

ENCEPHALITIS CONFERENCE



Welcome to Encephalitis 2024

We are honoured and delighted to welcome you to the Encephalitis 2024 conference.

This year we are excited to present four keynote and guest lectures, two introductory lectures, one case study session (NEW for this year), one workshop, 26 presentations and 47 posters.

Many thanks also to all the speakers, poster presenters and session chairs for their incredible efforts and dedication to improving the lives of the patients and families often left devastated by this condition, and for sharing their research and knowledge.

We sincerely hope you enjoy the conference and become actively engaged with our activities!

2ND – 3RD DECEMBER
ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS, LONDON
AND VIRTUALLY

Approved by the Federation of the
Royal Colleges of Physicians of the UK
for 5 category 1 (external) CPD credit(s)

2024

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

- **Professor Michael Wilson**
UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences, USA
"Metagenomics, Encephalitis and Global Health"
- **Dr Marianna Spatola**, University of Barcelona
and La Caixa Research Institute, Spain
*"Functional Effects of Antibodies in Infectious
and Autoimmune Encephalitis"*

GUEST SPEAKERS:

- **Dr Ava Easton**, Encephalitis International &
University of Liverpool, UK
*"Brains on Fire: Patient Outcomes and Quality
of Life Following Encephalitis"*
- **Dr Bhagteshwar Singh**, University of Liverpool
& Royal Liverpool University Hospital, UK
*"Improving Diagnosis and Management
of People with Brain Infections in Brazil, India
and Malawi"*



**Encephalitis
International**
The brain inflammation non-profit

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Running Order Day 1

08.30 **Registration** – Lasdun Hall Park
09:00 **Session 1** – Dorchester Library
10:05 **Break** – Council Chamber
10:25 **Session 2** – Dorchester Library
11:25 **Lunch** – Council Chamber
13:15 **Session 3** – Dorchester Library
14:00 **Break** – Council Chamber
14:20 **Session 4** – Dorchester Library
15:25 **Break**
17:00 **Drinks & networking Reception** –
Osler and Long Room
18.00 Day 1 ends

Running Order Day 2

08.30 **Registration** – Wolfson Foyer
09.00 **Session 1** – Wolfson Theatre
10:50 **Refreshments break** (20 minutes) –
Osler and Long Room
11:10 **Session 2** – Wolfson Theatre
12:55 **Lunch** (1 hour and 15 minutes) –
Osler and Long Room
14.10 **Session 3** – Wolfson Theatre
15:15 **Refreshments break** (30 minutes) –
Osler and Long Room
15:45 **Session 4** – Wolfson Theatre
17:15 **Drinks & networking reception** –
Osler and Long Room
18.15 Conference ends

Vevox app

Vevox is a real-time engagement app which we will use for polls during the two-day conference. Please download it on your mobile device before the Conference starts.

Posters

The posters are included in the Poster Booklet which was emailed to you before the conference and are displayed at the conference venue. You are strongly encouraged to interact with the authors of the Posters during breaks. Alternatively, please contact the author at the email address provided in the booklet.

Prizes

There will be prizes (money and book voucher) and certificates for best oral and poster presentations, awarded towards the end of the Conference.

Exhibition

Please visit our amazing partners and sponsors exhibition spaces in-person at the venue or virtually www.encephalitis.info/encephalitis-conference/encephalitis-2024-sponsorship/

Feedback and certificates

To gain your CPD credits certificate, fill in the feedback form on the following link www.surveymonkey.com/r/EIConf24

PROGRAMME

Monday, 2nd December

8:30 **Registration**

9:00 **Welcome address**

Dr Ava Easton, CEO Encephalitis International & University of Liverpool, UK
Assoc Prof Kiran Thakur, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, USA

SESSION 1 CHAIRS:

Dr Nicholas Davies, Chair Advisory Scientific Panel, Encephalitis International; Chelsea and Westminster, Charing Cross, and the Royal Marsden Hospitals, London, UK

09:05 Basic clinical overview to infectious encephalitis
Prof Benedict Michael, University of Liverpool & The Walton Center, Liverpool, UK

09:35 Basic clinical overview to autoimmune encephalitis
Prof Sarosh Irani, Mayo Clinic Florida & University of Oxford

10:05 **BREAK**

SESSION 2 CHAIR:

Assoc Prof Kiran Thakur, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, USA

10:25 Clinical Case Panel

11.25 **LUNCH**

SESSION 3:

13:15 How to get your grant/fellowship
Assoc Prof Deanna Saylor, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA & University Teaching Hospital and the University of Zambia School of Medicine, Lusaka, Zambia
Dr Mashina Chomba, University Teaching Hospital – Adult Hospital, Lusaka, Zambia
Dr Saif Huda
Walton Centre Foundation Trust & University of Liverpool, UK

14:00 **BREAK**

SESSION 4 CHAIRS:

Prof Michael Wilson, UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences, USA

Dr Sophie Binks
University of Oxford, UK

Dr Thomas Pollak
King's College London, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, UK

14:20 **DATABLITZ SESSION**

Brain biopsy has a high clinical impact in a selected population of suspected autoimmune encephalitis, while being relatively safe

Dr R.W. van Steenhoven, Erasmus MC University Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

14:30 Human CASPR2 autoantibodies disrupt neuronal network excitability through binding to the CASPR2 shed ectodomain
Ms Débora Serrenho, Centre for Neuroscience and Cell Biology, Coimbra, Portugal

14:40 Pulmonary SARS-CoV-2 infection leads to viral-independent para-infectious immune activation in the brain
Dr Cordelia Dunai, University of Liverpool, UK

14:50 Identify, conceptualise and provide care – checklist for persons with acute brain infections and their caregivers
Dr Vasundhara S Nair, Jindal Institute of Behavioural Sciences, OP Jindal Global University, Sonapat, Haryana, India

15:00 Clinical, prognostic, and longitudinal functional and neuropsychological features of West Nile virus neuroinvasive disease in the United States: a systematic review and meta-analysis
Dr Jackson Roberts, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, USA



