

Dear ANZCNS Members,

WELCOME TO THE ANZCNS E-NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2023

Happy New Year everyone.

[ANZCNS 11th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING \(ASM\)](#)

We are pleased to advise the ANZCNS 11th ASM will be held between 13th-15th September 2023, at the Adelaide Convention Centre and 15th & 16th September will be the Trainee Day.

The overall theme will be "**Growing older and old before their time**". The five planned symposia will focus on neurocritical care, dementia, neuro-oncology, adolescent neurology and headaches/intellectual disability. There again will be a trainee's day and the programme are sure to be another success.

Program at a glance is attached for your information, but regular updates can also be accessed via [ASM website](#).

We hope you can join us in Adelaide!

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION UPDATE

You should have received an email reminder (from MemberPress) for payment of membership fees for the new 2022/2023 cycle.

Please let us know if you would like us to re-send the email. Members are also reminded to ensure their ANZCNS membership dues are up to date including previous years.

For any questions about the membership, please contact the ANZCNS office at admin@anzcns.org.au.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

I am looking for a Full time Paediatric neurologist to join my private practice (Queensland paediatric specialist) in South East Queensland.

Please contact Dr Harry Singh on mobile or via email to discuss options and expression of interest.

Email: drsinghharry@icloud.com

Mobile: 0403411811

Regards

Dr Harry Singh, Paediatric Neurologist , Associate Professor and Clinical Lead Bond University Gold Coast

RACP ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOCUS GROUPS FOR TRAINEES

The RACP is organising focus groups for trainees to “Share trainee experiences of working with people with cognitive disability” and are hoping to recruit Paediatric Neurology trainees. Please see [EOI link](#).



From 2023

The Medical Board of Australia has released its revised [Registration Standard - Continuing Professional Development](#)'.

The Medical Council of New Zealand's [Strengthened Recertification requirements](#) will also commence from 2023.

To align with the new standards, the RACP will implement changes from January 2023 through a revised MyCPD Framework. Further communications on the changes will be released throughout the second half of 2021 and in 2022.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact the CPD Team if you have any questions – we're here to help.

AU: 1300 697 227 or MyCPD@racp.edu.au

NZ: 64 4 460 8122 or MyCPD@racp.org.nz

RESEARCH

CLINICIAN SURVEY REGARDING KETOGENIC DIET

This short survey of Australian and New Zealand Neurologists (both paediatric and adult) is being undertaken as part of Dr Tania Farrar's PhD project. It is designed to assess current practices with regards to Ketogenic Diet Therapy for patients with epilepsy. We hope that we can use the information gained to improve patient and clinician access to this therapy by better understanding the current knowledge and limitations faced by Neurologists in Australia and New Zealand and the impact this has on their decision to offer this therapy to patients. The survey has undergone ethics review (Ethics Approval Number 2022/PID006898 – 2022/ETH00623).

I appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey and hope it will improve our patients care in the future. Linked to the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KDTWH2022>. For information, please contact Dr Tania Farrar at taniafarrar@hotmail.com

MASSIMO'S MISSION, a MRFF funded leukodystrophy project

Unfortunately, we are no longer able to offer funding for genomic testing for either historical or current patients with undiagnosed white matter disorders.

We still encourage you to contact us if you have a patient with a white matter disorder (with or without a genetic diagnosis) to:

1. Assist with clinical, imaging and genomic interpretation if required.
2. Discuss patient involvement in the national patient registry.
3. Discuss eligibility for emerging treatments and clinical trials.

Please do not hesitate to contact Rick Leventer at richard.leventer@rch.org.au with a cc to program coordinator Eloise Uebergang on (03) 8341 6382/ Eloise.Uebergang@mcri.edu.au if you have any questions. Please also see our new website for the Australian Leukodystrophy Clinical and Research Program – leukonet.org.au.

THE INVESTIGATION AND TREATMENT OF FIRES

Dear colleagues,

A consortium of experts have recently published recommendations for the investigation and treatment of FIRES. We are attaching those recommendations.

A group of ANZCNS members are motivated to try to implement these recommendations where appropriate throughout Australasia, and to create a detailed patient registry, very probably tying in with international efforts with respect to the registry.

To focus interest and involvement we are also considering a trial of a neuroprotective agent along with the registry.

Please would you feed back to our group your thoughts on the recommendations, particularly table 3 acute treatment recommendations.

You might agree with some but not all of those recommendations.

Would you please indicate what resources you have in your center for early and prolonged cEEG and for early ketogenic diet.

Would you please indicate whether you would be interested in registering patients in a patient registry and whether you would be interested in participating in a clinical trial of a neuroprotective agent, csf cytokines, EEG biomarkers?

If you would like to join our group please let us know.

Best regards,

Cia Sharpe, Stephen Malone, Michaela Waak, Kate Riney, Hannah Jones, Russel Dale, Adriane Sinclair and Anita Cairns

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.

NEWBORN BRAIN SOCIETY (NBS)

I am writing to introduce you to the Newborn Brain Society, (NBS) a non-profit organization with a mission to advance newborn brain care through international multidisciplinary collaboration, education, and innovation among clinicians, scientists, and parents.

The NBS has developed outstanding resources, including:

- o Weekly **webinars** available free to the public and archived online for members
- o Review **publications** covering important topics in Neonatal Neurology including a double issue on the management of neonatal encephalopathy in Seminars of Fetal and Neonatal Medicine
- o **Resources** for research and quality improvement projects

Membership is free for trainees!

I am attaching a resource page with information that can be distributed further.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions.

Hannah C. Glass, MDCM, MAS (*she/her/hers*)
Professor Neurology, Pediatrics, Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Director, Neonatal Neurocritical Care Services
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital
<http://profiles.ucsf.edu/hannah.glass>

EPILEPSY ACT

Have you heard of Epilepsy ACT?

