

Neurovascular Perspectives

Neurovascular Perspectives is the newsletter of the International Society for Neurovascular Disease (ISNVD)

EDITORS

J. Steven Alexander

The International Society for NeuroVascular Disease (ISNVD) is a non-profit professional association devoted to furthering the development of research for neurovascular related diseases – including CCSVI. The society will hold annual scientific meetings and sponsor educational and scientific workshops. Target medical groups include, but are not limited to, Vascular Surgeons, Interventional Radiologists, Neurologists, Neurosurgeons, Physicists, and Technologists.



ISNVD

International Society for
Neurovascular Disease

President's Column

Greetings to all of our ISNVD researchers, trainees, patient advocates and their families! Happy holidays! As 2016 gives way to 2017 we are all very excited to follow many of the striking new developments in neurovascular perspectives in medical and basic science research. This past Year's meeting at the New York Academy of Science City was an important series of presentations which continued our tradition of commitment to this increasingly recognized area of investigation. We're following up this year with our next ISNVD meeting, our *seventh* international meeting which will be held in Taormina, Sicily May 4th through 6th, 2017. Dr. Pierfrancesco Veroux, (this year's meeting president) and Dr. Paolo Zamboni are heading up organization of the meeting which is now finalized! (<http://www.isnvd.org/content/7th-annual-isnvd-scientific-meeting>).

Our organizing committee (led by Dr. Pierfrancesco Veroux) has done a fantastic job in organizing a superb venue in Taormina, and the timing for this meeting assures us that we will have one of the most spectacular settings for our most successful international meeting yet!

Our society membership is increasingly diverse including a greater proportion of trainees which is an essential and important component of our society to reach out to new investigators and enable them to contribute in this specialized but highly important area which is becoming increasingly recognized as an essential step to advancing in what are now being recognized as many different neurodegenerative and neurovascular conditions. Our upcoming meeting is continuing the excellent level of scholarship and productivity and this year is focused on the pathophysiology, imaging, and management of stroke. As this is a major focus of expertise for the organizers there is a special day one series of presentations which focuses on devices for stroke management and the influence of procedures on stroke outcomes. The second and third days include a large number of presentations also organized around the themes of stroke, but including several novel Imaging sessions and

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basic science sessions which investigate new mechanisms and modalities for treating neurovascular and neurodegenerative diseases with a neurovascular component. I would like to take this opportunity to remind all of the participating scientists that we have extended our deadline for submitting abstracts to January 18th of 2017. Please try to submit your abstracts as soon as possible at the website portal (<http://www.isnvd.org/content/abstract-submission-isnvd-2017>) and please *don't forget to fill out your release of information and disclosure forms as soon as possible* so that we may prepare the program in good time.

As always we would like to thank the many individuals working dedicatedly in the background who have worked diligently to make this year's meeting a reality including and especially our administrators Ms. Kelly Denz, Mr. Colton Toups, Mr. James Andrix, Mr. Sandeep Singh, members of the Executive committee Dr. E. Mark Haacke, Dr. Robert Zivadinov, Dr. Salvatore Sclafani, Dr. Hector Ferral, Dr. Michael Dake, Ms. Carol Schumacher, Dr. Paolo Zamboni, Dr. Pierfrancesco Veroux and Dr. Felicity Gavins. We would also like to thank and acknowledge support from the Annette Funicello Research Fund for their continuing support through this year in providing research funding. We would also like to extend thanks to Ms. Sharon Richardson and Ms. Linda Molyneux.

With warm wishes,
Dr. J. Steven Alexander
President, ISNVD

Members!

Please bear in mind Membership dues were due in August. Please pay your dues promptly before the meeting!

Upcoming Meeting Overview

The 7th meeting of the ISNVD, (Taormina) will be held at the **Hotel Capo Taormina**, beginning May 4-6, 2017.

