

CNS Newsletter



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Interventional Pain and Neuromodulation Procedures Workshop for Trainee Physicians
Halifax, NS | February 8-10, 2026

Annual Meeting of the CNS
Calgary, AB | September 17-19, 2026

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President's Note



As President of the Canadian Neuromodulation Society, I am pleased to welcome you to our latest newsletter and to thank each of you for your continued commitment to advancing the field of neuromodulation across Canada.

Our specialty continues to evolve at an extraordinary pace. Innovations in deep brain, spinal cord, sacral nerve, peripheral nerve, vagal, and non-invasive neuromodulation therapies are expanding treatment possibilities while challenging us to continually refine our clinical practice through evidence-based care. Equally important is our commitment to education, collaboration, research, and advocacy to ensure our patients have equitable access to these life-changing therapies.

The strength of our Society lies in its multidisciplinary membership. Physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, researchers, industry partners, and trainees each play an essential role in improving patient outcomes and shaping the future of our field. I encourage you to become actively involved in our educational programs, research initiatives, and upcoming meetings, where we can learn from one another and build meaningful collaborations.

Our big news for the summer is our upcoming Annual Scientific Meeting in Calgary, Alberta from September 17-19, 2026 (<https://neuromodulation.ca/calgary-2026/>) with the Swiss Neuromodulation Society joining us as the invited Society. The meeting will include keynote lectures, abstract presentations, pro-con debates, allied health sessions and discussions around access to neuromodulation across Canada. I hope to see you and your colleagues at this meeting.

I look forward to connecting with many of you in the months ahead and especially at our Annual Scientific Meeting!

Warm regards,

Anuj Bhatia MD PhD FRCPC
President, Canadian Neuromodulation Society

Editor's Note



Dear CNS members,
I hope everyone is enjoying the summer.

This issue looks ahead to the CNS Annual Scientific Meeting, taking place in Calgary from 17-19 September 2026, with the Swiss Neuromodulation Society joining us for this year's meeting. We highlight the work of our three keynote lecturers:

Dr Mojgan Hodaie, who will deliver the Tasker Lecture on neuromodulation for craniofacial pain;

Dr Philippe Rigoard, who will discuss the achievements, challenges and future direction of the INS registry; and

Dr Salim Hayek, who will deliver the Kumar Lecture on intrathecal drug delivery for non-cancer pain.

I hope you enjoy the issue, and I look forward to seeing many of you in Calgary.

Seung Cheol (Paul) Kim, MD
Editor & Trainee Representative

CNS Annual Meeting Calgary 2026: Keynote perspectives, emerging evidence and the future of neuromodulation

TASKER LECTURE SPOTLIGHT: DR MOJGAN HODAIE



Dr Mojgan Hodaie is Professor of Surgery at the University of Toronto, a functional neurosurgeon at Toronto Western Hospital, and surgical co-director of the Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Gamma Knife Radiosurgery Unit. Her clinical and research interests include neuromodulation for pain and movement disorders, Gamma Knife radiosurgery, and the surgical treatment of trigeminal neuralgia and other forms of craniofacial pain.

Her research programme uses advanced structural MRI, diffusion tensor imaging and tractography to investigate neuroanatomical signatures of facial neuropathic pain and to explore how imaging may support diagnosis, treatment planning and the prediction of surgical outcomes. At CNS Calgary 2026, Dr Hodaie will deliver the Tasker Lecture, “Neuromodulation for craniofacial pain”. Her presentation will highlight the intersection of functional neurosurgery, neuroimaging and multidisciplinary pain care in advancing treatment for patients with complex craniofacial pain.

CNS LECTURE SPOTLIGHT: DR PHILIPPE RIGOARD



Dr Philippe Rigoard is Professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Poitiers and Chair of the Department of Spine Surgery and Neuromodulation at Poitiers University Hospital in France. He is also Director of the PRISMATICS Lab, Treasurer of the International Neuromodulation Society, and Chair of the International Neuromodulation Registry.

His main research interests are neuromodulation and spine biomechanics. His work focuses on the development of neuromodulation technologies, computerised interfaces for multidimensional and quantitative pain assessment, and AI-based predictive medicine to support more personalised patient pathways. He has also developed extensive international collaborations with leading researchers across Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and Europe.

