13th Annual Ottawa Neurosurgery Review Course Schedule
8th - 15th February, 2025
Course Location – The Marconi Centre – 1026 Baseline Road, Ottawa

Saturday February 8th

07:00 – 07:40	Registration and Breakfast	
07:40 – 08:00	**Introductory Remarks** **Q&A**	Dr Safraz Mohammed Dr. Charles Agbi Dr. Fahad Alkherayf
08:00 – 08:40	**Cranial Meningiomas I** • Be able to identify the key anatomical structures in the management of cranial meningiomas • Be able to decide which surgical approach is optimal for the presenting lesion • Be able to express the safety measure to undertake for surgical procedures in meningioma surgery	Dr. Kesh Reddy
08:50 – 09:30	**Skull Base and Posterior Fossa Meningiomas** • Be able to identify the key anatomical structures in the posterior cranial fossa and along the anterior and middle skull base • Be able to decide which surgical approach is optimal for the presenting lesion • Be able to express the safety measure to undertake for surgical procedures in the posterior cranial fossa	Dr. Kesh Reddy
09:40 – 10:20	**Epidemiology, Genetics, Molecular Biology of Intracranial Aneurysms. Management of Unruptured Intracranial Aneurysms**. • List three genetic syndromes associated with the development of brain aneurysms • List three molecules involved in the pathogenesis of aneurysms • List three histological features of aneurysm formation • Name three aneurysm features that can influence risk of rupture	Dr. Alim Mitha
10:20 - 10:30	**BREAK**	
10:30 – 11:10	**Surgical Management of Ruptured Intracranial Aneurysms** • To describe the rationale for the treatment of ruptured and unruptured aneurysms • Select the appropriate therapeutic strategy(ies) for the treatment of an aneurysm • To describe the risks associated with the treatment and therapeutic measures to minimize such risks • Describe the rationale for a multidisciplinary approach to the management of aneurysms	Dr. Alim Mitha
11:10- 11:50	**Chordomas and Chondrosarcomas: Current Management** • Describe the pathological differences between chordomas and chondrosarcomas • Describe the role of multi-disciplinary care in the treatment of chordomas and chondrosarcomas • Discuss the oncologic surgical principles for resection of chordomas and chondrosarcomas • List and describe options for surgical management of skull base chordomas and chondrosarcomas	Dr. Idara Edem

11:50- 12:30	**Functional neurosurgery** • Anatomy & Physiology of the Basal Ganglia,Limbic System and Cerebellum To illustrate and draw anatomy of the limbic system including connections of hippocampal formation, Papez circuit, amygdala; and their role in memory, emotion & neurosurgery	Dr. Zelma Kiss
12:30-13:40	**LUNCH**	
13:40- 15:00	**HOT SEAT Sessions** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. Alim Mitha
15:00 –15:20	**BREAK**	
15:20 – 16:00	**Endovascular Treatment Options for Ruptured Intracranial Aneurysms** • Discuss the scientific basis for choosing treatment options for ruptured aneurysms • List three different endovascular techniques for ruptured aneurysms • Discuss commonly used adjuvant techniques for dealing with complex aneurysms • Describe a grading system for measuring treatment outcomes and the implications	Dr. Gwynedd Pickett
16:00 – 16:40	**Pathophysiology, Diagnosis and Management of Cerebral Vasospasm** Following this lecture, learners will be able to: • Select and correctly interpret appropriate investigations in the management of delayed neurological deterioration post-SAH. • List risk factors for cerebral vasospasm and describe epidemiology and outcomes. • Describe current understanding of pathophysiology of vasospasm post-SAH. Choose appropriate therapy for management of cerebral vasospasm.	Dr. Gwynedd Pickett
16:40 – 17:30	**Imaging Techniques for Intra-Axial Brain Tumours** • Review advanced imaging techniques for intra-axial tumours • Brief primer on MRI sequences • Recognize imaging patterns of CNS neoplasms and mimicking diseases • Recognize the radiological features of radiation necrosis and tumor recurrence	Dr. Thanh Nguyen
17:30- 18:10	**Imaging Techniques for Extra-Axial Brain Tumours** • Review advanced imaging techniques for extra-axial tumours • Be able to identify different extra-axial tumours on radiological images	Dr. Thanh Nguyen

