

Dear ANZCNS Members,

## **WELCOME TO THE ANZCNS E-NEWSLETTER FOR MAY 2023**

### **ANZCNS 11th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING (ASM)**

We are pleased to advise that [registration](#) for the 11<sup>th</sup> ASM held between 13th-15th September, at the Adelaide Convention Centre is now open!

You are also welcome to [register](#) for the Trainee Day following the ASM on Friday afternoon 15<sup>th</sup> and all-day Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

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](#).

[Abstract submission](#) is still open, and if you wish to submit an abstract for organising committee's consideration, you can do so by 10th July 2023.

We hope you can join us in Adelaide!

**Please note the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for ANZCNS will be held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> September at 5.00pm AECT (in person and virtually).**

### **KATE SINCLAIR MEMORIAL RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP**

For 2023, the ANZCNS is offering a scholarship of A\$25,000 for one year for a single successful applicant, to provide research support.

The vision of the scholarship is to support an individual with the potential for a clinical research career to develop their research and as a bridge to achieve further funding. The scholarship may be used for a diverse range of funding including, but not limited to, support time for applicants, to employ a Research Assistant or for the purchase of specific equipment to enable research.

For any application, there must be an agreement with the department for guaranteed quarantined time for research.

Preference will be given to Early Career Researchers who are close to submitting their PhD or in their first three years post PhD, though individuals doing their PhD full-time *without other sources of funding* are also eligible to apply.

The application will include:

**1.**

- a) A 1-page research track record including publications
- b) A 2-page summary of strategic vision for the year including feasibility and
- c) A statement of how the scholarship will help the candidate's future research vision

**2.** A separate clear letter of support from the Head of Department, with a promise of quarantined time

**3.** A single referee endorsement

Please email your application to [admin@anzcns.org.au](mailto:admin@anzcns.org.au) by **5pm on Friday 23rd June 2023**.

The successful candidate will be expected to attend the 2023 ANZCNS ASM (Adelaide, 13-15th September 2023) to receive their scholarship and the 2024 ANZCNS ASM (Auckland) to provide an update on their research.

Selection committee,  
Michael Fahey, Russell Dale, Alex Johnson Gina O'Grady

## **MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2023/2024**

Membership renewals for the 2023/2024 membership cycle are now due. You should receive an email via MemberPress to renew your subscription – following the same process as last year. Any outstanding fees will be automatically added to the fee for the next membership cycle.

For any questions about the membership, please contact the ANZCNS office at [admin@anzcns.org.au](mailto:admin@anzcns.org.au).

## **FELLOW JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

### Royal Children's Hospital

Applications for three clinical fellowships at The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne, commencing Feb 2024, are now open. Applications close on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Please see links below for position descriptions and how to apply, or click [here](#) for further information

- [The Uncle Bob's Fellowship in General Neurology](#)
- [The Rats of Tobruk Epilepsy Fellowship](#)
- [The Royal Children's Hospital Neuromuscular Fellowship](#)

### Sydney Children's Hospital Network

Core neurology: <https://jobs.health.nsw.gov.au/JMO-ex/jobs/provisional-fellow-206170>  
Epilepsy: <https://jobs.health.nsw.gov.au/JMO-ex/jobs/provisional-fellow-206163>

Neurogenetics: <https://jobs.health.nsw.gov.au/JMO-ex/jobs/provisional-fellow-205925>  
Applications close 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Contact:

CHW: Dr Sachin Gupta [sachin.gupta@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sachin.gupta@health.nsw.gov.au);

SCH: Dr Hugo Sampaio [Hugo.Sampaio@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Hugo.Sampaio@health.nsw.gov.au)

Neurogenetics: [Michelle.Lorentzos@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Michelle.Lorentzos@health.nsw.gov.au) or [Kristi.Jones@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Kristi.Jones@health.nsw.gov.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](mailto: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.**

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](mailto:MyCPD@racp.edu.au)

NZ: 64 4 460 8122 or [MyCPD@racp.org.nz](mailto:MyCPD@racp.org.nz)

## RESEARCH

### CLINICIAN SURVEY FOR COL4A1/2 GENE VARIANTS

Doctors who diagnose and/or manage individuals with *COL4A1/2* gene variants are invited to take part in a study exploring the variable expressivity and reduced penetrance of these variants. To participate, please notify your patients who have a *COL4A1/2* variant and ask if they are happy for you to share their clinical information with the research team.