2024

15:10	ExTINGUISH clinical trial in anti-NMDAR encephalitis Assoc Prof Stacey Clardy & Mr Ka-Ho Wong, University of Utah, USA	16:10	Extracellular vesicles as a way to prevent neuronal damage in bacterial meningoenkephalitis Dr Miguel Tofiño-Vian, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden
15:25	BREAK	16:20	Diagnostic value of metagenomic next-generation sequencing techniques in CNS infections Dr N.S. Groeneveld & Ms Sabine Olie, Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
15:40	Acute symptomatic seizures secondary to autoimmune encephalitis: time to electro-clinical seizure freedom Assist Prof Julien Hébert, University of Toronto & Toronto Western Hospital, Canada	16:35	Arboviral encephalitis in Pakistan 2017-2020-clinical and laboratory features and neurological outcomes Dr Sobia Khan, Aga Khan University, Pakistan
15:50	Prognostic factors for morbidity and mortality outcomes following infectious encephalitis: systematic review and meta-analysis Dr Thomas Johnson, University Of Oxford, UK	17:00	DRINKS RECEPTION & POSTER VIEWING
16:00	Serological quantitative, qualitative and functional profiling and neurofilaments as biomarkers in autoimmune encephalitis with LGI1 and CASPR2 antibodies Dr Pietro Businaro, University of Pavia; Neuroimmunology Research Section, IRCCS Mondino Foundation, Pavia, Italy		

Dates for your calendar 2025

- 22nd February - World Encephalitis Day
- 29th April – Arboviral Encephalitis Webinar
- May – Launch of Call for Abstracts Encephalitis 2025
- May – Conference Bursary Applications open
- May – Call for Seed Funding 2025 open
- 15th July – Deadline for submitting Conference Abstracts
- 30th September – Deadline for submitting Seed Funding applications
- 3rd & 4th December Encephalitis Conference 2025



**Encephalitis
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PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 3rd December

8:30 **Registration**

9:00 **Welcome/Introduction**

Dr Nicholas Davies, Chair Advisory Scientific Panel, Encephalitis International

Dr Ava Easton, CEO Encephalitis International & University of Liverpool

SESSION 1 CHAIRS:

Prof Carsten Finke,
Charite - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany

Dr James Sejvar, University of Pittsburgh, USA

9:05 **KEYNOTE LECTURE 1**

Functional Effects of Antibodies in Infectious
and Autoimmune Encephalitis

Dr Marianna Spatola

IDIBAPS Research Institute, University of
Barcelona and La Caixa Research Institute,
Barcelona, Spain; Hospital of Sion, Switzerland

9:30 *Discussion*

9:35 DPPX autoantibodies reduce A-type
potassium currents and increase excitability in
hippocampal neurons

Dr Sarah Crisp, University of Cambridge, UK

9:45 *Discussion*

9:50 An international validation of the SEIZURE
score for predicting acute seizure risk in
encephalitis

**Dr Thomas Hughes, University of Liverpool,
UK**

10:00 *Discussion*

10:05 Brain atrophy in patients with anti-NMDA
receptor encephalitis

**Ms Hannah Tenenbaum, Charite -
Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany**

10:15 *Discussion*

10:20 Validation of the encephalitis criteria in
patients with a suspected central nervous
system infection: an updated score

**Dr Steven L. Staal, Amsterdam UMC, University
of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

10:30 *Discussion*

10:35 Psychiatric manifestations of encephalitis

**Dr Ralph Habis, Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine, USA**

10:45 *Discussion*

10:50 **TEA/COFFEE/POSTER VIEWING**

SESSION 2 CHAIRS:

Dr Nicholas Davies, Chelsea and Westminster,
Charing Cross, and the Royal Marsden Hospitals,
London, UK

Prof Arun Venkatesan, Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine, USA

11:10 Early corticosteroid treatment appears to
improve the outcome of HSV encephalitis
**Professor Tom Solomon, CBE, The Pandemic
Institute; National Institute for Health and Care
Research Health Protection Research Unit in
Emerging and Zoonotic Infections, Liverpool, UK**

11:20 *Discussion*

11:25 Glycine-receptor antibody mediated CNS effects
in vivo: a preliminary study

**Dr Manoj Upadhy, Institute of Health and
Neurodevelopment, Aston University, UK**

11:35 *Discussion*

11:40 Microbiological investigations for chikungunya
virus in children with acute encephalitis
syndrome in a non-outbreak setting in Southern
India

**Ms Maria Jose, National Institute of Mental
Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS),
Bengaluru, Karnataka, India**

11:50 *Discussion*

11:55 Investigating T cell immunity in anti-NMDA
receptor encephalitis

Dr Rachel Brown, University College London, UK

12:05 *Discussion*

12:10 Clinical outcomes of adults with suspected
encephalitis and meningitis in a high HIV
prevalence setting, Blantyre, Malawi

**Dr Lerato Mambulu, Kamuzu Central Hospital,
Malawi**

12:20 *Discussion*

12:25 **INVITED GUEST LECTURE 1**

Brains on Fire: Patient Outcomes and Quality
of Life Following Encephalitis

Dr Ava Easton, Encephalitis International

12:50 *Discussion*

12:55 **LUNCH**

SESSION 3 CHAIRS:

**Dr Matteo Gastaldi, Neuroimmunology
Research Unit & Diagnostic Laboratory, Pavia,
Italy**

**Assoc Prof Kiran Thakur, Columbia University
Irving Medical Center, USA**

14:10 KEYNOTE LECTURE 2
Metagenomics, Encephalitis and Global
Health
**Prof Michael Wilson, UCSF Weill Institute for
Neurosciences; Director, UCSF Center for
Encephalitis and Meningitis, San Francisco,
USA**

14:35 Discussion

14:40 Money talks: the cost of encephalitis
**Dr Thomas Agerbo Gaist, Odense University
Hospital, Denmark**