18:10 – 18:20	**Imaging – Spot diagnosis cases** • Identify the imaging and pathological findings of common neurosurgical cases	Dr Thanh Nguyen

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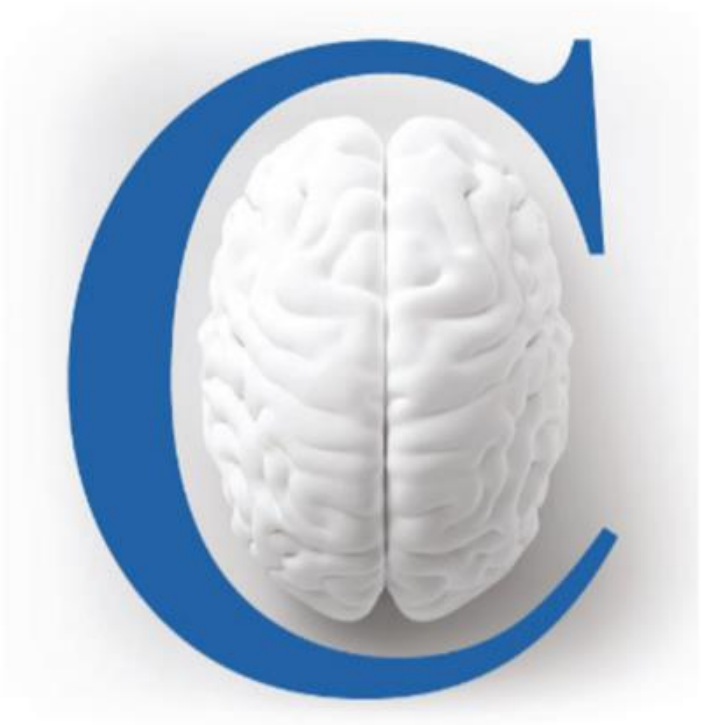
Sunday February 9th

07:20 – 08:00	Breakfast	
08:00 – 08:40	**Pathology of Non-Glial Tumours of the CNS** • Recognize the key macroscopical and histological features of the most frequent extra-axial tumor, peripheral nervous system tumors and pituitary tumors. • Identify the key morphological elements supporting the WHO classification and grading of the entities presented	Dr. Gerard Jansen
08:40 – 09:20	**Pathology of Intrinsic Primary Tumours of the CNS** • Discuss the new integrated diagnosis in use for Astrocytic and Oligodendroglial tumours. • To be able to identify the role ATRX, and IDH mutation results play in classification of gliomas	Dr. Gerard Jansen
09:20 – 09:30	**Pathology – Spot diagnosis** • Identify the imaging and pathological findings of common neurosurgical cases.	Dr. Gerard Jansen
09:40 – 10:20	**Surgery for Malignant Primary Brain Tumours** • Describe dynamics of glial tumour growths and infiltration, and the role of surgery in negating these phenomenon's • To better define the role of surgery in assisting adjuvant treatment and impacting clinical surrogates in relation to molecular subtyping • Identify the role and impact of technological advancements in assisting gross total resection, and their impact on clinical surrogates.	Dr. David Fortin
10:20 -10:30	**BREAK**	
10:30 – 11:10	**Craniopharyngiomas** • Be able to describe the embryology and epidemiology of craniopharyngioma • List the common symptoms and signs, and imaging features • List the surgical approaches and be able to describe the details of two (2) common approaches • Discuss the prognosis and outcome of this condition	Dr. Fahad AlKherayf
11:10- 11:50	**Vestibular and other schwannomas, Glomus tumors.** What you should know • Describe the epidemiology and molecular biology of vestibular schwannomas and glomus tumours (including latest thinking) • Enumerate the preop investigations and treatment options for these lesions • Describe the surgical approaches to the treatment of these lesions and their outcomes	Dr Galareh Zadeh
11:50- 12:30	**Case Presentations** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr Galareh Zadeh
12:30-13:40	**LUNCH**	