The meeting will begin on the morning of **May 4th** with the **Clinical Training Symposium**, which will open with **'Innovative ultrasound imaging of extracranial vessels - Training Course on ECD'** which will be chaired by Drs. Marcello Mancini and Paolo Zamboni. This session includes presentations by Dr. Marcello Mancini '*Ultrasound imaging of vulnerable atherosclerotic plaque*', Dr. Mirko Tessari '*Application of a lumped ECD model in CCSVI cases and in post-op follow-up*', Dr. Francesco Sisini '*What does JVP tell us?*', Dr. Erica Menegatti '*JVP Reproducibility*' and Drs. Alessia Giaquinta, Carla Virgilio, Mirko Tessari and Iliaria Bartolomei '*Live cases*'

The opening ceremony will be given by Drs. Pierfrancesco Veroux and Paolo Zamboni. Immediately after the opening ceremony Dr. Mat Daemen will give a keynote presentation on '*Plaque fissure: an underestimated cause of intraplaque hemorrhage*'

The next (afternoon) session: '**Cerebral protection devices in Carotid Stenting**' is chaired by Dr. Piergiorgio Cao and Dr. Carlo Setacci and includes presentations by Dr. Allison Halliday '*Neurological events in ACST2 trial*', Dr. Enrico Marone '*Cerebral protection during CEA*', Dr. Raffaele Pulli '*Does local anaesthesia reduce the risk of brain hypoperfusion during carotid cross clamping*', Dr. Sonia Ronchey '*Crossing the Aortic Arch for CAS: Is it always safe?*', Dr. Antonio Micari '*Radial artery approach for CAS reduce the risk of Cerebral embolization*', Dr. Andrea Stella '*Are highly calcific carotid plaques less vulnerable?*', Dr. Franco Grego and Dr. Gianluca Faggioli '*The impact of ischemic cerebral lesions in the outcome of symptomatic and asymptomatic patients submitted to carotid revascularization*'.

Immediately following this session is a debate **Proximal vs. Distal Cerebral protection Devices** between Dr. Piero Montorsi supporting pro Proximal protection devices and Dr. Piergiorgio Cao supporting pro Distal protection devices

The next session is '**New devices and techniques can improve results of Carotid treatment**' chaired by Drs. Mangialardi Nicola and Andrea Stella includes presentations by Dr. Carlo Setacci '*Endoluminal plaque prolapse in carotid stenting: our experience with Optical Coherent Tomography and IVUS*', Dr. Antonio Micari, '*Ree neurological events of CS:our experience with Roadsaver double layer micromesh stent system*', Dr. Francesco Speciale '*Potential benefits of C-guard stent*', Dr. Francesco Setacci '*As I prevent brain damage during carotid reinterventions*', Dr. Domenico Palombo '*Eversion technique is my first choice How I gained the gap with CEA*', Dr. Pierfrancesco Veroux '*New technical option to fix distal intimal flap during eversion carotid endarterectomy*', Dr. Laurent Chiche '*Carotid Aneurysm*' and Drs. Angelo Argentero and Mauro Gargiulo.

This session is followed by a debate **When do I use Close or Open Cell stents in CAS**. The two sides are presented by Dr. Fabio Verzini supporting Close cells and Dr. Pierfrancesco Veroux supporting Open cells.

The next session is '**Acute stroke prevention during TAVI and Aortic arch repair**' The session is chaired by Drs. Roberto Chiesa and Michael Dake. Presentations are by: Dr. Corrado Tamburino '*New horizons of transcatheter and aortic valve implantation*', Dr. Robert Zivadinov '*Effect of a cerebral protection device on brain lesions following TAVI in patients with severe aortic stenosis*', Dr. Ron Lazar '*TAVI and Cognition*', Dr. Santi Trimarchi '*Prevention of brain hypoperfusion and damage during open arch repair*', Dr. Germano Mellisano '*Spinal cord protection in thoracic aneurysm repair*', Dr. Roberto Chiesa '*Open repair of TAA, when and why*', Dr. Piergiorgio Cao '*Total endovascular arch repair – does it increase the risk of brain injury?*', Dr. Mario Lachat '*Aortic Arch Repair: The Zurich experience with Nexus stent graft system*', Dr. Geert-Willem Schurink '*Brain protection strategies in total endovascular arch repair with Cook stent graft system*', Dr. Michael Dake '*Late update of trials with the Gore TBD device*' Dr. Nicola Mangialardi '*Parallel graft technique in Urgent Arch Repair*' and Dr. Franz Moll '*Brain protection and outcome in patient treated with endovascular arch repair*'.