14:50 Discussion

14:55 Encephalitis International Seed Funding
Differentiating viral encephalitis from its
mimics in patients with encephalitis of
unknown aetiology
**Dr John Kasibante, Makerere University,
Kampala, Uganda**

Validation of the Pediatric Autoimmune
Encephalitis Severity Score (PASS) in children
with autoimmune encephalitis
Assoc Prof Priyanka Madaan
**Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences,
Faridabad Haryana, India**

15:10 Discussion

15:15 BREAK

SESSION 4 CHAIRS:

**Dr Ava Easton, Encephalitis International &
University of Liverpool, UK**

**Prof Benedict Michael, University of Liverpool &
The Walton Center, Liverpool, UK**

**15:45 Initial findings of the SAPIENCE project:
insights from caregivers**
**Dr Ole Jonas Boeken, Charite -
Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany**

15:55 Discussion

16:00 DEBATE
**Encephalitis Research Fails to Improve
Diagnosis and Treatment in Low-to-Middle
Income Countries (LMIC)**
**Chair: Assoc Prof Deanna Saylor, Johns
Hopkins University School of Medicine,
USA & University Teaching Hospital and the
University of Zambia School of Medicine,
Lusaka, Zambia**

**Dr Mashina Chomba, University Teaching
Hospital – Adult Hospital, Lusaka, Zambia**

**Prof Gagandeep Singh, Dayanand Medical
College Ludhiana, India**

16:30 INVITED GUEST LECTURE 2
Improving Diagnosis and Management of
People with Brain Infections in Brazil, India
and Malawi
**Dr Bhagteshwar Singh, University of Liverpool
& Royal Liverpool University Hospital, UK**

16:55 Discussion

17:00 Encephalitis International: Our Year
Phillippa Chapman, Encephalitis International

17:05 Awards and call to action
**Dr Nicholas Davies, Chair Advisory Scientific
Panel, Encephalitis International**

Dr Ava Easton, CEO Encephalitis International

17:15 DRINKS AND NETWORKING RECEPTION

MEET OUR CHAIRS



Dr Nicholas Davies

Chair of the Encephalitis International Scientific Advisory Panel; Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London; UK

Dr Nicholas Davies is a consultant neurologist who works at Chelsea and Westminster, Charing Cross and the Royal Marsden Hospitals in London. He is also neurologist to the UK's National Centre for Human Retrovirology. He has a sub-specialty and research interest in neurological infection. He runs both a weekly neuro-infection and HIV neurology clinic. He has a monthly clinic for neurological problems related to HTLV-1 infection.

He trained in neurology at The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, St Mary's Hospital and St George's Hospital (Atkinson Morley's) in London. His PhD, from King's College London, addressed the aetiology and outcome of acute encephalitis in adults. After the completion of specialist training, Dr Davies undertook a fellowship in HIV neurology at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney, Australia.



Assoc Prof Kiran Thakur

Herbert Irving Associate Professor of Neurology at Columbia University Irving Medical Center - New York Presbyterian Hospital, USA

Dr Thakur leads the Program in Neuroinfectious Diseases at Columbia University Irving Medical Center. After graduating from the Harvard Neurology Residency Training Program, Dr Thakur completed post-doctoral fellowship training in neuroinfectious diseases and neuroimmunology at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr Thakur has a specialized interest in viral encephalitis, and emerging pathogens, and collaborates with scientists globally on the surveillance, diagnosis, and management of neuroinfectious diseases.

Dr Thakur is funded by the US National Institutes of Health and the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention. In addition to her scientific efforts, Dr Thakur serves as a neurology consultant for the World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control and the Pan American Health Organization.



Dr Thomas Pollak

Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience at King's College; South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK

Dr Pollak is a Lecturer and a Consultant Neuropsychiatrist with specialist clinical interest in neuropsychiatry. Dr Pollak has set up and co-runs a joint multidisciplinary clinic dedicated to the assessment and management of patients with confirmed or suspected autoimmune encephalitis and other central nervous system autoimmune disorders, at King's College Hospital, London

He is particularly interested in characterising the longer-term psychiatric wellbeing of people with encephalitis. He has trained in psychology (BA; Corpus Christi College, University of Oxford), medicine (MBBS; King's College London), clinical psychiatry (MRCPsych; Royal College of Psychiatrists) and clinical neurology (MSc; University College London).

In his current work he is using neuroimaging and neuroimmunological methods to characterise the significance of autoantibodies to neuronal surface antigens in early psychosis. His other research interests include the role of infections in psychiatry, repurposing immune-modulating therapies in psychiatry, glutamatergic abnormalities in psychosis and organic presentations in clinical neuropsychiatry.



Dr Sophie Binks

Clinical Lecturer and Honorary Neurology SpR at Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Oxford, UK

Dr Binks is a clinical lecturer and honorary neurology registrar in Oxford recently awarded a DPhil in autoimmune neurology, and now establishing herself as a clinician-scientist. Her DPhil supervisors and current collaborators are Prof Sarosh Irani, as well as Prof Julian Knight and Dr Kate Elliott from the Knight Group, Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics, Oxford.

Her research focuses on clinical and genetic aspects of autoimmune encephalitides. Previously (2016-2017) Sophie was an Academic Clinical Fellow in Neurology in Oxford investigating clinical and HLA associations of LGI1- and CASPR2-antibody encephalitis, and prior to that she completed an Academic Foundation Programme in Neurology in Brighton.



Professor Arun Venkatesan

Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA

Arun Venkatesan is a Professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, in the Department of Neurology, Division of Neuroimmunology and Neuroinfectious Diseases. As Director of the Johns Hopkins Encephalitis Center, he oversees clinical activities and research and has developed a multidisciplinary program devoted to delineating pathogenesis and optimizing diagnosis and management of autoimmune and infectious conditions that affect the central nervous system.

His laboratory research focuses on defining mechanisms of central nervous system injury in the setting of infection and neuroinflammation, with a goal towards developing protective and regenerative strategies in multiple sclerosis (MS) and encephalitis.

