"NEUROSURGE"

MONTHLY INFORMATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, DIVISION OF NEUROSURGERY

In This Issue:

From the Chairman's Office
Honours, Awards and Appointments
U of T Neurosurgery at the AANS
Publications
Visiting Professorships
Job Opportunities
Residents' Corner
Question of the Month
Website of the Month
Upcoming Meetings
Resident Seminar Series
Heads of Divisions Meetings
Residency Program Committee Meetings

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
The 70TH Annual Meeting of the AANS, April 22 – 26, 2001, Toronto:
In one month, The Division of Neurosurgery will play host to thousands of visiting
neurosurgeons from around the globe who will attend the annual meeting of the AANS in
Toronto. As can be seen below, faculty members and residents of our Division factor
largely in many of the practical courses, breakfast seminars, plenary session
presentations, and section sessions throughout the week. On Monday April 23rd, we will
be hosting a Cocktail and Jazz Reception at the Sheraton Centre, Essex Ballroom, from
6:30 – 8:30 pm. At this reception, our many alumni and colleagues in neurosurgery
around the world will be invited to attend. Mark your calendars now. I look forward to
seeing many of you throughout the week.

Royal College Review of the Division of Neurosurgery:
On April 26th, 2001, our Program in Neurosurgery will be reviewed by the Royal College
of Physicians and Surgeons. The entire Department of Surgery at the University of
Toronto will also be reviewed during this week. Residents and faculty members involved
in the Review have been already been notified. Special thanks to Chris Wallace, Program
Director, for all his efforts to prepare our Program for review this cycle.
University of Toronto, Division of Neurosurgery Logo:
As many of you know, with your help I have made efforts to create a new logo for our Division. With the new logo, I wanted to convey the themes of neurosurgery, neuroscience, and basic science. The year 2000 was a banner year for scientists who deciphered the “book of life” by completing the human genome project. In this same year, 3 scientists were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their contributions to neuroscience. They were: Arvid Carlsson, Paul Greengard, and Eric Kandel.

The new logo for the Division of Neurosurgery depicts the human brain (representing neurosurgery) next to a neuron (representing neuroscience) which spring forth from the unraveling of a double stranded DNA coil (representing basic science). The logo was created with the help of Mark Schornak, medical illustrator at the Barrow Neurological Institute, and Ian Suk, medical illustrator in the Department of Neurosurgery at MD Anderson Cancer Center. Interestingly, Ian Suk is a graduate of the Division of Biomedical Communications, University of Toronto. Our new logo will now be positioned on Divisional letterhead, business cards, and powerpoint slides. A preview of the logo can be seen by opening the attachment below.

HONOURS, AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS
Michael Fehlings maintained his Health Research Personnel Development Program Career Scientist Award for the 8th consecutive year. Congratulations Michael!

Michael Taylor has received research fellowship awards for his proposal entitled “Role of Gli Transcription Factors in the Pathogenesis of Medulloblastoma” from the Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation of the AANS, and the American Brain Tumor Association. Congratulations Michael!

U OF T NEUROSURGERY AT THE AANS, TORONTO, April 21-26, 2001
The following neurosurgical faculty and residents are listed in the preliminary program for the AANS next month here in Toronto. Look for the times of these events.

Practical Courses
Dr. M. Fehlings, Approaches and Stabilization Techniques for the Craniovertebral Junction
Dr. R. Midha, Principles and Techniques of Examination and Evaluation of the Peripheral Nervous System for Residents
Dr. A. Lozano, Contemporary Management of Movement Disorders
Dr. J. Rutka, Update on Tumors for the General Neurosurgeon
Dr. M. Fehlings, Head & Spinal Trauma
Breakfast Seminars
Dr. P. Porter, Treatment of Cavernous Malformations
Dr. C. Tator, Management of Traumatic Cervical Spinal Cord Injury
Dr. R. Humphreys, Advances in the Management of Pediatric Brain Tumors
Dr. M. Fehlings, Spinal Stabilization: State-of-the-Art
Dr. J. Rutka, Third Ventricle Tumors
Dr. M. Bernstein, Low Grade Gliomas: State-of-the-Art Treatment
Dr. B. Goulet, Diagnosis and Management of Foraminal and Far Lateral Lumbar Disc Herniations
Dr. A. Lozano, Surgical Treatment of Parkinson’s Disease
Dr. C. Wallace, Dr. M. Bernstein, Bioethics in Neurosurgery
Dr. K. TerBrugge, Coil versus Clip
Dr. M. Tymianski, Management of Dural AVMs
Dr. M. Cusimano, Surgical Approaches to the Lateral Skull Base
Dr. C. Tator, Management of the Injured Athlete
Dr. M. Fehlings, Spinal Cord Injury: Contemporary Management
Dr. R. Tasker, Neurosurgical Management of Intractable Pain
Dr. K. Thapar, Pituitary Tumors: State-of-the-Art
Dr. J. Rutka, Third Ventricle Tumors: Indications, Techniques and Outcomes

