

Dear ANZCNS Members,

WELCOME TO THE ANZCNS E-NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH 2024

[ANZCNS 12th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING \(ASM\)](#)

Please save the date in your schedule for the 12th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australia and New Zealand Child Neurology Society.

Date: **Wednesday 4th to Friday 6th September 2024**
Location: **The Heritage Queenstown Hotel, New Zealand**
Abstract Submission: **NOW OPEN**
Abstracts Close: **6th May 2024**
Registrations Open: **Early April 2024**
Early Bird registration close: **21st July 2024**

The international speaker is Prof. Sameer Zuberi from the Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow, who will share his expertise in the management of severe epilepsy in childhood. Further details on the session themes and conference program will be shared soon by the organising committee, chaired by Dr Gina O'Grady.

Please see updated info. Please share the attached flyer with your departments and networks, if appropriate. Please consider using the attached slide in your presentations if you are speaking at national or international events.

A/Prof Manoj Menezes
President and Director, ANZCNS

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2023/2024

Please ensure that your membership fees are up-to-dated. Payments can still be made for the 2023/2024 membership cycle [here](#).

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.

NEWS

FETAL NEUROLOGY @TWILIGHT

Date: Wednesday 27th March 2024 @ 1800-2000 (AEDT)
Platform: Zoom. Please register here: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Topics:

- Diagnosing Fetal Brain Abnormalities with Dr Kate Stone, Dr Michael Bethune and Dr Lucy Hennington
- Fetal brain abnormalities: What do we tell the parents? Professor Tally Lerman-Sagie

For more information, please refer to the newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/mercy/invite-pgen-twilight-13736819?e=929adf02>

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRIVATE PRACTICE

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

NIL

RESEARCH

NEW: If you would like to add your research to the ANZCNS website (Research opportunities page), please email, Dr Erik Andersen at erik.andersen@ccdhb.org.nz

NEW: SURVEY REGARDING HUMANISM IN CHILD NEUROLOGY

Please lend your voice to an important ongoing discussion about how child neurologists sustain their compassion, perspective, and connection to one another despite the challenges of clinical practice.

We invite you to complete this brief survey to help characterize the perspectives regarding humanism in child neurology. Results of this survey will be presented at the upcoming International Child Neurology Congress in May 2024. **The survey will close on April 10.**

Survey link: https://form.jotform.com/V_S/humanism

Please contact Alcy Torres with any questions: artorres@bu.edu. This project has been deemed Exempt by the Boston University IRB, Reference number 1628777.

ESTABLISHING EXPERT OPINION TO REACH A CONSENSUS ON HOW TO BEST DEFINE AND INVESTIGATE DEVELOPMENTAL REGRESSION IN CHILDREN

The study aims to gather information from parents and caregivers with lived experience and clinicians to achieve a consensus for definitions, assessments and investigations for children presenting with developmental regression.

Your participation will ensure a patient and family-centred approach to clinical practice in this field and/or expert clinical perspectives. The way you answer each question will tailor the questions that follow so they are suited to your experience.

Specifically, we would like your opinion for this and one to two more surveys sent via email using Qualtrics. Each survey should take up to 20 minutes to complete.

Thank you for considering participation. Please click on the link below or use the QR code to view our participant information sheet and, if you

wish, commence the first survey. Please direct any questions about this research to Prof Michael Fahey. Ethics approval has been granted by Human Research and Ethics Committee (HREC) of Monash Health.

https://monashred.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9LkhNuBo0GbPtsO



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), under the supervision of Paediatric Neurologist Professor Michael Fahey. Ethics approval has been granted by Human Research and Ethics Committee (HREC) of Monash Health.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES FOR 2024

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)

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF NEUROLOGISTS (ANZAN) ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

VENUE: Adelaide Convention Centre

DATE: 21 - 24th May 2024

AUSTRALASIAN NEUROMUSCULAR NETWORK CONGRESS 2024

VENUE: Sheraton Melbourne Hotel
DATE: 27 - 29th May 2024

12TH ANZCNS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

VENUE: The Heritage Hotel Queenstown, NZ
DATE: 4 - 6th September 2024

ESA 38th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

VENUE: Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart
DATE: 6 - 8th November 2024

53rd CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

VENUE: San Diego, California, USA
DATE: 11 - 14th November 2024

UPCOMING CONFERENCES FOR 2025

EUROPEAN PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY SOCIETY CONGRESS

VENUE: Munich, Germany
DATE: 8 - 12th July 2025

THE ASIAN AND OCEANIAN CHILD NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATION MEETING

VENUE: TBA
DATE: 5 - 7th September 2025

AOCNA GRAND ROUND

There are Paediatric Grand rounds hosted (in turn) by the countries in our region. PCH Perth, WA, on behalf of Australia has presented the last two years. It would be good for other centres to be involved and present. The cases are interesting and the discussions good. The National delegate (ND) from Australia can solicit presentations from the different children's hospitals. The AOCNA communicates the timing of the webinar/topic to the ND, who is then expected to disseminate the information to the child neurologists in their country. The dates of the grand rounds are predetermined, the countries have volunteered for different months and that is also known well in advance, the time and topic is broadcasted closer to the date of the webinar. Dr Jithangi Wanigasinghe (jithangi@gmail.com) is the new coordinator of the Grand Rounds.