He has received funding from the National Institutes of Health, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and Maryland Research Fund.



Dr Matteo Gastaldi

Neuroimmunology Research Unit in Pavia, Italy

Dr Matteo Gastaldi is a neurologist specialised in the treatment of antibody mediated disorders of the nervous system including Myasthenia Gravis, MOGAD and NMOSD and Autoimmune Encephalitis. He trained in Neurology and obtained a PhD from the University of Pavia. During his PhD he attended as research fellow the Neuroimmunology Laboratory at NDCN in Oxford for a year supervised by Professor Angela Vincent.

Later, he spent three months as a research fellow in the neuroimmunology laboratory in IDIBAPS in Barcelona under the supervision of Francesc Graus and Josep Dalmau. During these experiences Matteo acquired skills in the implementation of immunological assays for the detection of neuroglial antibodies.

Since 2021, he is the Head of the Neuroimmunology Research Unit in Pavia and the Co-head of the Neuroimmunology Diagnostic Laboratory. He is also involved in patient care and performs once a week a neuroimmunology clinic dedicated to patients with antibody mediated disorders of the nervous system.



Professor Carsten Finke

Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany

Professor Carsten Finke is Heisenberg Professor for Cognitive Neurology and Consultant Neurologist at the Department of Neurology at Charité Berlin.

He is a faculty member of the Berlin School of Mind and Brain and member of the Einstein Center for Neurosciences Berlin.

He is also a founding member and member of the scientific council of the German Network for Research on Autoimmune Encephalitis (GENERATE). His research focuses on cognitive deficits and associated brain imaging alterations in neurological disorders with a specific interest in neuroimmunological diseases, especially autoimmune encephalitis. The aim of this research is to identify early (imaging) biomarkers that help to improve the diagnosis and treatment and, ultimately, the outcome of these disorders.

His group uses a broad range of methods, including advanced structural and functional MRI studies in humans and animal models, comprehensive neuropsychological assessments as well as immersive and non-immersive virtual reality setups



Dr James Sejvar

University of Pittsburgh, USA

Dr Sejvar obtained his medical degree from Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, New Hampshire, USA. He received his training in neurology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, USA, completing his residency there. He then did a fellowship in applied field epidemiology through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s Epidemic Intelligence Service. Following completion of the program, he led the Neuroepidemiology Unit at CDC's Divisions of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology.

He is board-certified in neurology, with an area of focus in infectious diseases. His current research focus centers on the epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical features and outcomes of infections of the nervous system, including encephalitis. He practices at University of Pittsburgh Physicians, Department of Neurology.

MEET OUR SPEAKERS DAY 1



Professor Benedict Michael

University of Liverpool and The Walton Centre, Liverpool, UK

Professor Benedict D Michael is an MRC Clinician Scientist and Director of the Infection Neuroscience Lab at The NIHR Health Protection Research Unit for Emerging and Zoonotic Infection and an Honorary Consultant Neurologist at The Walton Centre.

He completed Post-Doctoral Training at the Center for Immunology and Inflammatory Disease, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School and UMASS where he developed an intravital microscopy model of viral encephalitis to image leucocyte migration into the brain in real-time.

He has received The Royal College of Physicians Linacre Lecture Award (2022), The Liversage Award for Neurology and The British Medical Association Vera Down Award for Neuroscience, and for his neurological education work in Africa, he is Honorary Faculty for the Royal College of Physicians.

He is Vice Chair of the Encephalitis International Scientific Advisory Panel and an Advisor to the Meningitis Research Foundation. He has worked as a Royal College of Physicians Faculty Tutor in West Africa and with the NIHR to promote Patient and Public Engagement in research.

He co-Chairs the The Global NeuroResearch Coalition and also sits on the WHO Expert Forum on Neurology and COVID-19. He leads the COVID-Clinical Neuroscience Study (£2.3m UKRI) COVID-CNS in partnership with Co-PI (KCL), to elucidate disease mechanisms of neurological complications of SARS-CoV2.



Professor Sarosh Irani

Mayo Clinic Florida, US

Professor Irani is a Physician-Scientist with an actively translational research group that aims to improve outcomes for patients with autoimmune neurological diseases by understanding causation and biology underlying this rapidly expanding set of conditions.

Professor Irani led the discovery of antibodies against LGI1 and CASPR2 and described the associated clinical phenotypes and studied autoreactive B cells in patients with encephalitis thanks to funding support from Wellcome, the UK Medical Research Council, and the amazing generosity of the patients. His group now studies both autoantibody- specificities and properties of B cells from blood, lymph nodes and spinal fluid of patients with autoimmune neurological diseases.

He has supervised >50 international clinicians and scientists, including eight students to completed PhDs and five fellows to independent funding. He was awarded the Graham-Bull Prize in Clinical Science / Goulstonian Lectureship, from the Royal College of Physicians, and awards including the NIHR BRC Senior Clinical Fellowship, International Society of Neuroimmunology Clinical Science Prize and both Wellcome Intermediate and MRC Senior Clinical Fellowships.

In addition, he has been made Professor of Autoimmune Neurology at the University of Oxford and Adjunct Professor of Neurology at the University of Southern Denmark.



Assoc Professor Deanna Saylor

Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA & University Teaching Hospital and the University of Zambia School of Medicine, Lusaka, Zambia

Dr Deanna Saylor is a neuro-infectious diseases specialist, and Director of the Global Neurology Program at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr Saylor completed her undergraduate studies in chemistry and molecular genetics at The Ohio State University in Columbus, and obtained her medical degree from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Masters in Health Sciences in Clinical Epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore.

Her clinical and research interests include neurological complications of HIV, global health and neurology, neuroepidemiology, and improving the diagnosis and management of neurological conditions in resource-limited settings with few neurologists. Much of her research is based in Sub-Saharan Africa, including projects in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia. Most recently, Dr. Saylor has been living and working full-time in Zambia since 2018 as Director of the first and only neurology post-graduate training program in Zambia.