On May 5th, the second day of the meeting we will open the morning session (Session 1) with **Late breaking Imaging in Acute Stroke**, chaired by Dr. Felicity Gavins and Dr. L. Nelson Hopkins Presentations include Dr. Hector Ferral '*Angio CT imaging of ischemic brain lesion*', Dr. L. Lopez-Ibor '*Imaging of intracranial vascular malformations causing stroke*' Dr. Meiyun Wang '*The use of MRI in early diagnosis and evaluation of cerebral ischemia*', Dr. Mark Haacke '*STAGE imaging, a new rapid protocol for stroke imaging*', Dr. Corrado Cittanti '*The value of PET-CT imaging to define vital and ischemic brain tissue*', Dr. L. Nelson Hopkins '*Timing and imaging in Acute stroke*'.



Next is a brief **historical lecture** by Dr. Angelo Argentero

The next session (Session 2) is **New Horizons in the Treatment of Acute Stroke** and will be chaired by Dr. Piergiorgio Cao and Dr. Allison Holliday. Dr. L. Nelson Hopkins will present 'Strategies, and therapeutic protocol related to brain lesions in acute setting', Dr. L. Lopez-Ibor will present 'Endovascular treatment of stroke. Looking for evidences', Dr. Francesco Speciale and Nicola Mangialardi will debate **Timing and indications of Carotid treatment in acute settings**, Dr. Francesco Speciale will be pro CEA and Dr. Nicola Mangialardi will be pro CAS. Dr. Carlo Setacci will present 'Cas renaissance: new techniques and devise decrease early and long term brain lesion rate', Dr. Roberto Chiesa will present 'Carotid shunting decreases brain hypoperfusion and damage in patients who underwent CEA in an acute setting. This session is followed by the debate **Carotid treatment within 48 hours in a patient with an acute stroke** Dr. Michael Dake is pro waiting for treatment while Dr. Nelson Hopkins would rather proceed with surgery immediately.

The next session is a Lunch session **Latest breaking intra cranial treatments for acute stroke** chaired by Drs. Mario Zappia and L. Nelson Hopkins. Presenters include Dr. Marcello Longo '*Intracerebral thromboaspiration system*'.

The first after lunch presentations will be the **Annette Funicello Presentations** and will be chaired by Dr. Paolo Zamboni and Ms. Carol Schumacher. Dr. J. Winny Yun will present 'Neurolymphatics and MS', Dr. Helen Kavounidas will present 'Update on Australian CCSVI', Dr. Robert Zivadinov will present 'Follow up of AFRF', Dr. Marcella Lagana will present 'Phase contrast MRI measurement of arterial-venous-CSF flow rates', Dr. Nicole Ziliotto will present 'Exome sequencing and transcriptomic analysis in jugular wall for detection of CCSVI biomarkers in MS'

The next session (Session 4) is **Brain hypoperfusion and neurodegeneration**. It will be chaired by Drs. J.S. Alexander and Mark Haacke. Dr. Fabrizio Salvi will present 'When Developmental Venous Anomaly becomes aggressive: a model of brain drainage, hypoperfusion and injury', Dr. H. Kevin Lin will present 'Cardiac arrest induced hypoperfusion in neurodegeneration', Dr. Marcella Lagana will present 'Cerebral blood flow measurement with perfusion MRI', Dr. G. Cepinskas will present 'Novel protective anti-inflammatory mechanisms in cerebral circulation', Dr. L. Belayava will present 'Protecting Against Cerebrovascular Injury with novel docosanoids', Dr. Chi Ping Chung will present 'Intracranial arterial hemodynamics and cognitive functions' and Dr. Mat Daemen will present 'The Dutch Heart Brain Connection program: an update'.

The next session (Session 5) is **Imaging and Mechanisms of Neurodegeneration**. It will be chaired by Drs. Mat Daemen and Robert Zivadinov. Dr. Felicity Gavins will present 'Targeting cerebrovascular injury in Sickle Cell Disease', Dr. K. Stokes will present 'Protein Carbonyls, Diabetes and stroke risk / severity', Dr. Jake Neumann will present 'Role of delta PKC in synaptic transmission and global cerebral ischemia', Dr. Francesco Bernardi will present 'Coagulation pathways in MS', Dr. Douglas Fraser will present 'Endothelial compromise in DKA, microbleeds and cognition', Dr. David Dela Morte will present 'Novel molecular pathways linking metabolic and neurological disorders by regulating vascular homeostasis'