13:40- 15:00	**HOT SEAT SESSION** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. David Fortin/Dr. Joe Megyesi
15:00 –15:20	**BREAK**	
15:20 – 16:00	**Case Presentations** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr Paul Kongkham
16:00 – 16:40	**Management Options for Low Grade Gliomas: What's New?** • Be able to explain the pathology and basic molecular biology of low- grade gliomas and what distinguishes them from high grade gliomas. • Be able to describe the typical presentation of patients with low grade glioma. • Be able to interpret the neuro-imaging of patients with low grade glioma. • Be able to discuss the controversies surrounding the management of patients with a low- grade glioma including the early surgery approach versus the watchful waiting approach.	Dr. Joe Megyesi
16:40 – 17:30	**Brain Metastases** • Enumerate the currently available treatment options for metastatic brain tumours • Discuss the relative advantages and disadvantages of each treatment option/combination • Discuss the available evidence supporting currently employed the treatment option • Discuss the current guidelines for treatment of these lesions	Dr Paul Kongkham
17:40 – 18:20	**Spinal Cord and Peripheral Nerve Tumours** • Demonstrate competency in the classification, imaging characteristics, surgical extirpation and differential diagnosis of intramedullary spinal cord tumors • Demonstrate competency in the classification, imaging characteristics, surgical removal of peripheral nerve sheath tumors • Develop a standardized protocol for answering neurosurgical oral board questions	Dr. Dr. Allan Levi



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Monday February 10th

07:20 – 08:00	Breakfast	
08:00 – 08:40	**Imaging of Spine and Spinal Tumors** • Review the key imaging features of common and infrequent intramedullary tumors. • Discuss the role of conventional and advanced imaging techniques in the diagnosis and management of these tumors • Assess the most common intradural – extramedullary tumors	Dr. Vered Tsehmaister-Abitbul
08:40 – 09:20	**Imaging of the Spine II - Neoplastic**	Dr Nader Zakhari
09:20 – 09:30	**Spine Imaging Spot diagnosis** • Identify the imaging and pathological findings of common neurosurgical cases.	Dr Nader Zakhari
09:40 – 10:20	**Movement Disorders: Pathophysiology and Surgical Management with DBS** • List the pathological and molecular differences between neurodegenerative diseases including movement disorders, motor neuron disorders and cognitive disorders • Explain the importance of non-motor features of Parkinson's Disease and provide examples of each • Review the targets for neuromodulation (eg. DBS) in the basal ganglia for the treatment of movement disorders Describe the technical steps and surgical nuances of DBS	Dr. Suneil Kalia
10:20 - 10:30	**BREAK**	
10:30 – 11:10	**Classification and Management of lumbar Spondylolisthesis** • Classification of lumbar spondylolisthesis in relation to treatment options and outcomes. • Decision making in the management of thoracolumbar injuries • Enumerate treatment options • Describe the elements of surgical treatment	Dr Carlo Santaguida
11:10- 11:50	**Vascular/Cranial Surgical Case Presentations**	Dr. Max Findlay
11:50- 12:20 12:20 – 12:30	**Lecture on exam preparation, the written exam, OSCE** **Resident Perspective – Exam Prep**	Dr. Max Findlay Dr. Alick Wang
12:30-13:40	**LUNCH with presentation by Medtronic**	Rabih El Hage
13:40- 15:00	**HOT SEAT SESSION** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr Carlo Santaguida/Dr. Max Findlay
15:00 –15:20	**BREAK**	
15:20 – 16:00	**Subaxial Cervical Spine Injuries** • Be able to accurately diagnose subaxial cervical spine injuries. • Recognize importance and use of different classification systems for subaxial cervical spine injuries • Select appropriate management options for subaxial cervical spine injuries	Dr. Daipayan Guha

16:00 – 16:40	**O-C1-C2** • To be able to identify the various types of C1/C2 injuries and describe the management options for each type • Identify common pitfalls in the written and oral exams and how to avoid them, using clinical examples	Dr. Eugene Wai
16:40 – 17:30	**Carotid Endarterectomy: What You Should Know** • To be able to list the clinical indications for extracranial carotid artery reconstruction. • Be able to discuss the importance of timing of carotid artery reconstruction • Be able to describe the current Canadian Guidelines regarding carotid artery reconstruction	Dr. Howard J Lesiuk
17:30- 17:40	**BREAK**	
17:40 – 18:20	**Stereotactic Radiosurgery Primer for Neurosurgeons** • Define the concept of stereotactic radiosurgery • Explain basic radiobiology principles related to radiosurgery • Identify the role of radiosurgery in the management of common neurosurgical conditions: 1. brain metastases 2. meningiomas 3. vestibular schwannomas **4.** AVMs 5. Trigeminal neuralgia	Dr. Amit Persad


