

Pickup Family Neurosciences Institute Presents

2025 Neuroscience Symposium

Friday, November 7 & Saturday, November 8
Charting the New Era of Neuroscience

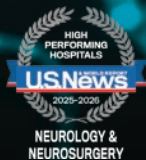
The Waterfront Beach Resort,
A Hilton Hotel
21100 Pacific Coast Highway
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Register at
hoag.org/NeuroSymp2025



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Pickup Family
Neurosciences Institute



Supported by philanthropy through the Hoag Hospital Foundation

Symposium *Overview*

The 2025 Pickup Family Neurosciences Institute Neurosciences Symposium is a two-day accredited CME/CE program for physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, and allied health professionals. Expert-led lectures, interactive panels, and case-based discussions will provide the latest evidence-based updates in neurological care, emphasizing interdisciplinary collaboration and practical application.

This program highlights translational neuroscience and emerging innovations, from mixed reality in neurosurgery to engineered neuroplasticity, tumor-treating fields, cellular immunotherapy, psychedelics, and advanced neuromodulation. Additional sessions will explore AI-driven diagnostics, biomarker-based Alzheimer's detection, and new strategies for stroke, TBI, and concussion. Ethical, clinical, and operational considerations will guide the responsible integration of these advancements into practice.

Conference Venue and Accommodations

The Waterfront Hilton Beach Resort, A Hilton Hotel
Huntington Beach, California

This 2025 Neuroscience Symposium will be held at The Waterfront Hilton Beach Resort located in Huntington Beach.

The Waterfront Hilton Beach Resort is conveniently located one hour from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and just minutes away from John Wayne Airport, Orange County (SNA). A room block has been secured for this meeting through October 17, 2025 after which the room block will be released. Room block rates for this event begin at \$349+ taxes, per evening. Overnight guest parking is available for \$35 per vehicle and daily parking is \$18 per vehicle.



To make a room reservation, call (714) 845-8000 and ask for the Hoag Neuroscience Symposium room block or book online at hoag.org/neurosymp2025 and click the HOTEL tab. Rooms are based on availability and subject to sell out.



Accreditation

Accreditation Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian is accredited by the California Medical Association (CMA) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.



Credit Designation

Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian designates this educational activity for the maximum of *7.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]. Physicians should claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. This credit can apply to the CMA Certification of Continuing Medical Education.

BRN Contact Hours

Hoag Hospital is approved by the California Board of Registered Nurses, provider number 17163, for a total of 6.0 contact hours (7.0 Friday / 6.0 Saturday) of continuing education credit for registered nurses.

OT/PT Contact Hours

Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian Physical Therapy Department is recognized as a Continuing Competency Approving Agency by the Physical Therapy Board of California.

Physical Therapists: This program is pending approval for 6.5 Friday and 5.3 Saturday of contact hours (Professional Development Units) for physical therapists.

Occupational Therapists: This program is pending approval for a total of 11.8 contact hours (Professional Development Units) for occupational therapists.

Symposium Objectives

Friday, November 7

- Define and differentiate functional seizures from epileptic seizures, including their causes, risk factors, diagnostic process, and distinguishing clinical features.
- Describe interdisciplinary management strategies—covering communication, stigma reduction, treatment options, and nursing interventions—to ensure patient safety, comfort, and adherence to care.
- Differentiate the processes and purposes of Phases 1, 2, and 3 of epilepsy evaluation, highlighting diagnostic methods, seizure localization, and criteria for surgical candidacy.
- Describe surgical intervention planning—linking EEG findings to appropriate procedures—and outline the nurse's role in perioperative care.
- Identify critical neuroimaging findings and understand the decision-making process for urgent radiology calls in relation to acute neurological deterioration.
- Describe the nursing role in applying imaging results to bedside care, including rapid escalation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and informed clinical decision-making.
- Summarize anticoagulation reversal strategies for common agents and apply laboratory testing to guide management in patients with CNS hemorrhage.
- Evaluate transfusion appropriateness and review evidence-based timing for restarting anticoagulation after CNS hemorrhage or neurosurgery.
- Identify and interpret key neurologic exam findings, correlating them with underlying anatomy and potential complications to guide timely escalation of care.
- Enhance nursing proficiency and interdisciplinary communication in recognizing, describing, and responding to subtle neurologic changes.