If anyone is interested in presenting at the AOCNA grand round in 2024, please get in touch with Stephen Malone: stephen.malone@health.qld.gov.au

Please also consider joining membership to AOCNA. Very few Australian Child Neurologists are members of AOCNA. We are part of this region and it is important for us to be engaged with AOCNA. 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:

<https://www.gevme.com/aocnamembership>.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

PAEDIATRIC BRAIN SCHOOL - AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

I'm delighted that Paediatric Brain School is running again for 2024 - this will be again on monthly Tuesday afternoons from 1-4pm AEST. Talks will be available online on the RACP website soon after the date as usual. The program dates are below - these could change depending on speaker availability.

9th April - Neurocutaneous
21st May - Neurosurgery
11th June - CNS infections
23rd July - Neuro-ophthalmology
13th August - Neuro-otology
10th September - Medications
22nd October - CNS Demyelination
12th November - Neuro-oncology

Thank you again to those who volunteered (or were volunteered!) for speaking at Brainschool in 2023. You have been an invaluable teacher for our future paediatric neurologists!

I will be contacting people in the next little while to see if they might be interested for 2024. If you have a great talk in any of the above areas I'd be delighted if you can let me know - or if you have a friendly colleague from one of these areas, I'd also be delighted to know if they might be persuaded to speak!

It's important to **RE-REGISTER for 2024**, even if you were previously registered.

Many thanks!
Dr Alexandra Johnson

For those not on mailing list or didn't receive the link to re-register, please contact the college (Neurology@racp.edu.au) to be added to the list. NB: You will need to re-register for this series for the year.

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 PET3), selected GPs, Emergency physicians, and Neurology/Epilepsy nurses (PET1):

- PET1; Monday 12th August (Bright Alliance Building, Randwick, Sydney)
- PET3; Tuesday 13 – Wednesday 14th August (Bright Alliance Building, Randwick, Sydney)
- Instructor Training Day (for new faculty); 15th August (Bright Alliance Building, Randwick, Sydney)

Registration opening soon!

For those interested in joining the faculty, please contact Simone Ardern-Holmes (simone.ardernholmes@health.nsw.gov.au), and diarise course dates to observe before attending Instructor Training Day on 15th August 2024.

ANZCNS CLINICAL CASE FORUM 2024

Tuesday, April 16th	Sydney Children's Hospital
Tuesday, May 21st	Queensland Children's Hospital, Brisbane
Tuesday, June 25th	Perth Children's Hospital
Tuesday, July 23rd	Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
Tuesday, August 20th	John Hunter Children's Hospital, Newcastle
Tuesday, September 24th	The Children's Hospital at Westmead (2)
Tuesday, October 22nd	Queensland Children's Hospital, Brisbane (2)

Site Training Co-ordinators:

Gold Coast University Hospital: **Harry Singh**

John Hunter Children's Hospital, Newcastle: **Christina Miteff**

Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne: **Michael Fahey/Shabeed Chelakkadan**

Perth Children's Hospital: **Mohd (Najm) Khan and Maina Kava**

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

Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne: **Elizabeth Cole**

Royal Hobart Hospital: **Tyson Ware**

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

Sydney Children's Hospital, Sydney: **Rachel Wong**

Westmead Children's Hospital, Sydney: **Janette Lee**

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

I will endeavour to send out a newsletter every 2 months; the next will be in May.

Head of departments, please send me details of fellow jobs as soon as you have them. The aim is to have the jobs available to the fellows at similar times.

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 (hooling.teoh@health.nsw.gov.au).

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

Kind regards,
Hooi Ling and Lejla

--

Executive Assistant

Australia and New Zealand Child Neurology Society Limited

Office: c/- TY Nelson Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery, The Children's Hospital at Westmead

Cnr Hawkesbury Road and Hainsworth Street

Westmead NSW 2145

Postal: c/- Seed Events Pty Ltd

PO Box 2137, Glenelg, SA 5045

Mobile: 0423827488

ABN 12146982452

ACN 146982452