Dr Saif Huda

The Walton Centre Foundation Trust & University of Liverpool, UK

Saif Huda is a Consultant Neurologist at The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust and serves as the national clinical lead for the UK Highly Specialised Service for Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders (NMOSD). He completed his medical training at Liverpool University and his neurology specialist training at The Walton Centre, during which he also undertook a DPhil in neuroimmunology at the University of Oxford, focusing on autoimmune neurological disorders. Following his training, he completed a post-CCT fellowship specialising in autoimmune neurology.

Saif Huda is an expert in multiple sclerosis and antibody-mediated central nervous system disorders, leading a multidisciplinary team that delivers advanced care to patients across the UK with complex autoimmune neuroinflammatory diseases. His research, funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), explores immune tolerance mechanisms and biomarkers in NMOSD and myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody-associated disease (MOGAD). As a principal investigator for several Phase III clinical trials, he is committed to advancing therapies for NMOSD, MOGAD. His research prioritises clinical and serological biomarkers that help predict relapse risk and prognosis, contributing to personalised treatment approaches for patients with autoimmune CNS conditions.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Dr Marianna Spatola

IDIBAPS Research Institute, University of Barcelona; La Caixa Research Institute, Barcelona, Spain; Hospital of Sion, Switzerland

Dr Marianna Spatola, MD PhD, is a neurologist and researcher, currently working as Junior Group Leader in the Neuroimmunology Lab at IDIBAPS, Hospital Clinic, University of Barcelona, Spain. Her research aims to establish the pathogenic mechanisms underlying the development of immune-mediated neurological syndromes, such as autoimmune encephalitis, with a particular focus on understanding the role of viruses in triggering brain autoimmunity. She obtained her M.D. from the University of Turin (Italy), completed her Neurology residency and obtained her PhD at the University of Lausanne (Switzerland) and her post-doctorate at Harvard University (USA). She is the author of more than 30 publications. She has a broad experience as a speaker at >30 international congresses (in Europe, USA, India). She has been awarded the Faculty Prize from the University of Lausanne, the Neuroscience Research Scholarship and the Top Science Award from the American Academy of Neurology, and the Neurovirology Lectureship Award from the International Neurovirology Society.



Professor Michael Wilson

Debbie and Andy Rachleff Distinguished Professor of Neurology at the UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences; Director, UCSF Center for Encephalitis and Meningitis

Professor Michael Wilson is a neurologist and physician-scientist at the University of California, San Francisco's Weill Institute for Neurosciences in the Department of Neurology's Division of Neuroimmunology and Glial Biology. He is the founding director of the UCSF Center for Encephalitis and Meningitis, and his lab does translational research on neuroinflammatory disorders with the aim of developing improved diagnostics and therapeutics.

His laboratory applies metagenomic and immune repertoire sequencing techniques as well as phage display antibody discovery technologies to enhance our understanding of the causes and immunopathogenesis of multiple sclerosis as well as autoimmune and infectious causes of meningoencephalitis.

GUEST SPEAKERS



Dr Ava Easton

Encephalitis International & University of Liverpool, UK

Dr Ava Easton is Chief Executive of Encephalitis International, a researcher and global expert on encephalitis patient outcomes and quality of life. Ava has produced and published many papers, book chapters, and a book (Life After Encephalitis) on various aspects of encephalitis and its after-effects; she also speaks at and lectures around the world on the condition and its impact for patients and their families. Her expertise also extends to neuro-narratives, narrative medicine, and patient and public engagement.

Ava is involved in a number of research studies looking into the processes and outcomes of encephalitis and is an Honorary Fellow in the Dept. of Clinical Infection, Microbiology and Immunology, University of Liverpool; Consultant, Campaign for Infectious Diseases, The Wellcome Trust; Member, Global Neuro Research Coalition: Member, Steering Committee, COVID-CNS [The COVID-Clinical Neuroscience Study] and Patient and Public Engagement Lead; Chair, Patient and Public Involvement Panel; and Steering Committee Member – The Global Health Research Group on Brain Infections; Ambassador for the European Brain Injury Council.



Dr Bhagteshwar Singh

Institute of Infection Veterinary and Ecological Sciences, University of Liverpool & Tropical and Infectious Diseases Unit, Royal Liverpool University Hospital, UK

Dr Bhagteshwar Singh is a Clinical Research Fellow in the Liverpool Brain Infections Group, and Senior Clinical Trainee in Infectious Diseases, General Internal Medicine and Tropical Medicine in Liverpool. He has recently worked clinically at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital, Blantyre, Malawi and Christian Medical College Vellore, India, and was based at the latter as lead fellow for the multi-country National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Global Health Research Group on Acute Brain Infections, and the MRC-funded COVID-Neuro Global research programme in Brazil, India and Malawi between 2018 and 2023. His research spans interventional, epidemiological & implementation research, and evidence synthesis, aiming to improve the understanding and care of infectious diseases of global importance, particularly of the brain.

DEBATE SPEAKERS



Prof Gagandeep Singh

Department of Neurology, Dayanand Medical College, Ludhiana, Punjab, India

Dr Singh is a Professor in Neurology with expertise in Epilepsy and Neurological Infection. He is trained in Epilepsy from University College London (UCL) Institute of Neurology and in Neurology at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, India. He has nearly 30 years of clinical and consulting experience in his field of expertise. He is an active researcher in epilepsy and recipient of >10 international and national grants. He is President of the Indian Epilepsy Association; Member Editorial Boards, Epilepsy & Behaviour, Epileptic Disorders; Chairperson, Primary Care Task Force, International League Against Epilepsy; Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Clinical and Experimental Epilepsy, UCL – Institute of Neurology, London, UK.



