do not hesitate to contact Rick Leventer at [richard.leventer@rch.org.au](mailto:richard.leventer@rch.org.au) or the study coordinator Eloise Uebergang on (03) 8341 6382/ [Eloise.Uebergang@mcri.edu.au](mailto:Eloise.Uebergang@mcri.edu.au) if you have any questions.

### **RACP NEUROLOGY TEACHING**

The RACP has for some time been looking at banking recorded teaching sessions for the trainees. If anyone is interested in recording a teaching session on a neurology topic of their choice, please contact Dr Sampaio: [hugo.sampaio@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hugo.sampaio@health.nsw.gov.au)

### **SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY PROJECT-STILL LOOKING FOR PARTICIPANTS**

New research project by Associate Professor Michelle Farrar is recruiting participants for a research study called “*Understanding patients and carers decision making in Spinal Muscular Atrophy care.*” The research is being carried out to learn more about what factors (such as benefits of treatment and cost) are important when making decisions related to treatment for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). It involves a survey that takes about 15-20minutes to complete. The attached link is for the survey: <https://chere.surveyengine.com/survey/441/523>

### **AUSTRALIAN CHAPTER OF THE YOUNG EPILEPSY SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY (THE ILAE-YES)**

The ILAE-YES is a world-wide organisation of young people in the early stages of a career focused on the care of people with epilepsy, and/or epilepsy research:

<https://www.ilae.org/about-ilae/topical-commissions/yes/young-epilepsy-section-yes>

We are trying to recruit more clinicians and researchers to join the Australian chapter of the ILAE-YES with the hope of fostering a national network of individuals interested in epilepsy research, to promote research collaborations, network and share information on relevant grant and scholarship opportunities.

### **UPCOMING CONFERENCES**

#### **INTERNATIONAL PAEDIATRIC STROKE ORGANISATION - POSTPONED**

#### **INTERNATIONAL CHILD NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION**

All members are encouraged to obtain full membership of ICNA. Membership is free and can be obtained via the following link <http://icnapedia.formbin.com/forms/join>

#### **UPDATED-2020 CNS-ICNA Conjoint Meeting**

**VENUE:** Virtual

**Date:** 19-23 October 2020, likely will open earlier and end later to accommodate.

#### **EPILEPSY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (ESA) 2020 VIRTUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING**

**DATE:** 5 and 6 November 2020

#### **SEMINARS IN PAEDIATRIC NEUROIMAGING VIRTUAL COURSE**

**Date:** 7 and 8 November 2020

Cost: \$99

Registration now open.

Link: <http://spin-academics.com/index.php>

Online 2-day course in paediatric neuroimaging for clinicians and radiologists as well as anyone involved in the care of children with CNS disorders. (flyer attached)

## **EUROPEAN PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY SOCIETY**

14<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress, 1-5 June 2021, Glasgow, UK

## **16th AOCCN**

3rd-8th August 2021, Bangkok, Thailand

## **ASIAN AND OCEANIA CHILD NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION**

The ANZCNS met in April 2018 to map a strategic plan for the organization for the next 5 years. This will be circulated to members. One of the resolutions agreed to at that meeting was to bid to host an AOCNA meeting in the coming years. Currently only a very small fraction of the ANZCNS membership base holds AOCNA membership. The cost of lifetime membership is a one-off fee of US\$100. All ANZCNS members are encouraged to apply.

Membership application can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.aocna.org/index.php/en/membership-application>

## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **BPNA COURSE**

The ANZCNS and BPNA have taken the decision to postpone the British Paediatric Neurology Association Paediatric Epilepsy Training courses from July this year to early 2021, dates to be advised.

For more details, please contact Simone at [simone.ardernholmes@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:simone.ardernholmes@health.nsw.gov.au)

## **INTERNATIONAL PEDIATRIC NEURORADIOLOGY TEACHING NETWORK**

The ASPNR offers FREE weekly lecture series in the field of paediatric neuroradiology. Pre-registration is required. The lecture times are not friendly to AEST as it is at 0200 on Sunday but occasionally the lecture times are more suitable.

Link: <https://asprn.org/awards/international-pediatric-neuroradiology-teaching-network/>

## **ANZCNS CLINICAL CASE FORUMS 2020**

22nd September - Trainee Research e-Forum

27th October - Queensland Children's Hospital

24th November - Monash Medical Centre

15th December - Sydney Children's Hospital

*Site Training Co-ordinators:*

Perth Children's Hospital: **Maina Kava**

Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne: **Kathryn Irving**

Sydney Children's Hospital, Sydney: **Romain Briest**

Westmead Children's Hospital, Sydney: **Emily Innes**

Queensland Children's Hospital, Brisbane: **Anita Cairns/Sophie Calvert**

John Hunter Children's Hospital, Newcastle: **Gopi Subramanian**

Starship Children's Hospital, Auckland: **Cynthia Sharpe/Gina O'Grady**

Wellington Hospital /University of Otago: **Erik Andersen/Lynette Sadleir**

Gold Coast University Hospital: **Harry Singh**  
Royal Hobart Hospital: **Tyson Ware**  
Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne: **Michael Fahey/Shabeed Chelakkadan**

Thank you very much for reading and hoping everyone is keeping well. Remember to wash your hands with soap and water and practice physical distancing.

Kind regards,  
Hooi Ling and Lejla

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