Saturday, November 8

- Explore how mixed reality and advanced visualization tools are transforming neurosurgical precision.
- Evaluate the potential for engineering neuroplasticity following brain injury using bypass and circuit redirection techniques.
- Assess the future of brain tumor therapy through emerging approaches like tumor-treating fields and cellular immunotherapy.
- Examine the clinical and ethical implications of using psychedelics and neuromodulation to treat mood and addiction disorders.
- Analyze how implants like DBS and focused ultrasound are disrupting traditional psychiatric treatment models.
- Discuss the limitations of conventional mental health care and the integration of biologically driven approaches.
- Identify key leadership principles necessary to guide institutions through healthcare disruption and digital transformation.
- Understand how AI and advanced imaging are reshaping diagnostic workflows in value-based care environments.
- Review the current and emerging pharmacological and neuromodulation strategies for epilepsy treatment.
- Assess the potential of brain-computer interfaces and seizure forecasting tools in predicting and preventing epileptic events.
- Debate the balance between technological surveillance and patient autonomy in epilepsy care.
- Evaluate how personalized tech and wearables are reshaping clinical management in Parkinson's disease.
- Explore the impact of adaptive DBS and neuromodulation on expanding indications and improving outcomes.
- Reconsider Parkinson's as a circuit-based disorder and the role of new drug targets beyond dopamine.
- Analyze the clinical utility and ethical concerns of AI-driven imaging and blood-based biomarkers in Alzheimer's disease.
- Debate the timing and implications of diagnosing cognitive decline before symptoms manifest.
- Consider population-wide screening strategies for dementia and their potential risks and benefits.
- Compare the roles of imaging, AI, and clinical judgment in acute stroke and TBI triage.
- Discuss the next frontier in stroke and trauma care, from recanalization to long-term neuroprotection.
- Critically examine the evolving science of concussion and CTE, and its implications for diagnosis and prevention.

Program Directors



Adam Kanter, MD

FAANS, MBA

Ron & Sandi Simon Executive Medical Director Endowed Chair, Pickup Family Neurosciences Institute Chief of Neurosurgery



Yasir Jassam, MD

FRCP, FAAN

Multiple Sclerosis and Neuroimmunology Program Director Chief of Neurology

Invited Faculty

Ausaf A. Bari, MD, PhD, FAANS, FACS

Associate Professor of and Vice Chair Departments of Neurosurgery, Psychiatry and Radiation Oncology
Director, Functional and Epilepsy Fellowship
UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine

Alexander Coon, MD

Director of Cerebrovascular and Endovascular Neurosurgery
Carondelet Neurological Institute at St. Joseph's and St. Mary's Hospitals

Daniel DiLorenzo, MD, PhD, MBA

Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and Biomedical Sciences
Loma Linda University

Mallory Haji, DNP, MBA, MSN, AGACNP-BC

Neurosciences Lead APP, PPG Neurocritical Care
Parkview Health

Shamir Haji, MD

Neurocritical Care and Stroke Director Neuroscience Service Line Director, Parkview Health

Frank P. K. Hsu, MD

Neurosurgeon
University of California, Irvine

Michael Modic, MD

Senior Vice President Population Health and Professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Endowed Chairs

Michael J. Demeure, MD •

Program Director, Hoag Precision Medicine Program
Otis Healy Family Endowed Chair in Applied Genomics

Steven Grossman, MD, PhD •

Grace E. Hoag Executive Medical Director Endowed Chair at the Hoag Family Cancer Institute

Robert Louis, MD •

Empower360 Endowed Chair in Skull Base and Minimally Invasive Neurosurgery; Program Director, Skullbase and Pituitary Tumor

