BPNA
British Paediatric Neurology Association

53rd BPNA Annual Scientific Meeting 6-8 January 2027

The Eastside Rooms,
Woodcock Street,
Birmingham, B7 4BL

Programme





CONFERENCE DAY 1

Wednesday 6 January 2027

09.00 - 09.45	**Pre-conference session: Trainees' research Network Meeting** *Professor Sam Amin (BPNA Chair of Research) and Dr Thiloka Ratnaike (BPNA Trainee SIG Chair)*	Meeting Room 2
09.00 - 09:45	**Registration and Refreshments**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer
09.45 - 10.00	**Welcome** *Dr Ailsa McLellan (BPNA President), Professor Sam Amin (BPNA Chair of Research) and Dr Ratna Kumar (Birmingham Organising Committee)*	Affinity 1

Session 1

10.00 - 10.30	**Keynote Lecture:** **Hope, Hype, or Breakthrough? Emerging (Gene) Theraphies for Neurodegenerative Disorders Through the Lens of AOA1** *Professor Evangeline Wassmer, Birmingham Children's Hospital*	Affinity 1
10.30 - 10.45	**A UK pilot study of deep phenotyping and whole genome sequencing in children with cerebral palsy** *Dr Thiloka Ratnaike**	Affinity 1
10.45 - 11.00	**Deep mutational scanning in GLUT1-deficiency syndrome: a prospective database of functional effect for every coding single nucleotide variant of the SLC2A1 gene** *Dr Thomas Kelly**	Affinity 1
11.00 - 11.15	**Genetic function of rare coding variants associated with neurodevelopmental disorders differentially impact the autism spectrum** *Dr Nadja Bednarczuk**	Affinity 1
11.15 - 11.30	**What genetic conditions are children dying of in England?** *Dr Karen Low*	Affinity 1
11.35 - 12.35	**Research Workshop 1:** **Moving ahead with PANS and PANDAS: Recent research and future plans** *Professor Raj Gupta, Professor Ming Lim, and Dr Ashley Liew*	Affinity 1
	Research Workshop 2: **Paediatric Stroke: Lessons from Adult Stroke Teams to improve research and outcomes** Dr Ajay Bhalla, *Dr Yoshua Collins-Sawaragi, Dr David Hargroves, Dr Jattinder Khaira, and Dr Jaspal Singh*	Ashtead Suite

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional

CONFERENCE DAY 1

Wednesday 6 January 2027

12.35 - 13.15	**Lunch / Exhibition / Poster Viewing**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer
12.45 - 13.15	**Poster Tours** (in-person only)	Belmont 1, 2 & 3
13.15 - 14.00	**Becoming a Paediatric Neurologist** *Dr Thiloka Ratnaike (BPNA Trainee SIG Chair) and Dr Jacob Reading (BPNA Trainee SIG Deputy Chair)*	Meeting Room 2
13.15 - 14.00	**Sponsored Symposium 1 – UCB - From Suspicion to Diagnostic Confidence in TK2 Deficiency: Case-Based Approaches to Earlier Recognition and Diagnosis** *Professor Robert McFarland, Dr Sithara Ramdas, Hayley Ramjatan, Dr William Macken, and Dr Victoria Nesbitt*	Affinity 1
	Sponsored Symposium 2 – Roche – Addressing Systemic Disease in SMA: Bridging Real-World Evidence with Clinical Case Experience *Professor Giovanni Baranello , TBC - Panel Member, Dr Marjorie Illingworth, and TBC - Panel Member*	Ashtead Suite