Dr Mashina Chomba

University Teaching Hospital - Adult Hospital, Lusaka, Zambia

Dr Mashina Chomba is a Consultant Neurologist and Faculty Member in the department of Internal Medicine at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, Zambia and is one of Zambia's first locally trained neurologists. He is a passionate researcher and teacher with special interest in neuroinfectious diseases and neuroimmunology.

Dr Chomba is a graduate of the University of Zambia School of Medicine where he attained his medical degree and later his Master of Medicine degree in Neurology. He then completed a 1-year Columbia University Neuroinfectious Disease Clinical Research Fellowship in 2021. He was the recipient of the American Academy of Neurology Neuroinfectious diseases Award in 2023. His main hope is to contribute significantly to the understanding of the epidemiology of neurological disease in Zambia and Sub-Saharan Africa; and to help formulate innovations that will improve the care of neurology patients in the region.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS DAY 2

Professor Tom Solomon CBE



The Pandemic Institute; Academy of Medical Sciences; National Institute for Health and Care, Research Health Protection Research Unit in Emerging and Zoonotic Infections, Liverpool, UK

Professor Solomon studied medicine at Wadham College, Oxford, before undertaking a PhD on central nervous system infections in Vietnam, with a Wellcome Trust Advanced Training Fellowship. He then became a Clinical Lecturer in Neurology, Medical Microbiology and Tropical Medicine at the University of Liverpool and was awarded a Wellcome Trust Career Development Fellowship. Tom was made a Senior Lecturer in Neurology in Liverpool in 2005 and awarded a Medical Research Council Senior Clinical Fellowship the same year. He became Chair of Neurological Science in 2007. In 2020 he was made an Associate pro-Vice Chancellor at the University of Liverpool. In 2021 he was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday honours and became Vice President (International) of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Tom's work on public engagement has included national TV and radio work, as well as widening participation work with local schools. Raising awareness and charity funding his Running Mad Professor video on YouTube got nearly 20,000 hits: he won the Guinness World Record for the fastest marathon dressed as a doctor in 2010, and later a Guinness World Record for the Largest Human Image of an Organ – the World's Biggest Brain to celebrate the first World Encephalitis Day. Tom is the author of Roald Dahl's Marvellous Medicine which examines Dahl's interest in everything medical and explores some extraordinary areas of medical science.

Dr Sarah Crisp



Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Cambridge, UK

Dr Sarah Crisp is a Senior Clinical Research Associate at University of Cambridge. She works on the neural mechanisms of antibody-mediated CNS disease. Her previous work established the pathogenicity of glycine receptor autoantibodies in progressive encephalomyelitis with rigidity and myoclonus (PERM) and stiff person spectrum disorders. Her current active areas of research are antibody discovery in seronegative autoimmune encephalitis and stiff person spectrum disorders, and investigating neural mechanisms of MOG autoantibodies.

Dr Ralph Habis



Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins Encephalitis Center, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA

Dr Habis earned his MD from the American University of Beirut in June 2022, and since August 2022, he has been conducting a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Johns Hopkins Encephalitis Center and Adult Epilepsy Diet Center.



Ms Hannah Tenenbaum

Department of Neurology, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany

Hannah is a medical student at Charité University Berlin and joined the Cognitive Neurology Lab in August 2023 as a doctoral candidate. She is interested in clinical and cognitive neuroscience. At the moment she is investigating long-term cognitive outcomes in patients after autoimmune encephalitis via clinical data and magnetic resonance imaging analysis.



Dr Thomas Hughes

Clinical Infection, Microbiology, and Immunology, Institute of Infection, Veterinary and Ecological Sciences, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

Thomas Hughes is an academic foundation doctor in Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust specialising in encephalitis. He is currently undertaking a year abroad working in Australia prior to undertaking critical care training with an interest in neuro-critical care.



Dr Ole Jonas Boeken

Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Corporate member of Freie Universität Berlin and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Department of Neurology and Experimental Neurology, Berlin, Germany

Ole Jonas Boeken is a post-doctoral researcher who earned his diploma in Psychology from the University of Vienna, where he also pursued a Master's Degree in Cognitive Science (MEi:CogSci), completed jointly at the University of Vienna and the University of Ljubljana. Following his academic pursuits, he worked as a neuropsychologist in neurological rehabilitation, focusing on patients with strokes and degenerative diseases. He recently completed his Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience at Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, with his dissertation titled "Structure-function relationships in the human brain."

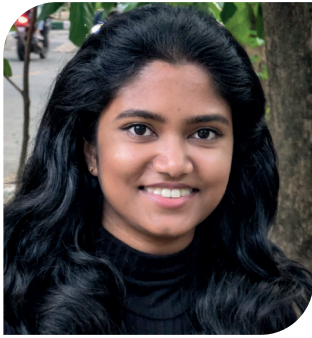
His expertise spans neuropsychology, cognitive neurosciences, and connectomics, highlighting his extensive background and keen interest in the interplay between brain networks and clinical recovery processes.



Dr Manoj Upadhya

Institute of Health and Neurodevelopment, Aston University

Dr Upadhya is a Postdoctoral Research Associate and joined the Wright lab in 2020 to support the group aims of developing autoimmune-associated epilepsy models and novel receptor-specific treatments. His interest is in translational epilepsy research with advanced skills in animal behaviour, rodent and human brain electrophysiology and molecular biology. Manoj completed his Ph.D. at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences of the Nagpur University, India exploring the involvement of cocaine- and amphetamine-regulated transcript (CART) peptide in neurological disorders including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's diseases, epilepsy and spinal cord injury, and socio- environmental conditions like natural stress, addiction and pyrexia. He has published widely in reputed international journals including Brain, Journal of Experimental Medicine, Neuropharmacology, Addiction Biology, Behavioural Brain Research, Brain Research, Peptides, and Life Sciences.



