**Overview**

This Neurology Symposium is designed to focus on conditions that, while commonly seen in the acute medical ward, neurology and medical outpatient clinic, are seldom discussed at meetings.

Neurologists are not often available at the front door where acute presentations of neurological infection, poisoning and drug toxicity can be challenging to identify and manage. Even relatively straightforward neurological conditions become more complex to manage in the pregnant patient. The programme therefore includes these topics as well as several conditions which at first glance should be simple to manage, but seldom are in practice.

Should neurologists and other medical professionals assist adults with capacity who find their medical condition is making life intolerable, to die? This is a thorny issue but one that is unlikely to go away and we need to talk about it.

We have asked our speakers to, where possible, follow an interactive case based approach. The programme should, we hope, appeal to a wide range of physicians, general practitioners, trainees, medical students and neurologists, particularly those in District General Hospitals who increasingly deal with patients in acute admission units.

**Dr Myles Connor**  
Chair, Organising Sub-Committee
16.25 Welcome and introductory remarks
by Dr Neil Dewhurst, President, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Session 1 - Acute neurology at the front door
Chair: Dr Ian Morrison, Consultant Neurologist, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee

16.30 Could it be an infection of the central nervous system?
Dr Guy Thwaites, Reader in Infectious Diseases and Honorary Consultant in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, Kings College London/Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital London
*general approach to infection of the central nervous system in the immunosuppressed patient, returning traveller and immunocompetent local resident

17.10 Could it be toxin or drug related?
Dr Michael Eddleston, Scottish Senior Clinical Research Fellow, Clinical Pharmacology Unit, University of Edinburgh
*approach to acute drug poisoning *organophosphate poisoning * serotonin syndrome * neuroleptic malignant syndrome

17.50 Break

Session 2 - Acute neurology beyond the front door
Chair: Dr Martin Zeidler, Consultant Neurologist, Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy

18.20 Is it migraine or stroke?
Professor Keith Muir, SINAPSE Professor of Clinical Imaging, University of Glasgow and Consultant Neurologist, Southern General Hospital, Glasgow
*how to distinguish the two conditions for the non-stroke expert * migraine as a risk factor for stroke
* patent foramen ovale and stroke

19.00 Pregnancy and neurological disorders
Dr Lucy Mackillop, Obstetric Physician, Women's Centre, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust
*pregnancy and the patient with existing neurological disorder (epilepsy, migraine, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis etc)
*neurological complications of pregnancy (eclampsia, nerve entrapment, posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome)

19.00 RCPE CHARLES MCNEIL LECTURE
Chair: Dr Neil Dewhurst, President, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh
Peanut allergy – what should we do?
Dr Andrew Clark, Consultant in Paediatric Allergy, Addenbrooke’s Hospital, Cambridge

19.40 Dinner
Tuesday 4 October
Venue: Lecture Hall, Ground Floor, UiTM Selayang

Session 3 - Management challenges
Chair: Dr Jon Stone, Consultant Neurologist, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh

20.30
My approach to the patient presenting with dissociative (non-epileptic) seizures
Dr John Mellers, Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Maudsley Hospital, London
*in the outpatient clinic *in the ward * diagnosis, management * what I tell the patient *educating ward staff and family members

21.00
How I manage idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH)
Mr Mike Burdon, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Birmingham University Hospitals NHS Trust
*confirming the diagnosis * approach to management - medical and surgical options * patients with refractory IIH

21.30
Symposium feedback & Break

Session 4 - Assisted dying - we need to talk about it
Chair: Dr Anna Williams, Wellcome Trust Intermediate Clinical Fellow and Honorary Consultant Neurologist, University of Edinburgh and Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh

22.00
Assisted dying for the adult with capacity - the view of the Association of British Neurologists
Professor Neil Scolding, Association of British Neurologists and Burden Professor of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Bristol
* ABN working group statement

22.30
STANLEY DAVIDSON LECTURE
Chair: Dr Neil Dewhurst, President, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh
My life, my death, my choice
Professor Raymond Tallis, Philosopher, Poet, Novelist, Cultural Critic and until recently a Physician

23.30
Discussion & Close