Aaron R. Ritter, MD •

Larkin Family Endowed Chair in Integrative Brain Health and Director of the Memory & Cognitive Disorders Program

William R. Shankle, MD, FACP

Judy & Richard Voltmer Endowed Chair in Memory and Cognitive Disorders

Hoag and Pickup Family Neurosciences Institute Faculty

Kim Alles, BSN, RN, CCRN
Surgical Neuroscience ICU Nurse

Gustavo Alva, MD
Psychiatrist

Lauren L. Bennett, PhD
Clinical Neuropsychologist

Christopher B. Baker, MD
Interventional Radiologist

Abhinandan A. Bharne, MD
Intensivist

Mindy K. Bixby, DO
Neurologist, Movement Disorders

Michael N. Brant-Zawadzki, MD, FACP
Vice President, Clinical Research Administration, CATALiST and Addiction Services

David M. Brown, MD
Neurologist, Stroke Program Director

Isis Cauoette, R.EEGT, CNIM, B.S
Manager, Neurodiagnostics & Sleep

Stephanie Chow, MSN, RN, CCRN
Nurse Navigator, Epilepsy Program

Christopher M. Duma, MD
Neurosurgeon, Brain Tumor Program Director

Tatyana V. Ellison, MD •
Psychiatrist, Addiction Medicine

Ezequiel Goldschmidt, MD •
Neurosurgeon, Skull Base

Neal Hermanowicz, MD, FAAN •
Neurologist, Movement Disorders

Patty Y. Huang, MD
Hospitalist

Simon Khagi, MD •
Neuro-oncology, Medical Director
Hoag Family Cancer Institute

Timothy H. Lucas, MD •
Neurosurgeon, Functional

Andrew Ly, MD
Neurologist, Concussion/TBI Program Director

Avinash Mesipam, MD
Interventional Radiologist

David Millett, MD, PhD
Neurologist, Epilepsy Program Co-Director

Ruth Morin, PhD
Neuropsychologist

Chelsea Manahan, MSN, RN,
FNP-C
Surgical Neuroscience ICU Nurse

Joshua Martin, MD
Neurologist, Epileptologist

Jen Martinez, MSN, RN, PHN
Director of Critical Care, Irvine
Campus

Stephanie Martins, MSN, RN, PHN,
DCS
Program Manager, Memory &
Cognitive Disorders

Anna Morenkova, MD, PhD •
Neurologist, Movement Disorder

Joey Nesler, LCSW
Clinical Social Worker, Movement
Disorders

C. Phillip O'Carroll, MD
Neurologist, Program Director,
Neurobehavioral Medicine

James Park, DO
Neurologist, Epilepsy Program
Co-Director

Aaron J. Przybysz, MD, PhD •
Division Chief, Pain Medicine

Matthew Reed, MD, MSPH •
Chief of Inpatient Pain and
Outpatient Addiction Services

Danielle Reaves, MSN, RN, PMHNP-
BC
Surgical Neuroscience ICU Nurse

Julie Riley, MBA
Executive Director

Sina Safahieh, MD
Neuropsychologist

Kelly A. Scheneman, PSYD
Psychologist

Belinda Stewart-Burger MSN, RN,
CNRN, SCRNP
Nurse Navigator, Movement
Disorders

Justin Vechayiem, BSN, RN, SCRNP
Nurse Navigator, Stroke

Daniel Vitantonio, MD
Neurologist, Medical Director IOM

Katie Wilkinson, MD
Pathologist, Medical Director
Laboratory Services & Transfusion
Medicine