Session 2

14.00 - 14.30	**Keynote Lecture:** **Presurgical management of Tuberous Sclerosis Complex cases: when, for whom and how** *Professor Philippe Kahane, Grenoble-Alpes University and Hospital, France*	Affinity 1
14.30 - 14.45	**Oral Presentation 5 - Thalamic Recordings in Children undergoing Stereoelectroencephalography (TRICS): safety, feasibility and neurophysiological findings in six children** *Dr Leeha Singh**	Affinity 1
14.45 - 15.00	**Oral Presentation 6 - One Stage Doesn't Fit All: Pathological Heterogeneity in Rasmussen Encephalitis** *Dr Eva Ioannidou**	Affinity 1
15.00 - 15.15	**Oral Presentation 7 - Adjunctive cannabidiol oral solution for TAND and associated clinical outcomes in tuberous sclerosis complex: final EpiCom results** *Dr Reena Patel*	Affinity 1

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional

CONFERENCE DAY 1

Wednesday 6 January 2027

15.15 - 15.30	**Oral Presentation 8 - Clinical and electrographic features in SCN1A-related epilepsies are associated with disease severity and neurocognitive outcome** *Dr Alexander Harper**	Affinity 1
15:30 - 16.00	**Refreshments / Exhibition / Poster Viewing**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer

Session 3: Video Challenge

Expert Panel: Dr Murugan Velayutham (Birmingham) and Dr Anna Purna Sudarsanam (Birmingham) Chairs: Dr Peta Sharples (Bristol) and Dr Peter Baxter (Sheffield)

16.00 - 16.05	**Introduction**	Affinity 1
16.05 - 16.25	**Video Challenge Case 1** *Dr Jacob Reading*	Affinity 1
16.25 - 16.45	**Video Challenge Case 2** *Dr Ammara Khalid*	Affinity 1
16.45 - 17.05	**Video Challenge Case 3** *Dr Tammy Hedderly*	Affinity 1
17.05 - 17.25	**Video Challenge Case 4** *Dr Suchika Garg*	Affinity 1
17.25 - 17.30	**Close**	Affinity 1
18.30 - 20.30	**Welcome Reception** Birmingham Council House, Victoria Sq, Birmingham, B1 1BB	

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional

CONFERENCE DAY 2

Thursday 7 January 2027

08.00 - 08.30	**Refreshments**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer
08.00 - 08.45	**Personal Practice Session:** **Management of gastrointestinal dystonia in children with complex Neurodisibility** *Dr Lisa Whyte and Dr YiFan Ling*	Affinity 1
	Personal Practice Session: **How to use neurogenetic MDT to maximise diagnostic yield in the genomic era** *Dr Swati Naik and Dr Amitav Parida*	Ashtead Suite
08.50 - 10.20	**BPNA Annual General Meeting (BPNA Members Only)**	Affinity 1
09.30 - 10.30	**Refreshments / Exhibition / Poster Viewing**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer

Session 4

10.30 - 11.30	**This house Believes that there is no role for the court at end of life in complex neurodisability** *Dr Fiona Reynolds, Dr Rum Thomas* *Dr Alasdair Parker, and Dr Shakti Agrawal*	Affinity 1
11.30 - 11.45	**Oral Presentation 9 - Healthcare utilisation by children with neurological complex chronic conditions: a retrospective cohort study** *Mr Alexander Hagan***	Affinity 1
11.45 - 12.00	**Oral Presentation 10 - National Stroke Service Evaluation: Exploring the Delays in the Paediatric Stroke Pathway through retrospective review of Children Treated with Thrombolysis and/or Thrombectomy. A C-BRAIN Project.** *Dr Yoshua Collins-Sawaragi**	Affinity 1
12.00 - 12.15	**Oral Presentation 11 - Social Prescribing and Community resources for Children and Young People (SPACE CYP) Phase 2: Supporting children with chronic complex needs from hospital to home** *Dr Anna Basu*	Affinity 1