If they are happy to participate, and with their permission, please send the research team their contact information (phone number and email address). This will allow the research team to contact them directly for consent. Once consent from your patient is received, you will be sent a link to an online survey which should take 10-15 minutes to complete.

This study is facilitated by Genetic Counsellor Chaya Goldman ([chaya.goldman@monashhealth.org](mailto:chaya.goldman@monashhealth.org)), under the supervision of Paediatric Neurologist Professor Michael Fahey. Ethics approval has been granted by Human Research and Ethics Committee (HREC) of Monash Health.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:richard.leventer@rch.org.au) with a cc to program coordinator Eloise Uebergang on (03) 8341 6382/ [Eloise.Uebergang@mcri.edu.au](mailto: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](http://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/structure-and-working-groups/commissions-and-sections/young-epilepsy-section-yes?amp;=&=amp%3B>

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>

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### EUROPEAN PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY SOCIETY CONGRESS

VENUE: Prague, Czech Republic

DATE: 20-24<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### THE ASIAN AND OCEANIAN CHILD NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION MEETING

VENUE: Bangkok, Thailand

DATE: 4-6<sup>th</sup> August 2023

### ANZCNS 11th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Venue: Adelaide Convention Centre

Date: 13-15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### 52<sup>nd</sup> CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

VENUE: Vancouver, Canada

DATE: 4-7<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### ESA 37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING (preliminary)

VENUE: Auckland, New Zealand

DATE: 1-3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

### AMERICAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

VENUE: Orlando, USA

DATE: 1-5<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### 18<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CHILD NEUROLOGY CONGRESS INTERNATIONAL CHILD NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION

VENUE: Cape Town, South Africa

Date: 6-10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

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

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

### 53<sup>rd</sup> CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

VENUE: San Diego, California, USA

DATE: 11-14<sup>th</sup> 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](https://www.aocna.org)

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### PAEDIATRIC BRAIN SCHOOL - AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

- Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup> – NEUROPATHY

*Inherited neuropathies - Eppie Yiu*

*Acquired neuropathies - Manoj Menezes*

*Sleep apnoea: obstructive and central / How to interpret a PSG - Mimi Lu*

- Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> – CNS MALFORMATIONS 1

*Fetal Brain MRI for Neurologists - James Christie*

*Cortical malformations - Rick Leventer*

*Cerebellar malformations - Rick Leventer*

MALFORMATIONS 2

- Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> – MOVEMENT DISORDERS 1
- Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> – MOVEMENT DISORDERS 2

- Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> – CNS

- Tuesday, November 21st - ATAXIA

For those not on mailing list already, please contact the college ([Neurology@racp.edu.au](mailto:Neurology@racp.edu.au)) to be added to the list.

### **BRITISH PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION PAEDIATRIC EPILPESY 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; Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (UNSW, Randwick, Sydney)
- PET2; Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November (UNSW, Randwick, Sydney)

Registration for both courses will open soon.

For those interested in joining the faculty, please contact Simone Ardern-Holmes ([simone.ardernholmes@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:simone.ardernholmes@health.nsw.gov.au)).

### **ANZCNS CLINICAL CASE FORUM 2023**

27th June - Perth Children's Hospital

25<sup>th</sup> July – Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne

22nd August – John Hunter Children's Hospital, Newcastle

26th September - The Children's Hospital at Westmead

24th October - Queensland Children's Hospital

28th November - Monash Medical Centre

*Site Training Co-ordinators:*

Perth Children's Hospital: **Mohd (Najm) Khan and Bhanu Bommegowda**

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/Rebecca Leung**

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 July. 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](mailto:admin@anzcns.org.au)) or Hooi Ling Teoh ([hooling.teoh@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hooling.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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Executive Assistant

Australia and New Zealand Child Neurology Society Limited

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