Scientific Program
Dr. A. Hudson, Surgical Outcome of 918 Brachial Plexus Injuries and Tumors
Dr. A. Lozano, High Frequency Stimulation of the Subthalamic Nucleus in Advanced Parkinson’s Diseases: An Eight-Year Experience
Dr. C. Tator, Dr. John Rutka, Dr. M. Tamber, Dr. P. McDonald, Surgery After Failed Radiotherapy for Acoustic Neuroma
Dr. J. Rutka, Pediatric Ependymoma (40 in 36 months)
Dr. M. Fehlings, Experimental Support for the Supratentorial Compartmentalization of Intracranial Pressure
Dr. W. van Furth, Dr. M. Verstegen, Dr. M. Cusimano, Acute Deterioration in Third Ventricular Colloid Cysts
Dr. P. Muller, Intraoperative Detection of Brain Tumors by a Multispectral Fluorescence Guidance System

Special Lecture
Dr. A. Hudson, The Canadian Health Care System: Lessons for the U.S.?

Section Sessions
Dr. W. Hader, Dr. J. Rutka, Surgical Treatment of Epilepsy in Children with Cortical Dysplasia: A Review of 42 Cases.
Dr. H. Ginsberg, Dr. J. Drake, Cleaning Ventricular Catheters with Ultrasonic Cavitation
Dr. A. Lozano, Hardware-Related Complications of Deep Brain Stimulation in 100 Consecutive Electrodes
Dr. C. Tator, Intrathecal Administration of Epidermal Growth Factor and Fibroblast Growth Factor 2 Promotes Ependymal Proliferation and Functional Recovery After Spinal Cord Injury in Adult Rats
PUBLICATIONS

Sandberg DI, Edgar MA, Resch L, Rutka JT, Becker LE, Souweidane MM. MIB-1 Staining Index of Pediatric Meningiomas. Neurosurgery 48:590-597, 2001 (March)


Balkhoyor KB, Bernstein M. Infarction and shrinkage of a meningioma after extensive cosmetic surgery. J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 70(3):405, 2001 (March)


The major neuroscience journals will be scanned, and a Medline search will be performed every month for each Neurosurgical Staff. If you have other publications in journals not tracked by these methods, please give the details to Stephanie at 813-8441.

VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS


JOB & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES
Raleigh Neurosurgical Clinic is recruiting a surgeon with a special interest in vascular surgery to begin practice in approximately July 2002.

RESIDENTS' CORNER
The next resident-faculty hockey match is scheduled for Saturday March 31st, 2001, from 10 – 11 pm, at Varsity Arena, The University of Toronto. Resident players are still needed.

A hands-on brachial plexus and upper limb dissection course has been organized by Dr. Alan Hudson for May 12, 2001 at the Surgical Skills Centre. Further information will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars now!

Lougheed microvascular course will take place April 2 – 6, 2001. Dr’s Dwight Parkinson and John Jane are the invited guest lecturers. The Lougheed dinner will be held Wednesday April 4th, 7 pm, at Bodega. Please RSVP to Sandi Amaral if you wish to attend.

Year end mock oral exam will take place Saturday May 5th, 2001, for all residents on the clinical services, and is being organized by Dr. James Drake. Further information will follow.