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Tuesday February 11th

07:20 – 08:00	Breakfast	
08:00 – 08:40	**Neuroanesthesia** • Be able to decide the technique of anesthesia for brain mapping procedures and those requiring intraoperative neurophysiological monitoring. • Be able to discuss the options available for postoperative pain management. • List the common anaesthetic agents utilized in neurosurgery and their indications and relative merits	Dr. Adele Budiansky
08:50 – 09:30	**Pituitary tumors: The Endocrinologist's Perspective on Diagnosis and Management** • To identify the clinical and laboratory findings important in the initial work-up and follow-up of patients with pituitary adenomas Interactive Case-based Seminar	Dr. Heather Lochnan
09:40 – 10:20	**Pineal Tumours** • Recognize different pathologies affecting the pineal region • Identify the different diagnostic approaches for pineal tumours • Discuses different surgical approaches to pineal region	Dr. Fahad Alkherayf
10:20 -10:30	**BREAK**	
10:30 – 11:10	**Minimally Invasive Approaches in Spine Surgery: General Principles** • Describe the indications and contraindications for minimally invasive techniques in spinal surgery • Discuss the role of technology in minimally invasive spine surgery • Be able to describe the planning and placement of thoracolumbar pedicle screws using minimally invasive techniques	Dr. Safraz Mohammed
11:10- 11:50	**Spontaneous Intracerebral Haemorrhage: What's New** • Describe the pathophysiology of hematoma expansion, hemodynamics & hemostasis • List and discuss the indications for ICH surgery • List the steps utilized in preventing complications of ICH	Dr. Dar Dowlatshahi
11:50-12:30	**Surgical Management of Pituitary Tumours/ Sellar/Suprasellar Lesions** • Identify the indications for surgery in pituitary tumours • Enumerate the surgical options and their rationales • Describe the transnasal endoscopic removal of pituitary lesions • Discuss the outcomes including challenges and complications	Dr. Charles Agbi
12:30-13:40	**LUNCH**	

13:40- 15:00	**HOT SEAT SESSION** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. Fahad Alkherayf
15:00 –15:20	**BREAK**	

15:20 – 16:00	**Critical Care Management of TBI: What Should We Measure, When and Why**
	• Describe the patient population that may benefit from monitoring
	• Demonstrate the physiologic processes we can measure
	• Review the role and key measures of monitoring in ICU management of TBI
	  ○ ICP monitoring
	  ○ CPP
	• Cerebrovascular Autoregulation..
		Dr. Shane English

16:00 – 16:40	**Radiotherapy for CNS Tumours – Current Concepts** • discuss when radiation therapy is indicated for various benign and malignant tumors • describe radiation therapy approaches for malignant gliomas • define the current radiation therapy techniques • list the indications of stereotactic radiation/radiosurgery	Dr. Vimoj Nair
16:40 – 17:30	**Chemotherapy for CNS Tumours – Current Concepts** • Attendees will be able to apply existing literature to decisions about systemic therapy for patients with primary brain tumours.	Dr. Garth Nicholas
17:30- 18:00	**BREAK**	
18:00	**Resident Social - Dinner**	