Dr Rigoard has contributed significantly to the international neuromodulation community. He has published 174 PubMed

indexed peer reviewed articles, delivered more than 300 lectures and presentations worldwide, edited an atlas of peripheral nerve anatomy, and served as Past President of the French Neuromodulation Society. He also hosted the 2nd INS Congress of the European Chapters in Paris in 2021.

At CNS Calgary 2026, Dr Rigoard will deliver the CNS Lecture, “Challenges, achievements, and future directions for the INS registry”. His lecture will highlight the importance of standardised, multinational real-world data collection in neuromodulation. This topic is closely aligned with current priorities in the Canadian neuromodulation community, as centres consider how coordinated data collection can support national benchmarking, multicentre research, outcome evaluation and future participation in international registry initiatives.

KUMAR LECTURE SPOTLIGHT: DR SALIM HAYEK



Dr Salim Hayek is Professor and Vice Chair for Clinical Research in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Centre. His clinical expertise includes intrathecal drug delivery, spinal cord stimulation, peripheral nerve stimulation and the wider management of complex chronic pain.

Dr Hayek has made substantial contributions to clinical guidance, research and education in intrathecal therapy. He has published more than 40 peer-reviewed manuscripts on intrathecal drug delivery and is co-editor, with Tony Yaksh, of *Neuraxial Therapeutics: A Comprehensive Guide*. He is also a co-author of the 2024 Polyanalgesic Consensus Conference guidance on the safety and optimisation of intrathecal drug delivery for chronic non-cancer pain. The guidance brings together available evidence and expert consensus on practical issues including patient selection, trialling, drug selection, monitoring and long-term safety.

At CNS Calgary 2026, Dr Hayek will deliver the Kumar Lecture, “Intrathecal drug delivery for non-cancer pain”. His presentation will examine the current role of intrathecal therapy and its safe, appropriate use in carefully selected patients with refractory chronic pain.

Interventional Pain and Neuromodulation Procedures Workshop for Trainee Physicians - Halifax, NS | February 8-10, 2026

The **Interventional Pain and Neuromodulation Procedures Workshop for Trainee Physicians**, held in Halifax from 8–10 February 2026, offered fellows and residents a rich three-day educational experience focused on contemporary interventional pain and neuromodulation practice. Hosted at the **QEII Skills Centre, Dalhousie University**, and led by **Dr Lutz Weise** with coordination by **Ally Klassen**, the workshop featured a strong faculty including **Dr Anuj Bhatia, Dr Philip Chan, Dr Ehtesham Baig, Dr Antonios El-Helou, Dr Jill Osborn, Dr Ashley Cox, Dr Abeer Alomari, Dr Manikandan Rajarathinam, and Dr Ivan Cohen**. Through a combination of lectures and hands-on rotations, trainees gained exposure to a broad range of procedures, including ultrasound-guided spine and peripheral nerve interventions, intrathecal therapies, sacral nerve stimulation, dorsal root ganglion stimulation, and spinal cord stimulation, including minimally invasive and open surgical techniques.

"An informative, hands-on experience with excellent faculty - Strongly recommended!", Dr Sam Wong, FRCA, FFPMRCA, Chronic Pain Fellow, Toronto Western Hospital



Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Neuromodulation Society with Invited Society: Swiss Neuromodulation Society

***Calgary, Alberta at The Westin Calgary (320 4th Avenue SW)
September 17th-19th, 2026***



The 2026 Annual meeting of the CNS is accredited by the University of Toronto Continuing Professional Development program with the following credits:

- Royal College Maintenance of Certification Section 1
- American Medical Association Category 1
- European Union for Medical Specialists UEMS-EACCME®

The meeting will bring together leading clinicians, researchers, allied health professionals, and trainees to explore the latest advances in neuromodulation therapy. The three-day program features expert-led sessions on deep brain stimulation, spinal cord stimulation, epilepsy, intrathecal drug delivery, sacral and peripheral nerve stimulation, and emerging innovations. Through lectures, multidisciplinary panel discussions, pro-con debates and scientific abstract presentations, the meeting will foster collaboration and knowledge exchange along with highlighting current research, clinical best practices, and future directions that aim at improved outcomes.

See more by following this link: [Calgary 2026 – Canadian Neuromodulation](#)

By the way

To make this newsletter happen, we would like to have your input!