The North American Spine Society (NASS) offers the following Research Awards & Grants. 1) Clinical Traveling Fellowship: At least one month to be spent in 3-5 different medical centers. Must be received in the NASS office by May 4, 2001. 2) Research Traveling Fellowship: At least five months at one medical center (other than the one in which the applicant currently practices). Must be received in the NASS office by May 4, 2001. 3) Research Grants: For investigative research on the spine. Must be received in the NASS office by May 4, 2001.
The Canadian Stroke Society is sponsoring an award for the best essay on original clinical or laboratory research in cerebrovascular disease, including rehabilitation. The successful candidate will be a Canadian trainee (resident, fellow, graduate student or post-doctoral fellow) who will be awarded $1500 plus expenses (airfare, and 3 nights accommodations) to present the paper at the Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences, Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 12-16, 2001. Essays should be no more than 15 double-spaced pages (excluding references, figures, and tables). The deadline for submission is April 30, 2001.

Neurosurgery curriculum presentations for residents are now being posted on the internet. The website to go to is:  http://brainavm.oci.utoronto.ca/staff/Wallace/2000_curriculum/index.html

The website below lists previous volumes of Neurousurge, Journal club articles, lecture notes, and important web links.  http://ots.utoronto.ca/users/howardg/index.html

ASIA spinal cord clinical assessment handbooks are available in Dr. Rutka’s office. Please ask Stephanie.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH (Prepared by Robin Humphreys)
Lesions of the lateral hypothalamus will likely produce,

(A) feeding behaviours  
(B) drinking behaviours  
(C) sexual behaviours  
(D) aphagia  
(E) hypertension

ANSWER TO THE LAST QUESTION (February NEUROSURGE Volume 2; Issue 6)

The answer is C.

A lesion of the subthalamic nucleus results in hemiballism, a form of dyskinesia in which the patient displays severe involuntary movements. It is believe to occur as a result of an imbalance in the output signals of the basal ganglia. There is a change in the relationship between efferent pathways associated with the two pallidal segments (ie a direct pathway from the medial pallidal segment to the VL and VA nuclei of the thalamus versus in indirect pathway, involving connections between the lateral pallidal segment, subthalamic nucleus and substantia nigra). Thus, in hemiballism the indirect pathway is disrupted resulting in a change in the output signals of the pallidum to the thalamus.
WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

http://www.vh.org/Providers/Textbooks/BrainAnatomy/BrainAnatomy.html

This website offers outstanding anatomic brain dissection photographs and sketches.

UPCOMING NEUROSURGICAL MEETINGS
NATIONAL/NORTH AMERICAN:

3rd International Hydrocephalus Workshop, May 17-20, 2001, Kos, Greece


UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO:
Trauma Research Day 2001 sponsored by U. of T. Trauma Committee and Cara Phelan Centre for Trauma Research. Mount Sinai Hospital, Ben Sadowski Auditorium, 18th Floor, Wednesday, April 4th, 2001 0730-1630.

Division of Neurosurgery, University of Toronto, Cocktail and Jazz Reception, on the occasion of the AANS annual meeting in Toronto, Monday, April 23rd, 2001 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Essex Room, Sheraton Centre Toronto
NEUROSURGICAL RESIDENT SEMINARS
April 5th, W. Lougheed Microsurgical Course, Surgical Approaches to the orbit. Guest lecturer, Dr. John Jane, The University of Virginia, operating theatre, McLaughlin Pavilion 15-417, Toronto Western Hospital, 1:30 – 4:30 pm.

April 6th, Guest Faculty Lectures, Dr. John Jane, and Dr. Dwight Parkinson. Friday Seminar Series Lecture and Case Presentations.

April 11th, Resident meeting with Dr’s Rutka and Wallace regarding up-coming Royal College Review of Neurosurgery. 7:00 – 9:00 P.M. Pizza and pop will be served. Attendance is mandatory.

April 13th, Good Friday.

April 17th, Journal club. Peripheral nerve injury. Host: Dr. Raj Midha, 11 Hopperton Drive, North York, 7 pm. (Sandi has directions)

April 20th, Residents meeting with Dr. Chris Wallace. Attendance is mandatory.

April 27th, Inflammatory and infectious diseases of the spine. Dr. A. Al-Shayji, and Dr. M. Fehlings.

THE SEMINARS WILL BE HELD AT THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN FROM 0900-1200 HOURS IN ROOM 1527, 1ST FLOOR, GERRARD WING, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.

HEADS OF DIVISIONS MEETING
Thursday, April 19th, 2001 0645-0745 hours, North Conference Room, Room 1431, First Floor Black Wing

RESIDENCY PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Tuesday, March 27th, 2001 0700-0800 hours, Room 1445, First Floor, Roy Hill Wing
April – no meeting.