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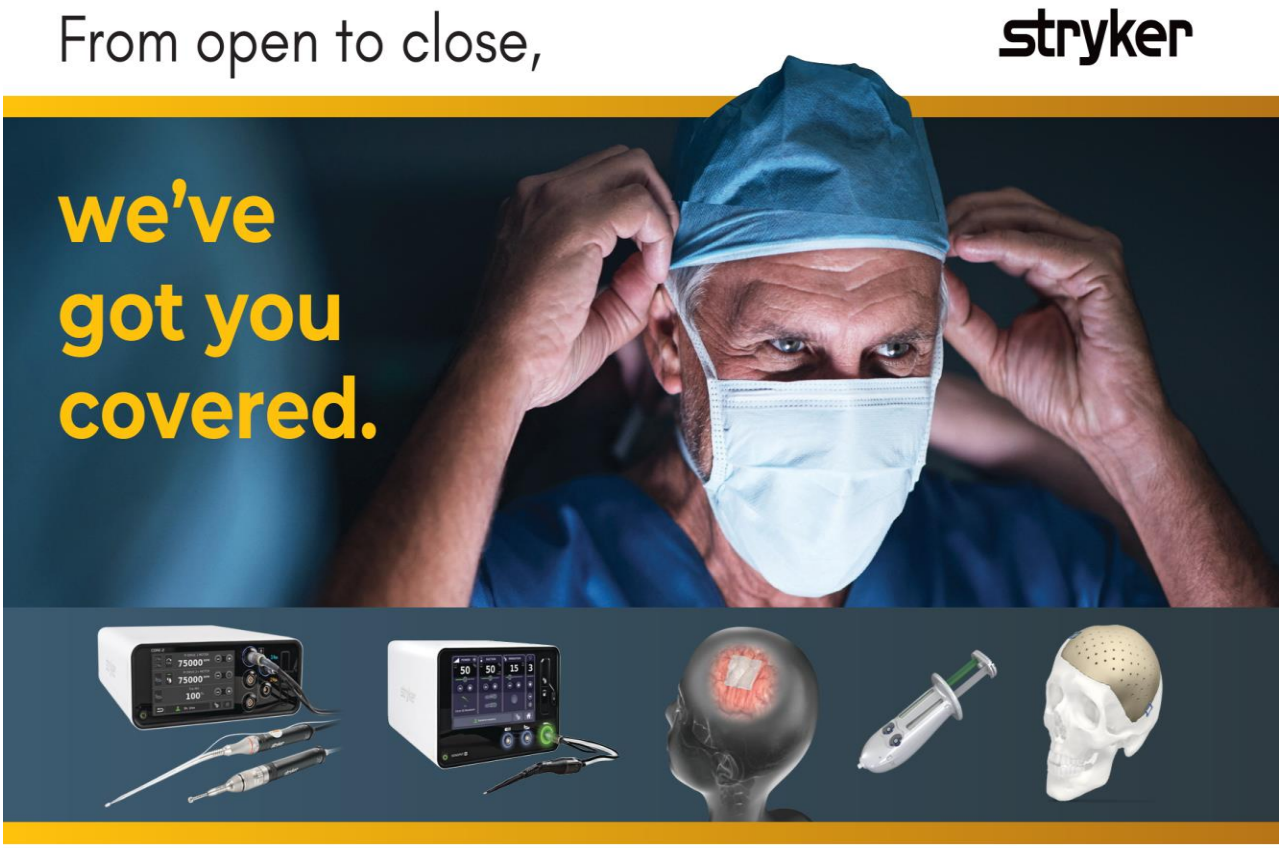
Wednesday February 12th

07:20 – 08:00	Breakfast	
08:00 – 08:40	**Case Presentations I –** Cranial and Spinal Angiogram anatomy (normal and pathological) with Cases • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr Lissa Peeling
08:50 – 09:30	**Case Presentations II –** Cranial and Spinal Angiogram anatomy (normal and pathological) with Cases • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr Lissa Peeling
09:40 – 10:20	**Vascular Malformations of the Brain and Spinal Cord: AVM's and DAVF's I** • Discuss the epidemiology and clinical features of AVM's • Describe the surgical treatments of a ruptured AVM • Describe the classification and treatment options for AVM's	Dr. Julian Spears
10:20 - 10:30	**BREAK**	
10:30 – 11:10	**Vascular Malformations of the Brain and Spinal Cord: AVM's and DAVF's II** • Discuss the epidemiology and clinical features of AVM's • Describe the surgical treatments of a ruptured AVM • Describe the classification and treatment options for AVM's	Dr. Julian Spears
11:10 – 11:50	**Intraoperative Neurophysiological Monitoring I** • Describe intraoperative neurophysiological monitoring ((IONM) techniques and their usefulness. • Describe neurophysiological mapping techniques and their usefulness. • Describe the limitations of IONM and neurophysiological mapping	Dr. Susan Morris
11:50 – 12:30	**Intraoperative Neurophysiological Monitoring II** • Compare and contrast the strengths, weaknesses and overall usefulness of the two primary modalities used in intraoperative neurophysiological monitoring (IONM): 1. Somatosensory Evoked Potentials (SSEPs) and 2. Transcranial Motor Evoked Potentials (TcMEPs). • Compare and contrast TcMEPs and D-wave potentials with specific reference to spinal cord tumour resection surgery. • Choose the intraoperative neurophysiological *monitoring* and/or *mapping* modalities you would employ during the below listed procedures and clearly state the rationale for your choice(s): Spine deformity correction	Dr. Susan Morris
12:30 – 13:40	**LUNCH with presentation by Stryker**	
13:40 – 14:20	**Neuromodulation for Pain** At the end of this session, participants should be able to • Describe and draw the pain pathways, Discuss the role of surgery in pain modulation	Dr. Alan Chalil

