

CANADIAN NEUROMODULATION SOCIETY  
Société Canadienne de Neuromodulation



# Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Neuromodulation Society

Invited Society: Swiss Neuromodulation Society

September 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> , 2026

The Westin Calgary  
320 4th Avenue SW  
Calgary, AB, Canada



TEMERTY FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Continuing Professional Development

**Accreditation:** Continuing Professional Development at the University of Toronto has awarded the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Neuromodulation Society with the following credits:

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



## Thursday, September 17, 2026

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**0700 – 0800 Registration and Breakfast**

**0800 – 0815 Inauguration and Welcome, Anuj Bhatia (President, CNS)**

**0815 – 1000 Deep Brain Stimulation (Moderator: Alfonso Fasano)**

*0815 – 0825 DBS & Canada (Alfonso Fasano, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

*0825 – 0850 Virtual Programming, imaging-based programming, adaptive stimulation: is the juice worth the squeeze? (Camila Aquino, Calgary, AB, Canada)*

*0850 – 0915 Establishing a DBS program in Canada: Challenges and Opportunities (Alex Medina Escobar, Moncton, NB, Canada)*

*0915 – 0930 Panel discussion and questions*

*0930 – 0935 **Selected Poster Presentation:** Novel simultaneous stimulation and neurophysiologic recording in combined STN and VC/VS DBS for OCD identifies diurnal variation and possible biomarkers of disease severity (Jonathan Heppner, Edmonton, AB, Canada)*

**0935 – 1000 Coffee Break**

**1000 – 1030 Tasker Lecture:** Neuromodulation for craniofacial pain (Mojgan Hodaie, Toronto, Canada)

**1030 – 1040 CNS Early Career Investigator Presentation** (Ben Davidson, Toronto, Canada)

**1040 – 1140 Best abstracts I: 6 Oral Presentation**

*Beyond the Pain Score: The Journey to Peripheral Nerve Field Stimulation for Refractory Facial Pain (Anita Sarpong, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

*DBS-induced Blood Brain Barrier Dysfunction: A Dynamic Contrast Enhanced MRI Pilot Study (Brendan Santyr, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

*Direct targeting of the caudal zona incerta for deep brain stimulation: comparative study at 7 Tesla versus standard magnetic field strength (Arun Thuraiajah, London, ON, Canada)*

*Global Disparities in Neuromodulation Research: A Bibliometric Analysis (Jason Yuen, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

*Neurocognitive Trajectories After STN-DBS for Parkinson Disease: A Comparison with the C-OPN Cohort (Frederick Zhang, Halifax, NS, Canada)*

*Preparing for Spinal Cord Stimulation: A Qualitative Analysis of a Psychological Workbook from a Multidisciplinary Patient Education Workshop (Kathryn Curtis, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

**1140 – 1240 Lunch**

**1240 – 1610 Break**

**1240 – 1610 Non-Accredited Sessions** (not an accredited component of Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Neuromodulation Society)

**1610 – 1710 Drinks Reception**



## Friday, September 18, 2026

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### 0730 – 0800 Breakfast

### 0800 – 0930 Spinal Cord Stimulation (Moderator: Keith MacDougall)

0800 – 0820 *SCS for gait deficits in Parkinson's disease (Eduardo Martin Moraud, Lausanne, Switzerland)*

0820 – 0840 *SCS for SCI-related motor and autonomic deficits (Aaron Philipps, Calgary, AB, Canada)*

0840 – 0910 *Debate: SCS implantation under general anesthesia with neuromonitoring (Steven Falowski, Lancaster, PA, USA)/ Performing SCS without neuromonitoring (Michael Staudt, Cleveland, OH)*

0910 – 0915 **Selected Poster Presentation:** *The root of the problem : What does spinal cord stimulation really stimulate? (Elizabeth Adam, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada)*

0915 – 0930 Questions and Discussion

### 0930 – 1000 Coffee Break and Poster Session

1000 – 1030 **CNS Lecture:** *Challenges, achievements, and future directions for the INS registry (Philippe Rigoard, France)*

### 1030 – 1200 Neuromodulation for epilepsy (Moderator: Lutz Weise)

1030 – 1050 *Neuromodulation for drug resistant epilepsy in pediatric population (George Ibrahim, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

1050 – 1110 *Network-guided neuromodulation for drug resistant epilepsy in adult population – (Brian Lundstrom, Rochester, MN, USA)*

1110 – 1140 *Pro-con debate – VNS vs DBS for epilepsy (George Ibrahim and Brian Lundstrom)*

1140 – 1200 Questions and Discussion

### 1200 – 1245 Lunch

1245 – 1305 **Kumar Lecture:** *Intrathecal drug delivery for non-cancer pain (Salim Hayek, Cleveland, OH, USA)*