Ms Maria Jose

Department of Neurovirology, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Maria Jose is a Junior Research Fellow in the Department of Neurovirology at NIMHANS. She is currently working on a project focused on designing and validating a diagnostic algorithm for acute encephalitis syndrome in paediatric patients. As part of this project, the team have collected more than 500 samples from children across various regions of India, with a primary focus on southern India. Her research interests encompass a broad spectrum of virology, including viral infections that impact neurological health, virus-host interaction and immune evasion, antiviral drug discovery, and emerging viral infections. She is particularly intrigued by cutting-edge advancements such as CRISPR-based viral diagnostics and therapeutics.



Dr Rachel Brown

UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology and UCL Institute of Immunity and Transplantation, UK

Dr Rachel Brown completed her medical degree at Oxford University in 2010, before embarking on her postgraduate medical career in London. In 2019, she was awarded an MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowship for her PhD at University College London in the Institute of Immunity and Transplantation and Queen Square Institute of Neurology. Her PhD work focussed on the role of T cells in autoimmune encephalitis, and was supervised by Professor Emma Morris, Professor Michael Lunn, and Dr Michael Zandi. As part of her PhD, she also studied the neurological complications of immune checkpoint inhibitors for cancer. She has recently completed clinical training in neurology at the Royal Free Hospital and National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery in London and is a founding member of the Queen Square Brain Infection and Encephalitis Multidisciplinary Team.



Steven L. Staal, MD

Department of Neurology, Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Steven studied medicine at the University of Leiden and received his medical degree in 2021. After graduating, he worked at Reinier de Graaf Hospital at the Department of Neurology. Early 2022 he started his position as a PhD-student at the neuro-infections group in the Amsterdam UMC. He currently works on the I-PACE study where he looks into the transcriptome of immune cells and metabolite/ lipid concentrations in patients with a suspected central nervous system infection. In addition, he works on the ARISE study focusing on the immune system as a cause of secondary deterioration and/or failure to improve after a viral encephalitis.



Dr Lerato Mambulu

Internal Medicine Department, Kamuzu Central Hospital, Malawi

Lerato Mambulu is a clinical lecturer and general internal medicine consultant with an interest in infectious diseases and clinical research. She is the coordinator for the postgraduate diploma in HIV medicine (PGDHIV) course and is also the department's representative in the Kamuzu University research ethics committee. She recently attended the University of Liverpool NeuroID course where she presented a case of Neurocysticercosis and was runner up best poster presentation. She participated in the Malawi NeuroID course, presenting a cryptic case talk, in July 2024. She has been actively involved in clinical research, her MMED thesis was on neurological brain infections in a high HIV prevalence setting. She has worked with the Helse Nord foundation in clinical trials and research on Tuberculosis, the most recent being the STEP2C study. She also volunteers in career talks at Malawian secondary schools to encourage young women to pursue education and careers in STEM. She has been featured in national newspaper articles on health, education and empowerment of women.



Dr Thomas Agerbo Gaist

Odense University Hospital, Odense, Denmark

Thomas Gaist is a physician and PhD-student studying autoimmune encephalitis under the supervision of Professor Morten Blaabjerg at the neurological research department at Odense University Hospital, Denmark.



Dr John Kasibante

Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, USA

Dr John Kasibante, MBChB, MSc, is an infectious diseases researcher with a focus on the role of anti-HIV antibodies in HIV and HIV-associated meningoencephalitis. Dr Kasibante has worked on meningoencephalitis patients in Uganda, at The Infectious Diseases Institute, Uganda's leading research Institute and Mulago National Referral Hospital, the Nation's main referral hospital since 2019. Here, he has worked on groundbreaking meningoencephalitis clinical trials publishing 20 peer-review articles in journals like New England Journal of Medicine and Nature medicine. He was also involved in the AMBITION trial that led to the updated 2022 World Health Organization treatment guidelines for cryptococcal meningitis.

Dr Kasibante is the recipient of the 2022 Encephalitis International Seed Funding to uncover viral causes of encephalitis among Ugandan patients. He is currently an Infectious Diseases post-doctoral fellow at the Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, USA.



Assoc Professor Priyanka Madaan

Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Faridabad Haryana, India

Dr Priyanka Madaan completed her post-graduation (MD) in paediatrics and child neurology training (DM) from the prestigious All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi and was awarded the Sorel Catherine Freymann Book Prize for the best post graduate student in Paediatrics. Currently, she works as Associate Professor in the department of Paediatric Neurology at Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Faridabad. She has authored several book chapters and more than 60 research publications in national and international journals. Her field of research interest includes paediatric epilepsy and nonepileptic events. She is also interested in other neurological conditions in children including movement disorders, neuromuscular and neurodevelopmental disorders, autoimmune neurological disorders, neurometabolic and neurodegenerative disorders.

Dr Madaan is Deputy Editor of the Journal of Tropical Paediatrics and Editorial Board Member for Paediatric Neurology. She is commission member of the current International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) Climate Change Commission and is one of the founding members of South Asian West syndrome Research Group. She is also a committee member of Future Leaders of International Child neurology association (FLICNA). She is recipient of several awards and honours in the field including the International scholarship award 2019 by the American Academy of Neurology. She is the recipient of the research seed funding 2021 by the Encephalitis International.

Datablitz Profiles



Dr R.W. van Steenhoven

Erasmus MC University Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Dr van Steenhoven is a fully trained neurologist and have completed clinical fellowships in both neuroimmunology and neurodegenerative diseases. Since March 2022, he works as a PhD student at the department of Neurology of the Erasmus University Medical Center. He focuses within the field of AE and touching upon cognitive neurology, on rapidly progressive dementia, neuropathology and seronegative AE (supervisors Prof. dr. Peter Sillevs Smitt and Assoc. Prof. dr. Maarten Titulaer). In the past three years, he built his experience in various research projects, studying AE from both a clinical and fundamental perspective. Currently, he is studying the neuropathology of seropositive AE and the role of brain biopsy in the diagnosis of AE. His work has already been recognized, being awarded four different national and international grants in the past two years.