	• List the currently available techniques for pain modulation including their indications and limitation • Discuss the physiological basis for the common pain modulation techniques utilized by neurosurgeons	
14:20 – 15:00	**Cranial Nerves: Review I & II** • Describe the central connections of cranial nerves, I, III, IV, V & VI • Discuss the clinical aspects of the neurophysiology • Discuss the surgical significance of their course and distribution • List surgical lesions associated with these nerves	Dr. Charles Agbi
15:00 – 15:20	**BREAK**	
15:20 – 16:40	**HOT SEAT SESSION** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. Safraz Mohammed and Dr. Charles Agbi
16:40 – 17:30	**Stroke Update: Acute Medical and Interventional Neuroradiology Management** • Examine a case study of a stroke patient and determine treatment options. • Relate the importance of neurological examination in hyperacute stroke management.	Dr. Robert Fahed
17:40 – 18:20	**Case Presentations** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr Jessica Rabski



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Thursday February 13th

07:20 – 08:00	Breakfast	
08:00 – 08:40	**Spinal Biomechanics, Decision Making and surgical Options in Degenerative Spine Disease** • Define the concept of spinal stability and sagittal balance • Describe "pelvic parameters" in clinical practice • Describe surgical techniques for correcting deformity	Dr. Sean Christie
08:50 – 09:30	**Cervical Spondylosis: Diagnosis and Management** • Define cervical spondylotic myelopathy, including anatomical changes and pathophysiology • Describe the indications for surgery • Describe surgical options and provide relative indications for each	Dr Sean Christie
09:40 – 10:20	**Surgery for Epilepsy: What You Should Know** • Explain indications for the surgical treatment of epilepsy • Review surgical anatomy relevant to temporal lobe epilepsy • Know the definition of medically refractory epilepsy • Review basic work-up of epilepsy patients, including neuropsychology evaluations	Dr. David Clarke
10:20 -10:30	**BREAK**	
10:30 – 11:10	**Epilepsy Case Discussions** • To understand the social and personal impact of uncontrolled epilepsy • To be able to identify a good candidate for surgical treatment of their epilepsy. • To know the common surgical options for investigation and treatment of medically refractory epilepsy	Dr. David Clarke
11:10- 11:50	**Management of Peripheral Nerve Entrapment** Peripheral Nerve Entrapment Syndrome • Have a basic understanding of and be able to describe the clinical features and pathophysiology of non-surgical peripheral nerve and muscle diseases involved in the differential diagnosis of neurosurgical conditions or requiring nerve and/or muscle biopsy. • Describe the pathology and pathophysiology of peripheral nerve	Dr Suganth Suppiah
11:50- 12:30	**Management of Peripheral Nerve Injuries** • Describe the pathophysiology of peripheral nerve injuries • Classify these injuries • Describe the causes, clinical features and epidemiology • Discuss a logical approach to their management	Dr. Line Jacques / Dr Andrew Jack
12:30-13:40	**LUNCH with TD**	
13:40- 15:00	**HOT SEAT SESSION** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. Line Jacques / Dr Andrew Jack
15:00 –15:20	**BREAK**	