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional

CONFERENCE DAY 2

Thursday 7 January 2027

12.15 - 12.30	**Oral Presentation 12 - Impact of presymptomatic antiseizure medication on seizure onset and neurodevelopmental outcomes in children with Sturge-Weber syndrome: a retrospective cohort study** *Dr Aishwarya Tadimeti**	Affinity 1
12.30 - 13.30	**Lunch / Exhibition / Poster Viewing**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer
12.45 - 13.30	**Poster Tours** (in-person only)	Belmont 1, 2 & 3
	UK-Childhood Neuro-Inflammatory Disorders (UK-CNID) Special Interest Group Meeting *Dr Sithara Ramdas*	Meeting Room 1
12.45 - 13.30	***British Paediatric Epilepsy Group (BPEG) Special Interest Group Meeting*** *(BPNA members only)* *Dr Suresh Pujar*	Meeting Room 2
	Neurocutaneous Special Interest Group Meeting *Professor Sam Amin and Dr Sarah Aylett*	Meeting Room 4
13.30 - 14.15	**Sponsored Symposium 3 – Desitin - Treating SeLECTS (Rolandic Epilepsy) - the updated NICE Guideline, experience with sulthiame and debate on implementation** *Dr Richard Brown and Dr Vishal Mehta*	Affinity 1
	Sponsored Symposium 4 – Santhera -Endocrine considerations for the multidisciplinary team managing patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Professor Giovanni Baranello, *Professor Tracey Willis and Dr Claire Wood*	Ashtead Suite

Session 5

14.20 - 14.50	**Keynote Lecture:** **Leukodystrophies: From MRI Pattern Recognition to Precision Therapies** *Professor Marjo van der Knapp, Amsterdam University Medical Centers and Emma Children's Hospital, Netherlands*	Affinity 1

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional

CONFERENCE DAY 2

Thursday 7 January 2027

14.50 - 15.05	**Oral Presentation 13 - Neurological Recovery and Brain Volume Changes following Paediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome Temporally associated with SARS-CoV-2** *Dr Valeria Pozzilli*	Affinity 1
15.05 - 15.20	**Oral Presentation 14 - Brain network changes in paediatric autoimmune encephalitis and acute disseminated encephalomyelitis: evidence from resting-state functional MRI** *Dr Meirvaan Basra**	Affinity 1
15.20 - 15.35	**Oral Presentation 15 - The impact of ageing upon paraclinical assessments of remyelination in multiple sclerosis – updates from the Assessing Re-Myelination with the Objective of Understanding Repair (ARMOUR) Study** *Dr Jonathon Holland*	Affinity 1
15.35 - 15.55	**Refreshments / Exhibition / Poster Viewing**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer

Session 6: The Presidential Plenary

Dr Ailsa McLellan (BPNA President) and Professor Sam Amin (Chair of Research)

15.55 - 16.00	**Presentation of Prize: DMCN best article by a BPNA early career member** *Presented by Professor Bernard Dan*	Affinity 1
16.00 - 16.30	**Keynote Lecture: What my son taught me about medicine, humanity and hope** *Professor Hannah Cock, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, London*	Affinity 1
16.30 - 17.00	**The Ronnie MacKeith Prize: Deep brain stimulation: an emerging therapy for children with epilepsy** *Dr Rory Piper, UCL and Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health*	Affinity 1
17.00 - 18.00	**Ronnie Mackeith Guest Lecture: Inborn errors of metabolism in child neurology – Why we need a fast diagnostic pipeline** Professor Barbara Plecko, University of Zurich and University Children's Hospital Zurich, Switzerland	Affinity 1
19.00 - Late	**Annual Conference Dinner** *Library of Birmingham, Centenary Sq, Birmingham, B1 2ND*	

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional

CONFERENCE DAY 3

Friday 8 January 2027

08.30 - 09.30	**Refreshments**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer
08.30 - 09.15	**Personal Practice Session:** **The Fetal medicine perspective on fetal neurology** *Mr Leo Gurney*	Affinity 1
	Personal Practice Session: **The Silent Threat: Cerebrovascular disease in Sickle Cell Anaemia** *Dr Shakti Agrawal* *Dr Sarah Lawson* *Mr Pasquale Gallo*	Ashtead Suite

Session 7:

09.30 - 10.00	**Keynote Lecture:** **Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension: New Evidence, New Approaches and Lessons for Paediatrics** *Professor Alex Sinclair, University of Birmingham*	Affinity 1
10.00 - 10.15	**Oral Presentation 16- Wearable EEG and Machine Learning for Improved Diagnosis of Narcolepsy and Hypersomnia in Children and Young People** *Dr Thomas Rossor*	Affinity 1
10.15 - 10.30	**Oral Presentation 17 - Long-Term Effectiveness and Safety of the Ketogenic Diet for Drug-Resistant Epilepsy inChildren with Genetic Epilepsy Syndromes** *Dr Atlanta Ruiz de Lazcano*	Affinity 1
10.30 - 10.45	**Oral Presentation 18 - Sustaining paediatric neurology education among residents during conflict: a mixed-methods evaluation of a WhatsApp-based problem-based learning programme** *Dr Rowa Edris**	Affinity 1
10.45 - 11.15	**Refreshments / Exhibition / Poster Viewing**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer
10.45 - 11.45	**'Preparing for Consultancy' (In-person only)** *Dr Despoina Mandelenaki, Dr Rana Mohamed, Dr Amitav Parida and Dr Manish Prasad*	Affinity 1

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional

CONFERENCE DAY 3

Friday 8 January 2027

BPNA
British Paediatric Neurology Association

11.15 - 12.15	**Poster Tours** (in-person only)	Belmont 1, 2 & 3
12.15 - 13.00	**Children's Headache Network (CHaN) Special Interest Group Meeting** *Dr Michael Taylor*	Meeting Room 1
	Cerebrovascular Special Interest Group Meeting *Dr Jaspal Singh*	Meeting Room 2
	Genetic White Matter Disorders (leukodystrophies) Special Interest Group Meeting *Dr Lydia Green*	Meeting Room 4
12.45 - 13.45	**Lunch / Exhibition / Poster Viewing**	Affinity 2 & Affinity Foyer
13.00 - 13.45	**Paediatric Neurology Trainees' Meeting** *Dr Thiloka Ratnaike, BPNA Trainee SIG Chair* *Dr Jacob Reading, BPNA Trainee SIG Deputy Chair* *Dr Dipak Ram, National Training Advisor*	Meeting Room 2
13.40 - 14.25	**Sponsored Symposium 5 – Biogen - Measuring more: Neurofilament in neuromuscular diseases** *Speaker TBC*	Affinity 1
	Sponsored Symposium 6 – UCB - Do we know what's needed to set up a gold standard DEE Service *Lucy Asquith and Dr Shanika Samarasekera*	Ashtead Suite

Session 8:

14.30 - 15.00	**Keynote Lecture:** **Congenital cranial dysinnervation disorders** *Mr Manoj Parulekar, Birmingham Womens & Children's Hospital and the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust*	Affinity 1
15.00 - 15.30	**Keynote Lecture:** **Brains on Fire, Minds in Crisis: the emerging challenge of neuropsychiatric comorbidities in neuroinflammation** *Professor Sukhvir Wright, Aston University , Birmingham*	Affinity 1

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional

CONFERENCE DAY 3

Friday 8 January 2027

15.30 - 15.45	**Oral Presentation 19 - Hidden in the mosaic: somatic mosaicism in resected brain tissue and implications for epilepsy management** *Dr Amy McTague*	Affinity 1
15.45 - 16.00	**Oral Presentation 20 - Positive Results from a Global Phase 3 Trial (IB1001-303) Evaluating Levacetylleucine in Ataxia-Telangiectasia** *Dr Manish Prasad*	Affinity 1
16.00 - 16.30	**Presentation of Prizes and Close** *Dr Ailsa McLellan, (BPNA President) and Professor Sam Amin, (BPNA Chair of Research)*	Affinity 1
16.30	**Close and departure**	

Sponsors at the 2027 BPNA Annual Conference have provided financial support for the organisation of this event through sponsorship. Sponsors have not been involved in the organisation or educational content of this event except their sponsored symposia.

*Trainee **Medical Student *** Allied Health Professional