Ms Débora Serrenho

Centre for Neuroscience and Cell Biology (CNC), Coimbra, Portugal

Débora Serrenho is a PhD student in the Experimental Biology and Biomedicine Program at the Department of Life Sciences at the CNC- University of Coimbra, Portugal. The aim of her current research is to uncover cellular and molecular mechanisms at the basis of neuronal excitability involved in autoantibody-mediated diseases.



Dr Cordelia Dunai

CIMI, IVES, University of Liverpool, UK

Cordelia is a postdoc research associate in Professor Benedict Michael's Infection Neuroscience lab.

She is part of the Biomarkers and Immunology Working Group of the COVID-CNS study and the Liverpool Brain Infections Group. She earned her Ph.D. in immunology in 2021 in the lab of Professor William J. Murphy at UC Davis. Her interests include immunology, virology, cancer biology, translational research, and scientific outreach.



Dr Vasundhara S Nair

Jindal Institute of Behavioural Sciences, OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana, India

Dr Vasundhara S Nair (MPhil, PhD) has been working with Persons with various psychiatric and neurological conditions and their families for past 6 years thereby providing individual and family interventions. She holds her research interests in the field of mental health, biological disasters like ZIKA, COVID19, Multiple Sclerosis and Acute Brain Infections. She is skilled in providing care children and parenting, women and climate change, healthy aging. She is a passionate faculty, psychotherapist and researcher.



Dr Jackson A. Roberts

Massachusetts General Brigham, Boston & Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, USA

Dr Jackson Roberts is a recent graduate of Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons and incoming neurology resident at Massachusetts General Brigham in Boston, MA. He has a particular interest in the epidemiology, diagnosis, and acute management of neuroinfectious diseases, particularly in the global context.



Assoc Prof Stacey L. Clardy

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

Dr Clardy is both clinical and research faculty in the Division of Neuroimmunology within the Department of Neurology. Her clinical specialization and research focus are in the field of autoimmune neurology, which encompasses the evaluation and management of both autoimmune and paraneoplastic disorders of the nervous system. Dr Clardy is the principal investigator (PI) of an NIH U01 grant (via the NeuroNEXT Clinical Trials Network) to fund the ExTINGUISH Trial—the first prospective, international, and randomized clinical trial for NMDA receptor encephalitis, at 20 US sites and 2 European sites, with enrollment beginning early 2022. Her areas of focus include autoimmune encephalitis, neurosarcoidosis, neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder (NMOSD), myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody disease (MOGAD), stiff-person syndrome, myelopathy/transverse myelitis, and central nervous system complications of rheumatologic disease. She established the autoimmune neurology clinic at the University of Utah and is also the Director of the Autoimmune Neurology Fellowship Program.



Mr Ka-Ho Wong

Department of Neurology, University of Utah, USA

Mr Ka-Ho Wong is a Research Associate in the Department of Neurology, at the University of Utah. He is currently the project director for the ExTINGUISH NMDAR Encephalitis Clinical Trial. He is helping Dr Clardy to lead this international NMDAR encephalitis Trial.



Assist Prof Julien Hébert

Toronto Western Hospital, Canada

Julien Hébert is a Clinician-Investigator neurologist and epileptologist based at the Toronto Western Hospital and an Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto. He has obtained his medical degree from McGill University, completed a residency in Adult Neurology at the University of Toronto, Clinical Fellowship in Epilepsy and Neurophysiology from Columbia University, and a Master of Epidemiology at Sorbonne University. He approaches research questions from a Clinical Epidemiology perspective, with a focus on autoimmunity in epilepsy.



Dr Thomas Johnson

Centre for Human Genetics, University of Oxford, UK

Dr Thomas Johnson is an academic foundation doctor based at the Oxford Neuroimmunology and Immunopsychiatry Laboratory, University of Oxford.



Dr Pietro Businaro

University of Pavia; Neuroimmunology Research Section, IRCCS Mondino Foundation, Pavia, Italy

Dr Pietro Businaro is a neurologist and PhD student with a focus on antibody effector function in autoimmune neurology.

His clinical expertise is rooted in significant experience at both the IRCCS Neurological Institute Carlo Besta and the IRCCS Neurological Institute Casimiro Mondino. Complementing his clinical work, he has nearly two years of preclinical experience in Neuro-oncology in Prof. Locatelli's lab at Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital. From July to mid-October, he expanded his research horizons as a fellow in the neuroimmunology lab of Prof. Dalmau and Prof. Graus in Barcelona under the supervision of Dr Marianna Spatola, focusing on identifying optimal diagnostic tests for paraneoplastic neurological syndromes associated with intracellular antibodies.



Dr Miguel Tofiño-Vian

Karolinska Institutet, Solna, Stockholm, Sweden

Miguel performed his PhD studies in the molecular biology of extracellular vesicles, in the context of chronic inflammation, in Valencia (Spain). Then, he proceed to combine his expertise in his current postdoctoral position in the Department of Neuroscience (Karolinska Institutet), researching novel therapeutic approaches to prevent neuronal damage in bacterial meningoencephalitis.

Dr N.S. Groeneveld

Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Dr Groeneveld is a PhD student at the neurology department of the Amsterdam University Medical Centers, working on diagnostics in neurological infectious diseases in children.



Ms Sabine E. Olie

Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Sabine Olie obtained her medical degree in 2019 at the University of Amsterdam. After a year as a neurology resident, she started her PhD in 2020 on diagnostics in patients with suspected central nervous system infections under the supervision of prof. dr. Matthijs Brouwer and prof. dr. Diederik van de Beek. She mainly works on exploring novel diagnostic techniques to increase cause-specific diagnosis of CNS infections, making use of an ongoing multicenter cohort study consisting of patients who undergo a lumbar puncture for the suspicion of a CNS infection.



Dr Sobia Khan

Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

Dr Sobia Khan is a senior postgraduate trainee (clinical fellowship) in medical microbiology at the Aga Khan University Hospital. She has represented her institute at multiple national and international research forums and has received an intramural grant for work on arboviral surveillance, specially focusing insecticide resistance. Her fellowship dissertation is focused on acute meningoencephalitis in Pakistan.

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