Children with Epilepsy in the ACT often have to travel long distances to find specialised care. However, support for children and families is available right at home in the ACT. Epilepsy ACT are part of the Epilepsy Smart Australia Program which is a national partnership working together to bring people with epilepsy the best knowledge and resources about the management of epilepsy. They provide accessible support, reassurance, advocacy, referral, education and information to people with epilepsy in the ACT and surrounding regions.

Epilepsy ACT have staff available to work with individuals and their families to create an Epilepsy Management Plan and Emergency Medication Management Plan (EMMP). They can also provide online and face-to-face training in epilepsy awareness, seizure first aid and midazolam administration (buccal, intranasal and we can also demonstrate use of the nasal atomiser). Further details of services can be found on the [Epilepsy ACT](#) website.

Make a referral to Epilepsy ACT today. Ph: 02 6287 4555 or Email: support@epilepsyact.org.au. National Epilepsy Support Service for patients: 1300 761 487 (Mon to Sat 9am to 7pm AEST)

Each March the world turns purple in support of the 65 million people living with epilepsy. Join in and host a purple event or sign-up to one of the organised events during Make March Purple? See [Epilepsy ACT – Make March Purple](#).

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGY ANNUAL MEETING

VENUE: Boston and Virtual, USA
DATE: 22-27th April 2023

INTERNATIONAL PAEDIATRIC STROKE ORGANISATION CONFERENCE

VENUE: Virtual
DATE: 28-29th April 2023

EUROPEAN PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY SOCIETY CONGRESS

VENUE: Prague, Czech Republic
DATE: 20-24th June 2023

THE ASIAN AND OCEANIAN CHILD NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION MEETING

VENUE: Bangkok, Thailand
DATE: 4-6th August 2023
Registration and abstract submission now open!

[ANZCNS 11th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING](#)

VENUE: Adelaide Convention Centre
DATE: 13-15th September 2023

52nd CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

VENUE: Vancouver, Canada
DATE: 4-7th October 2023

ESA 37th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

VENUE: Auckland, New Zealand
DATE: 1-3rd November 2023

AMERICAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

VENUE: Orlando, USA
DATE: 1-5th December 2023

18th INTERNATIONAL CHILD NEUROLOGY CONGRESS INTERNATIONAL CHILD NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION

VENUE: Cape Town, South Africa

DATE: 6-10th May 2024

Please consider joining membership. Lifetime membership is free. Membership application can be accessed at the following link:

[Join the ICNA \(icnapedia.org\)](http://icnapedia.org)

53rd CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

VENUE: San Diego, California, USA

DATE: 11-14th November 2024

AOCNA GRAND ROUND

Please consider joining 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:

[Aocna | The Asian and Oceanian Child Neurology Association](http://aocna.org)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

PAEDIATRIC BRAIN SCHOOL - AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

- Tuesday, March 21st - NEONATAL NEUROMUSCULAR
 - *SMA - Michelle Farrar*
 - *Pattern recognition in paediatric neuromuscular disease / floppy baby – Richard Webster*
 - *NMJ Disorders - MG/Congenital myasthenic syndrome / Botulism – Gina O’Grady*
- Tuesday, April 18th – MUSCLE 1
- Tuesday, May 16th – MUSCLE 2
- Tuesday, June 13th – NEUROPATHY
- Tuesday, July 18th – CNS MALFORMATIONS 1
- Tuesday, August 15th – CNS MALFORMATIONS 2
- Tuesday, September 19th – MOVEMENT DISORDERS 1
- Tuesday, October 17th – MOVEMENT DISORDERS 2
- Tuesday, November 21st - ATAXIA

For those not on mailing list already, please contact the college on events@racp.edu.au to be added to the list.

BRITISH PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION PAEDIATRIC EPILEPSY TRAINING (BPNA PET) COURSES IN 2023-TENTATIVE DATES

Please advertise the dates to your departments for paediatricians, trainees (PET1 and PET2), selected GPs, Emergency physicians, and Neurology/Epilepsy nurses (PET1):

- PET1 and PET 2; Monday 1st – Wednesday 3rd May (Westmead, Sydney)
- PET1 and PET 2; Monday 6th – Wednesday 8th November (Randwick, Sydney)

For those interested in joining the faculty, please contact Simone Ardern-Holmes (simone.ardernholmes@health.nsw.gov.au), and diarise course dates to observe.

ANZCNS CLINICAL CASE FORUM 2023

21st March - Queensland Children's Hospital
18th April - Sydney Children's Hospital
23rd May - Starship Children's Hospital, Auckland
27th June - Perth Children's Hospital
25th July - Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne
22nd August - John Hunter Children's Hospital
26th September - The Children's Hospital at Westmead (2)
24th October - Queensland Children's Hospital (2)
28th November - Monash Medical Centre

Site Training Co-ordinators:

Perth Children's Hospital: **Mohd (Najm) Khan**
Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne: **Nicola Fearn**
Sydney Children's Hospital, Sydney: **Janette Lee**
Westmead Children's Hospital, Sydney: **Joanne Davidson**
Queensland Children's Hospital, Brisbane: **Anita Cairns/Sophie Calvert/Tariq Gubara**
John Hunter Children's Hospital, Newcastle: **Christina Miteff**
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**

I will endeavour to send out a newsletter every 2 months; the next will be in April. If there are any urgent announcements, I'll be more than happy to accommodate and alter the schedule. So if any members have brief paragraphs of news, stories or items of interest please forward them to Lejla (admin@anzcns.org.au) or Hooi Ling Teoh (hooiling.teoh@health.nsw.gov.au).

Thank you very much for reading and hope everyone is keeping well.

Kind regards,
Hooi Ling and Lejla

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