15:20- 16:00	**Case discussions –** Peripheral nerve tumors, approaches, work up and management • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. Line Jacques / Dr Andrew Jack
16:00 – 16:40	**Classification and Management of Thoracolumbar Injuries** • Practical classification of thoracolumbar injuries in relation to treatment options and outcomes • Decision making in the management of thoracolumbar injuries • Enumerate treatment options • Describe the elements of surgical treatment.	Dr. Safraz Mohammed
16:40 – 17:30	**Pediatric Brain Tumors I** • Discuss the presenting signs of a brain tumor- different childhood age groups; diagnostic workup • Identify/ classify more common brain tumors found in children; develop an appropriate Dx for a newly presenting pediatric brain tumor-WHO Classification has been updated in 2016 • Describe differences between adults and children in terms of types of tumors and planning surgery Feel Confident at the Royal College Exam, if you get a question	Dr. Ziyad Makoshi
17:30- 17:40	**BREAK**	
17:40 – 18:20	**Pediatric Brain Tumors II** Case based presentation • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. Ziyad Makoshi

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Friday February 14th

07:20 – 08:00	Breakfast	
08:00 – 08:40	**Spinal Cord Injury: Clinical considerations** • Recall the cornerstones for the treatment of acute spinal cord injury • Explain the evidence behind therapeutic strategies for spinal cord injury • Outline priorities of spinal cord injury in the emergency setting	Dr. John Hurlbert
08:50 – 09:30	**The Visual Pathways I ·** • Describe the anatomy of the visual pathways including the main connections · • Describe the main clinical conditions associated with dysfunction in the visual pathways • Discuss illustrative cases with visual pathway conditions	Dr. Vivek Patel
09:40 – 10:20	**The Visual Pathways II ·** • Describe the anatomy of the visual pathways including the main connections • Describe the main clinical conditions associated with dysfunction in the visual pathways • Discuss illustrative cases with visual pathway conditions	Dr. Vivek Patel
10:20 -10:30	**BREAK**	
10:30 – 11:10	**Childhood Hydrocephalus: Contemporary Management** **Objectives:** • At the end of the presentation, participants will be able to • Apply pathophysiological principles to determine the appropriate options for the management of hydrocephalus in the pediatric age group • Utilize the results of clinical trials and registries to guide decision making • Recognize the various clinical presentation of treatment failure	Dr. Femi Ajani
11:10- 11:50	**Spinal Dysraphism and Tethered Cord Syndrome** 1. To recognize and identify the following pediatric spine malformations Spinal Dysraphism Tethered Cord Syndrome Split Cord Syndrome **2.** To explain the surgical management for the above**.**	Dr. Albert Tu
11:50- 12:30	**Case discussions** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. Femi Ajani/Dr. Albert Tu
12:30-13:40	**LUNCH**	
13:40- 15:00	**HOT SEAT SESSION** • Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	Dr. Albert Tu/Dr. Blake Yarascavitch
15:00 –15:20	**BREAK**	
15:20 – 16:00	**Case Presentations – Pediatric Spine and Other cases**	Dr Blake Yarascavitch

	• Describe and explain the diagnosis, investigation, and management of common neurosurgical cases	
16:00 – 16:40	**Craniosynostosis and Craniofacial Anomalies** • Be able to list the main categories of craniosynostosis • Be able to list the common syndromic types of congenital craniofacial anomalies and their distinguishing features • Be able to discuss timing and surgical decision making in the management of craniofacial anomalies and craniosynostosis • Be able to describe an operation for craniosynostosis	Dr. David McAuley
16:40 – 17:30	**Chiari malformation and syringomyelia** • Describe the definition and classification of "Chiari Malformations" • Describe Syringomyelia • Explain the association of Chiari I malformation and Syringomyelia and the pathophysiological theories explaining this. • Choose appropriate therapy of Chiari I malformation with or without syringomyelia	Dr. Jay Riva-Cambrin
17:30- 17:40	**BREAK**	
17:40 – 18:20	**Pediatric Functional Neurosurgery** • Describe the definition, classification and management of Epilepsy • Explain the pathophysiology of Spasticity and management principles • Describe modalities of pain management in children	Dr. Jay Riva-Cambrin
18:20	**Closing remarks and wrap up**	Dr. Fahad Alkherayf Dr. Charles Agbi Dr Safraz Mohammed


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