The next session (Session 6) will be the following morning on May 6th. **Late Research and Talks selection from abstract**. Dr. Mark Haacke will present ('An update of the presence of CCSVI in Parkinson's disease'). Dr. Hai Sun will present ('Amyloid imaging in Parkinson's Disease'), Dr. Liz Disbrow will present ('Beta Amyloid and Cognitive Function in Parkinson's Disease')

Upcoming Meeting Overview

The next session (Session 6) will be the following morning on May 6th entitled “**Late Research and Talks selection from abstracts**”. This session will be chaired by Drs. Mark Haacke and Clive Beggs. Dr. Mark Haacke will present ‘An update of the presence of CCSVI in Parkinson’s disease’. Dr. Hai Sun will present ‘Amyloid imaging in Parkinson’s Disease’, Dr. Liz Disbrow will present ‘Beta Amyloid and Cognitive Function in Parkinson’s Disease’, Dr. Clive Beggs will present ‘Interpreting cervical and intracranial fluid flow signals’, Dr. Eleutorio Toro will present ‘CNS interacting fluid compartments: progress in mathematical modelling’, Dr. Franco Patti will present ‘Gray matter damage and cognitive impairment in primary progressive multiple sclerosis’, Dr. Giacomo Gadda will present ‘Monitoring cerebral venous return in astronauts during spaceflights. Correlation with vision impairments and other micro-gravity symptoms.’ This session is followed by two keynote presentations.

Keynote Presentation by Dr. Byung-Boong Lee will present “Defective Development of Vena Cava: Embryological interpretation of Hemodynamic Consequences”

Keynote Presentation by Dr. Seshadri Raju will present “Compliance properties of the vein: a forgotten concept. Ideal venous hemodynamic-oriented device for the treatment of obstructive venous disease”

The next session (Session 7) is **Anatomical and hemodynamic changes of venous outflow: could stenting be the solution?** It will be chaired by Drs. Sal Sclafani and Ivo Petrov. Dr. Byung-Boong Lee will present ‘Obstructive truncular venous malformations’, Dr. Giaquinta Alessia will present ‘Assessment of venous stenosis: emerging role of the intravascular ultrasound’ Dr. Kenny Liu will present ‘Intracranial venous stenting for Ehlers Danlos’, Dr. S Raju will present ‘Indications and potential benefits of stenting in venous occlusive disease’, Dr. Michael Dake will present ‘Clinical presentation and treatment of occlusive venous disease of the thorax and neck’, Dr. Pierfrancesco Veroux will present ‘Compliant venous scaffold for the treatment of impaired venous outflow from the brain’, Dr. Paolo Zamboni will present ‘Surgical repair normalizes IJV flow, reduces ventricle volume and improves brain perfusion’, Dr. Sal Sclafani will present ‘Left renal vein stenting is an effective method to improve spinal cord blood flow’

The final presentation session (Session 8) is **Bridging the gap between extracranial flow and the Brain**. It will be chaired by Drs. M. Dake and Hector Ferral. Dr. Noam Alperin will present ‘The brain/eye axis and CSF: Spaceflight-induced vision impairments in astronauts’, Dr. Hector Ferral will present ‘Statistical evaluation of the Amsterdam study’ Dr. Ivo Petrov will present ‘Hypercapnia and hypoxaemia due to impaired venous blood draining and significant improvement after endovascular treatment in patients with CCSVI’, Dr. Aldo Bruno/Luigi Califano will present ‘24-month follow-up of PTA in Meniere’s disease: the surgeon and Vestibular assessment’, Dr. Alessia Giaquinta will present ‘Clinical benefits after balloon angioplasty in patients with impaired IJV flow’ Dr. Paolo Zamboni will present ‘Brave Dreams trial’

The **Awards and Closing Remarks** will be presented by Drs. J. Steven Alexander and Pierfrancesco Veroux.

The **Meeting with patients associations** will be chaired by Drs. Fabrizio Salvi, Ms. Carol Schumacher, Pierfrancesco Veroux, Paolo Zamboni with a **keynote testimonial** by Nicoletta Mantovani.

Attention Members Joining the Taormina Meeting!

Please remember to submit your meeting abstracts by the deadline of **Wednesday, January 18th!!!**

Please copy and paste the following link into your browser to complete:

<https://isnvd.org/content/abstract-submission-isnvd-2017>

..and don’t forget to also submit your Disclosure and Release of Information forms.