Melissa Yu, MD
Neuroradiologist

• Hoag Specialty Clinic Provider

Friday, November 7

7 – 7:50 AM	Registration, Breakfast, and Exhibits
8 – 8:45 AM	From Ideas to Impact: Empowering Nurses to Innovate in Neuroscience Care Ezequiel Goldschmidt, MD
8:45 – 9:30 AM	Breaking the “Sorry to Bother You” Barrier: Building Confidence & Collaboration in Critical Care Moderator: Jen Martinez, RN Panel Members: Chelsea Manahan, RN; Danielle Reaves, RN; Kim Alles, RN
9:30 – 10 AM	The Heart of our Brain Institute: Lessons in Listening, Leading and Letting Go Adam Kanter, MD
10 – 10:15 AM	Morning Break and Exhibits
10:15 – 11 AM	Unraveling Functional Seizures (PNES): A Multidisciplinary Approach to Care & Recovery Moderator: Joey Nesler, LCSW Panel Members: Joshua Martin, MD; Kelly Scheneman, PSYD; and Stephanie Chow, RN
11 – 11:30 AM	Seizure Evaluation and Surgical Readiness: An In-Depth look at EMU Phases 1-3 James Park, DO and Timothy Lucas, MD
11:45 – 1 PM	Lunch and Exhibits
1 – 1:30 PM	Through the Wire: An ICU Nurse Story from the Frontlines Justin Vechayiem, RN
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Making Sense of Confusion: Best Practices for Recognizing and Escalating Encephalopathy Moderator: Belinda Stewart-Burger, MSN Panel Members: Patty Huang, MD; Abhinandan Bharne, MD; Joshua Martin, MD; and Ezequiel Goldschmidt, MD

- 2:30 — 2:45 PM **Afternoon Break and Exhibits**
- 2:45 — 3:15 PM **From Scan to Save: How Imaging Guides Life-Saving Decisions**
Melissa Yu, MD
- 3:15 — 3:45 PM **Stopping the Bleed: Reversal of Anticoagulation and Hemostatic Management in CNS Hemorrhage**
Katie Wilkinson, MD
- 3:45 — 4:30 PM **Brains, Spines, and the Invisible Lines: Neuro Exams that Keep Us Up at Night**
Mallory Haji, NP, Shamir Haji, MD
- 4:30 — 5:30 PM **Networking Reception**

Saturday, November 8

- 8 — 8:50 AM **Registration, Breakfast, and Exhibits**
- 8:50 — 9 AM **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Adam Kanter MD and Julie Riley, MBA
- Session 1**
9 — 10 AM **Precision Neuroscience: Immersive Tools, Brain Repair & Cellular Warfare**
Moderator: Steve Grossman, MD
- Mixed Reality in the OR: Precision Tools of Our Future!**
Robert Louis, MD
 - Brain Bypass: Can We Engineer Neuroplasticity After Brain Injury?**
Ezequiel Goldschmidt, MD
 - Reprogramming the War on Cancer: Electrofusion Meets Cellular Assassins**
Simon Khagi, MD
 - Round Table Panel Q&A**
Panel Members: Michael Demeure, MD and Christopher Duma, MD
- Session 2**
10 — 11 AM **Psychedelics, Implants & Inflammation: A New Era for Mental Health**
Moderator: Aaron Przybysz, MD
- Can We Redefine Recovery Pathways in Addiction and Depression?**
Matthew Reed, MD
 - Implanted Sanity: Is DBS or fUS Psychiatry's Final Frontier?**
Tim Lucas, MD
 - Ketamine, Psilocybin, Oh My: Can Molecules Really Mend the Mind?**
Philip O'Carroll, MD
 - Round Table Panel Q&A**
Panel Members: Tatyana Ellison, MD; Ruth Morin, PhD; Daniel DiLorenzo, MD; and Sina Safahieh, MD
- 11 — 11:15 AM **Morning Break and Exhibits**

- Session 3**
11:15 — 12 PM **The Dr. Michael Brant-Zawadzki Endowed Lectureship in Neurosciences**
Moderator: Adam Kanter, MD



The Institute Model: A Catalyst for Leading Innovation in Healthcare
Michael Brant-Zawadzki, MD



The Evolving Role of AI and Imaging in Digital-Driven Healthcare
Michael Modic, MD

12 — 1PM

Lunch and Exhibits

Session 4
1 — 2 PM

Epilepsy, Circuitry and the New Frontier in Neuromodulation

Moderator: James Park, DO

Can Targeted Therapies and Next-Gen Medications Control Epilepsy?