You can send us your work/advancements/experience on the following topics:

- **What's out there:** Short reviews of recent advances on neuromodulation topics
- **This is how I do it:** Share with us your tips and tricks for performing neuromodulation procedures
- **My clinic/program:** Brief report on the unique features of your neuromodulation clinic/program
- **My lab:** Brief report on your neuromodulation research set-up
- **Never too late to learn:** Any educational event that you are organizing including information about upcoming national/international meetings
- **Curious cases:** Interesting case reports from your practice
- **Letter to the Editor:** Response to articles or topics addressed in the CNS newsletter

Please send your contribution to s.kim@doctors.org.uk. Thank you!

INTUITIVE PERSONALIZED THERAPY

SEE STIMULATION TO PERSONALIZE THERAPY IN EACH PATIENT'S SPECIFIC ANATOMY**

Image Guided Programming with STIMVIEW^{XT} Technology

Image Guided Programming reduces programming time by **56%**

Levels and Anatomical Direction Display

Simple one-click Therapeutic Window Documentation

MOST THERAPY OPTIONS

Monopolar

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Bipolar Directional (Anodic Boost)

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Manage side effects as your patient's disease progresses with the most therapy options available.

EASY & EFFICIENT PROGRAMMING

NEW DASHBOARD SHOWS YOUR PATIENT'S THERAPY AT-A-GLANCE FOR EFFICIENT DECISION-MAKING

Quickview of active and inactive programs

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Device info, impedance status

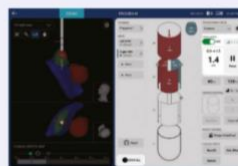
Program usage and estimated charge time

STIM-ON STEERING

Stim-on Steering enables simple and accurate assessment of stimulation along the **entire electrode**.

*STIMVIEW^{XT} Technology is a dual representation of the estimated stimulation field.

PRE-PLAN PERSONALIZED THERAPY WITH GUIDE XT
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Automatically ramp amplitude
as you clinically assess the patient

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The future of care for patients with Parkinson's disease
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LIBERTA RC DBS system is now available in Canada! [Contact us](#) for a demonstration or evaluation

LIBERTA RC™ DBS SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Redefining Rechargeable



LOWEST RECHARGE FREQUENCY
at 10 recharges per year or one charge every 37 days^{3,5*}



SMALLEST DBS IPG
on the market.^{6†}



ENHANCED REMOTE PROGRAMMING
featuring real-time charging notifications



CHARGER LIBERTA RC™ DBS IPG CLINICIAN PROGRAMMER PATIENT CONTROLLER

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LIBERTA RC™ DBS SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Comparative Table

	LIBERTA RC™ DBS SYSTEM	BOSTON SCIENTIFIC [†] VERCISE GENUS R16	MEDTRONIC [†] PERCEPT RC
 MAX DIMENSIONS (MM)	✓ 38.7 x 48.1 x 9.3	✗ 52.1 x 46 x 10.7 ¹⁰	⊖ 57 x 47 x 9 ¹¹
 VOLUME (CC)	✓ 13.6cc ³	✗ 20.1cc ¹⁰	⊖ 13.77cc ¹¹
 RECHARGE TIME PER WEEK	✓ 30 min ³	✗ > 35 min ¹²	⊖ > 30 min ^{5,13}
 MAX CHARGE DURATION	✓ 37 days ³	⊖ 30 days ¹⁴	✗ 12.6 days ¹⁵
 REMOTE PROGRAMMING	✓ NeuroSphere™ Virtual Clinic ⁶	✗ No	✗ No
 PATIENT CONTROLLER	✓ Provided iPhone [‡] (or personal iPhone) ^{17**}	✗ Provided remote control ¹⁸	⊖ Provided Samsung [‡] handset ¹⁹
 NO FORCED EOS (END OF SERVICE)	✓ No EOS ³	✓ No EOS ¹¹	✓ No EOS ¹¹

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* Upon implant of the Liberta RC™ DBS System when programmed with nominal stimulation settings as described in device instructions for use. Recommended recharge frequency and duration for competitor product described in their respective IFU or clinical studies, which may involve different patient populations and other variables. Not a head-to-head comparison of stimulation settings or clinical outcomes.

** Available on eligible Apple[®] mobile digital devices. For a list of personal Apple[®] mobile digital devices compatible with Abbott's Patient Controller app, visit <http://www.NMmobiledevice.com/dbx>

† US market only. Based off comparison to volume of the following smallest IPG offerings from US DBS manufacturers: Abbott Liberta RC™ DBS System: 13.6 cc, Boston Scientific Vercise[®] Genus R16: 20.1 cc and Medtronic Percept[®] RC: 13.77 cc.

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