Highlights Concerning some of our Members

Members in the News

In addition to helping organize the 2017 ISNVD meeting, **Dr. E. Mark Haacke** (Our Vice-President) is also helping the ISNVD to organize the 3rd Annual MRI Workshop on Stroke and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). This workshop is being held on March 10th and 11th in *Tianjin, China*.

This is very exciting for the ISNVD membership because it helps us to get our name and our mission out into the world, and is a very practical way to help spread information and awareness about Neurovascular disease research with our colleagues in Asia.

One of our newest members, **Dr. Meiyun Wang** is also associated with this exciting event. ISNVD is supporting this workshop along with the Liaoning Society of Medical Information and Health Engineering and the Sino-Dutch Biomedical and Information Engineering School of North-eastern University.



Dr. Mark Haacke, PhD
(pictured left)



(*Tianjin, China* above)



Dr. Meiyun Wang, MD, PhD

(pictured above)

Both Dr. Wang and Haacke are presenting in the Taormina conference as well as the workshop.

Dr. J. Steven Alexander presented “Of Mice, Men and Memory : Can We Cure Alzheimer’s Disease’ at ‘Brain Health: What You Should Know About Brain Nutrition, Dementia Diagnosis, and Alzheimer’s Research’ at the Shreveport Convention Center Jan. 12 and will present “Novel tissue engineering materials and approaches in 3D stent and vascular prosthesis design’ at the Sanctuary for Endovascular Therapy in Kiawah Island, SC on Feb. 23.

Advocates in the News

Multiple Sclerosis, along with Stroke, is another of the major neurovascular diseases under study by ISNVD members and advocates. **Kerri Cassidy (CCSVI Australia)** is someone who is currently pushing and advocating for more research to be done. She recently won the *10th annual National Disability Awards* which recognizes people who bring increased wellness to those suffering with disabilities. Cassidy specifically strove to push for Medicare access to provide Angioplasty treatment for CCSVI. This in addition to the fact that she raised over **\$320,000 dollars** towards this goal show her dedication to the cause of fighting Neurovascular disease. Ms. Cassidy also believes that the Australian parliament may provide further support of vascular research of this kind in the near future.



Kerri Cassidy, CCSVI Australia (pictured above right)
A transcript of her speech in Canberra can be heard at the following link: <http://ccsviaustralia.com.au/2016-national-disability-awards-winner/>

Patient’s Day 2017 in Taormina!

This year the ISNVD is hosting a session (**May 6, 2017**) in which patients (and patient advocates) can meet with the doctors performing the day to day care of these patients. This forum communication is imperative because it is the patients are those who are most directly impacted by research, but sometimes have the least access to it.

The organizers of the 2017 ISNVD meeting are currently reaching out to **Ms. Nicoletta Mantovani**, (a major MS advocate in Italy) as a participant in this years patient-clinician-researcher session. However, that does not mean that the only job for the patients is just being patients. Patients have the most hands on access to their disease, and can be a powerful source of motivation to get research started or bolster research that has slowed down. The patients are never powerless, learn even more about our planned Patient’s Day on the website!

Collaborations in the news

Dr. Alexander would like to welcome **Dr. Hector Ferral** to Louisiana State University Health Science Center in Shreveport to discuss the Amsterdam CCSVI database with **Drs. Urska Cvek** and **Dr. Marjan Trutschl** from LSU-S Department of Computer Sciences, Laboratory for Advanced Biomedical Informatics.

Executive Committee Changes:

The ISNVD would like to welcome and thank **Dr. Felicity Gavins** for taking the reins as the new ISNVD Treasurer!

Membership Dues: Receipt of society dues are *vital* to the functioning of the ISNVD! Please send dues in a timely fashion! Providing valuable programming like that in our upcoming 2017 Taormina meeting is impossible without you!!!

If you have not yet paid your dues please do so at the following link.

<http://isnvd.org/content/member-dues-payment>

Or by going to the ISNVD website and logging into the **members only area**.

Updates!

Please check out our new website updates at www.isnvd.org.

Questions!

You can contact the Shreveport office directly via the emails jalex@lsuhsc.edu or his assistant ctoup1@lsuhsc.edu.