David Millett, MD

Seizure Forecasting, Brain-Computer Interfaces, and the Rise of Intelligent Implants

Ausaf Bari, MD

The Neurologist's Dilemma: Control vs. Cure in the Era of Technologic Hype

James Park, DO

Round Table Panel Q&A

Panel Members: Daniel Vitantonio, MD and Isis Caouette, CNIM

Session 5
2 — 3 PM

Precision Circuits for Motion: Rewriting the Parkinson's Playbook

Moderator: Timothy Lucas, MD

Measuring What Matters in Parkinson's, Not Just What's Easy to Track

Neal Hermanowicz, MD

Wearable Tech, Remote Monitoring, & the Evolving Role of the Movement Neurologist in the Era of Personalized Tech

Anna Morenkova, MD

DBS 2.0: From Static Targets to Neuro Engineering Intelligent Circuits

Daniel DiLorenzo, MD, PhD

Round Table Panel Q&A

Panelists: Belinda Stewart-Burger, RN; Frank Hsu, MD; and Mindy Bixby, MD

3 — 3:15 PM

Afternoon Break and Exhibits

Session 6
3:15 — 4:15 PM

Memory, Aging, and Ethics: Predict, Prevent, or Panic?

Moderator: Yasir Jassam, MD

Al and Amyloid PET: Clinical Tool or Ethical Minefield?

Aaron Ritter, MD

Can Blood Tell the Future: Are Biomarkers the True Crystal Ball

Yasir Jassam, MD

Early Detection of Cognitive Decline: Promise or Pandora's Box?

Lauren Bennett, PhD

Round Table Panel Q&A

Panel Members: Gustavo Alva, MD; William Shankle, MD; and Stephanie Martins, RN

Session 7
4:15 — 5:15 PM

Blocked Vessels & Blunt Forces: Rethinking Acute Brain Injury and Rescue

Moderator: Christopher Baker, MD

Al Triage: Are We Becoming Too Reliant on Imaging Algorithms?

Melissa Yu, MD

Recanalized—Now What: Why Restoring Flow Isn't Enough, What Are the Next Breakthroughs That Must Happen

Avi Mesipam, MD

Our Future in Flow Diversion, First-in-Human Tech, and a Global OR

Alexander Coon, MD

Are We Missing Most Concussions: The Spectrum of Brain Injury and the Tools That Might Finally Reveal It

Andrew Ly, MD

Round Table Panel Q&A

Panel Members: David Brown, MD; Ezequiel Goldschmidt, MD; and Robert Louis, MD

5:15 — 5:20 PM

Closing Comments

Adam Kanter, MD and Julie Riley, MBA

Registration Information

2025 Hoag Neuroscience Symposium

November 7–8, 2025

The Waterfront Beach Resort,
A Hilton Hotel
Huntington Beach, California



Register online at hoag.org/NeuroSymp2025

Registration Fees

2-Day Registration: \$175

MDs/DOs

Note: CME credits for MD/DOs not eligible on
Friday, November 7

Saturday Registration: \$150

MDs

1-Day Registration: \$75

RNs, APPs, PT/OTs, and Technologists

2-Day Registration: \$125

RNs, APPs, PT/OTs, and Technologists

**Staff Registration: Complimentary with
refundable \$50 deposit**

Hoag nurses, nurse practitioners, physician
assistants, physical and occupational
therapists

Cancellations

Written cancellations will be accepted until
November 1, 2025. No refunds will be given
for cancellations after November 1, 2025.
No refunds will be given for no-shows. 3%
Administration fee will apply to all canceled
registrations.

Family/Guest Attendance Policy

All conference activities are exclusively reserved
for paid conference attendees. Children and
family members are not allowed to attend meal
functions or permitted in the general
session room.