### 1305 – 1445 Intrathecal Drug Delivery (Moderator: Vishal Varshney)

1305 – 1325 *IDD for Cancer Pain (Ehtesham Baig, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

1325 – 1345 *PACC guidelines (PACC) (Christophe Perruchoud, Meyrin, Switzerland)*

1345 – 1405 *Ventral IDD catheter position: getting ahead of ourselves? – (Shane Brogan, Salt Lake City, UT, USA)*

1405 – 1435 *Pro-con debate – pre-intrathecal implant trialling (C. Perruchoud) versus non trialling (S. Hayek)*

1435 – 1445 Questions and Discussion



## Friday, September 18, 2026

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### **1445 – 1500      Coffee Break and Poster Session**

### **1500 – 1600      Sacral and peripheral nerve stimulation (Moderator: Dean Elterman)**

*1500 – 1515      Where does neuromodulation fit in the treatment algorithm for pelvic pain? (Dean Elterman, Toronto, Canada)*

*1515 – 1530      Sacral and Tibial nerve stim for fecal incontinence (Anna Spivak, Cleveland, USA)*

*1530 – 1550      Pro-con debate – Tibial nerve stimulation (Alvaro Lucioni, Seattle, USA) vs SNS (Anna Spivak) for overactive bladder*

*1550 – 1600      Questions and Discussion*

### **1800 – 2030      President's Dinner for Invited Faculty**



## Saturday, September 19, 2026

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### **0730 – 0815 Breakfast**

### **0815 – 1000 Challenges and opportunities for Neuromodulation across Canada (Moderator: Antonios El Helou)**

*0835 – 0905 Unique challenges in the Canadian and Switzerland landscapes (Tejas Sankar, Edmonton, AB, Canada and Matthieu Cachemaille, Meyrin, Switzerland)*

*0905 – 0925 Multicenter trials in neuromodulation for pain (Anuj Bhatia, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

*0925 – 0945 DBS access across Canada (Melissa Lannon, Hamilton, ON, Canada)*

*0945 – 1000 Questions and Discussion*

### **1000 – 1020 Lifetime Achievement Award Presentation**

### **1020 – 1040 Coffee Break and Poster Session**

### **1040 – 1200 Allied Health Session (Moderator: Jill Osborn)**

*1040 – 1100 CNS Supported Poster Session*

*1100 – 1120 Role of Pharmacy in Neuromodulation (Danya Schneider, Regina SK, Canada)*

*1120 – 1150 Pro-con debate- Mental health screening should be mandatory before offering SCS for pain – pro (Bruce Dick, Edmonton, AB, Canada) - con (Dr. Mike Butterfield, Vancouver, BC, Canada)*

*1150 – 1200 Questions and Discussion*

### **1200 – 1330 Lunch**

### **1230 – 1300 CNS AGM**

### **1330 – 1450 Hot Topics in Neuromodulation (Moderator: Christian Ioro-Morin)**

*1330 – 1350 What's new in DBS in 2026 (Stefan Lang, Vancouver, Canada)*

*1350 – 1410 What's new in SCS in 2026 – pain and movement disorders (Marie-Pierre Fournier Gosselin, Quebec City, Canada)*

*1410 – 1440 Pro-con debate – SCS for axial back pain – next big thing? Pro – Michael Staudt (Cleveland, Ohio, US); Con: Vishal Varshney (Vancouver, BC, Canada)*

*1440 – 1445 Questions and Discussion*

### **1445 – 1515 Coffee Break and Poster Session**



## Saturday, September 19, 2026

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### **1515 – 1615 Best Abstracts II: 6 Oral Presentations**

*48 Month Follow-up of Deep Brain Stimulation of Patient in Minimally Conscious State (Karen Waterhouse, Saskatoon, SK, Canada)*

*A Novel Care Directive for Nurses in Spinal Cord Stimulation (Peggy Flynn, Halifax, NS, Canada)*

*Debuzzing the Market: Classifying the Claims of Direct-To-Consumer Non-Invasive Neuromodulation Devices (Mei Lee Massé, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada)*

*Did it feel the same? - Predominant Stimulation Mode and One-Year Outcomes with Spinal Cord Stimulation for Upper versus Lower Limb neuropathic pain (Junghyun Park, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

*Examining the Success Rate of Dorsal Root Ganglion Stimulation Trials: Are They Necessary? (Gideon Wong, Toronto, ON, Canada)*

*Validation of e-Health tool in determining appropriateness of spinal cord stimulation in patients with chronic pain conditions at a Canadian tertiary care centre: a retrospective study (Nhat Lam, Vancouver, BC, Canada)*

### **1615 – 1630 Awards for Best Posters and Oral Presentations**

**1800 Gala Dinner: Included in Attendee registration and will be held at the Commons at ATCO Park.**