
Dear Readers,

Cancer in the Nervous System, 2nd edition, is now available online at http://www.soc-neuro-onc.org, under “Literature and Book Review.” This is an online version of the textbook I originally conceived and developed to address the many and varied clinical problems patients with cancer in the nervous system encounter. In response to our colleagues’ preference for online access, the contents of the 2002 edition of the book were converted into a searchable Adobe PDF document and made available for free. The online version of Cancer in the Nervous System will be valuable to the physicians, nurses, psychologists, and all who care for people suffering from cancer that affects the central nervous system.

Though this online book may not contain all the latest and most up-to-date thinking in the field, we do believe that much of the basic information and concepts in the book are correct, and we hope that the online book will stimulate colleagues with an interest and expertise in neuro-oncology to write updates. Our intent is to add these updates to the online book as supplements to the existing chapters. In some cases we would be willing to replace some of the current online chapters with updated chapters.

Authors interested in providing new and updated content can submit their potential entries to me at vlevin@mdanderson.org. Submissions could include a PDF copy of a published paper, a paper written specifically for this site, an alternative opinion about a treatment or management strategy covered in the online book, or a short summary of new and relevant observations that should be widely shared. A SNO group will review and approve all new entries.

Victor A. Levin, MD

Collaborative Ependymoma Research Network Launched

With generous philanthropic support, the Collaborative Ependymoma Research Network (CERN) has been formed to focus research efforts on this rare tumor and, through international collaborations, to acquire sufficient tumor material for analysis, accrue patients to clinical trials and promote progress against adult and/or pediatric ependymoma. With coordinating centers at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center (under Mark Gilbert) and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital (under Richard Gilbertson), CERN encompasses an additional nine clinical centers in the United States and Canada to maximize patient access, with the potential for adding more centers to extend this benefit.

Projects range from stem cell biology and generation of ependymoma mouse models, to tumor tissue profiling, molecular drug target identification, and targeted drug development, to a clinical trials network to quickly capitalize on findings. Additional information is available at http://www.cern-foundation.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Perspectives in Central Nervous System Malignancies IV
March 28–29, 2008
Berlin, Germany

Perspectives in Central Nervous System Malignancies IV is designed to provide a detailed overview of the state-of-the-art in management of gliomas in adults, to discuss current trends and controversies, and to identify significant developments that may lead to improved results. Preeminent neuro-oncologists, radiation oncologists, and neurosurgeons from Europe and North America will discuss imaging techniques, surgical techniques, chemotherapy and radiotherapy options, challenges in management of secondary metastases, and quality-of-life issues related to treatment. The chairs are internationally recognized as being among the leading experts in the field, with over 40 years of experience in CNS oncology combined. More than 600 professionals attended Perspectives in CNS Malignancies III in 2007.

For more information, contact Cortney Bailey by phone at (770) 751-7332, or visit http://www.imedex.com/announcements/313.asp.
Sixtieth Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Neurology
April 12–19, 2008
Chicago, IL

The AAN Annual Meeting, one of the world’s largest gatherings of neurology professionals, brings together more than 10,000 neurologists and neuroscientists to share groundbreaking research and participate in a comprehensive curriculum-based educational program.

The AAN Annual Meeting Education Program features directors and faculty who are leaders in their fields in more than 20 general and specialty topics. More than 170 programs provide an array of programming options: full-day and half-day courses; breakfast, luncheon, dinner, and after-dinner seminars; workshops; and kick-off, case-study, therapy program, and coding lunches.

The AAN Annual Meeting Science Program has long been a leading showcase for the latest developments in scientific research and the place to honor peers at the forefront of this work.

Opportunities in neuroscience include:

- Scientific Program Abstracts—groundbreaking scientific program featuring more than 1,600 abstracts on over 20 topics in clinical and basic science research.
- Plenary Sessions—five premier plenary sessions feature lectures by esteemed investigators discussing critical advances in neuroscience.
- Scientific Topic Highlights—highlights present the best research in select neurological topics from over 1,600 scientific poster and platform presentations.
- Late-Breaking Science—the most current research by neurologists, neuroscientists, and other eligible researchers whose work is of major scientific importance or interest and warrants expedited presentation and publication.
- Future of Neuroscience Conference: Neural Repair—a day-long scientific symposium that appeals to both clinical neurologists and neuroscientists. The program will feature invited speakers in the field as well as relevant abstracts.
- Integrated Neuroscience—an expansive look at autism, genetics of epilepsy, tropical neurology, new methods in imaging, stroke imaging and emerging therapies, and mitochondria in diseases.

For more information, contact Lynn Ellen Smith by phone at (651) 695-2756 or visit http://www.aan.com/am.

Thirteenth International Symposium on Pediatric Neuro-Oncology, Affiliated with the Society for Neuro-Oncology
June 30–July 2, 2008
Chicago, IL

This meeting (Stewart Goldman, MD, and Tadanori Tomita, MD, course directors), welcomes oncologists, neurosurgeons, radiation oncologists, neurologists, nurses, basic researchers, neuropathologists, neuroradiologists, endocrinologists, psychologists, social workers, research associates, and other health care providers involved in the care of children with CNS tumors. Attendees are encouraged to register early and secure a room at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile at a special conference rate of $195 per night. This rate also includes free internet access from your room, as well as a complimentary welcome package from the ISPNO local committee. The Marriott is located in the heart of Chicago on Michigan Avenue, steps from hundreds of upscale shops, restaurants, and attractions. ISPNO begins with a Pre-Symposium Education Day on Sunday, June 29. For more information, visit www ispno.com.

Eighth Congress of the EANO
September 12–14, 2008
Barcelona, Spain

The Eighth Congress of the European Association of Neuro-Oncology will take place under the auspices of the Spanish Group of Neuro-Oncology (GENO). GENO was founded in 1999 under the multidisciplinary spirit of EANO. The local organizing committee is already working hard with EANO to provide the best postgraduate course for the first day of the congress and an attractive scientific program that will cover the most important topics of the field in main symposia, meet-the-expert sessions, and keynote lectures. As usual, an interdisciplinary spirit will be the basis of the congress. Colleagues from all the neuro-oncological disciplines, such as basic sciences; neuropathology; neurology; neurosurgery; neuroimaging; medical, pediatric, and radiation oncology; and nursing, are invited to participate actively in the oral and poster presentations.

For more information, contact Yannis Roussos by phone at +43 1-4051383-0 or visit http://www.eano.eu.

SNO 2008
November 20–23, 2008
Lake Las Vegas Resort outside Las Vegas, Nevada

Please send all news items you would like to have included in future issues to Oliver Bögler, Brain Tumor Center and Department of Neurosurgery, The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Unit BSRB 1004, Room S3.8136, 1515 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77030; phone: (713) 834-6216; fax: (713) 834-6257; e-mail: societynews@soc-neuro-onc.org.