

# THE NEWBORN BRAIN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

## INTERVIEW WITH STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIR DR. DONNA FERRIERO

The Newborn Brain Society was co-founded by many people who work together behind the scenes, each contributing in their own way. One very important group is the Steering Committee, which consists of seven members that advise the society and help maintain our mission, vision, and objectives. The chair of this committee is Dr. Donna Ferriero, a distinguished Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics at UCSF, as well as the director of Neonatal Brain Disorder Laboratories and founder, and former co-director, of the Newborn Brain Research Institute at UCSF.

Dr. Ferriero started in the field of Newborn Brain Care through a passion for developmental and neurobiology, which coupled nicely with her research around the developing brain. Since then, Dr. Ferriero has made countless contributions to the field, including “setting up the world’s first neurologic intensive care nursery.”

Through her many contributions to the field, Dr. Ferriero has accumulated several awards, but she distinguishes one of them, the Maureen Andrew mentoring award, as one of her favorites “...because mentoring is what I love to do the most. It is the greatest thing about being an academic. It is to be able to teach and bring up young people and help them with their career trajectory.” Dr. Ferriero is a big advocate for helping students find their own path through the field and advises others to “follow your passions – you should be passionate about what you do and that will lead you down the right path.”

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### TAKE A PEEK!

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As a renowned veteran in the field of Newborn Brain Care, Dr. Ferriero has seen the field come a long way since its conception. She cites therapeutic hypothermia as a great accomplishment in the field, but that it still has a long way to go. She hopes that the field will continue to use advanced imaging to learn how to cater to premature babies. She says, "I think the hardest thing to do in our field is to try to understand mechanisms because we're on a very steep slope of change. As we're studying the brain, it's changing minute by minute, as opposed to the adult brain, which is...fully developed... But in the immature brain you're on this steep slope and what you might do here at time X may be different than what needs to be done hours later at time Y, so that is very challenging."



Dr. Ferriero also devotes a lot of time to sharing her work and learning about that of others. She stresses the importance of creating such a network and said, "here I'd like to give kudos to Mohamed El-Dib and Terrie Inder for getting the Newborn Brain Society off the ground. It's growing by leaps and bounds daily, and it's so important because it gets the message out there both in terms of educational venues with the webinars, and research areas, so I think that's fabulous." Dr. Ferriero also mentioned one of the challenges she foresees in the future of the NBS as "just trying to keep us all together" across an international spectrum.

As a leader in many different capacities, including being the former president of the Child Neurology Society and the American Pediatric Society, Dr. Ferriero knows a lot about what it takes to maintain an organization's success. She shared that "I think something I've learned from being a leader is to listen. So, I think a good listener is a good leader. Bringing multiple voices into the room to have conversations will inform the path forward." This is not an easy thing to accomplish as Dr. Ferriero mentions: "the biggest challenge we have is to create more diversity and inclusion. I think our field has very few people of color and I think creating an international climate can help that."

Dr. Ferriero has experienced an incredible journey in the field of the Newborn Brain and beyond and contributed greatly to how far research has come today. Her many contributions have impacted the field immensely and we are all so lucky to be able to learn from her through the Newborn Brain Society. When asked if she would go back and do anything differently she answered without hesitation, "nope...I'm happy. I love doing what I do."

**"The biggest challenge we have is to create more diversity and inclusion. I think our field has very few people of color and I think creating an international climate can help that."**

**DR. DONNA  
FERRIERO, NBS  
STEERING COMMITTEE  
CHAIR**

**[Click here to read the full interview on our website](#)**



# BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

\$100.00	<b>General Membership</b>
<a href="#">JOIN</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> ANNUAL <input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMATICALLY REBILLS
	<p>A General Member is a health care provider or member of the community interested in Neonatal Neurology. General Members have the right to vote in Newborn Brain Society elections, to hold office, and to secure fair consideration for governance appointments in the society. They are also invited to join all educational activities and have access to online resources.</p>
\$25.00	<b>General Membership (LMIC)</b>
<a href="#">JOIN</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> ANNUAL <input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMATICALLY REBILLS
	<p>A General Member (LMIC) is a person residing and working in a country with "low-income economy," "lower-middle-income economy," or "upper-middle-income economy" as defined by the World Bank's most recent available data. For 2020, please see: <a href="https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519">https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519</a> and scroll down to the income designations. General members (LMIC) must provide an institutional email, ID, and current CV, and eligibility will be verified. Once verified, General Members (LMIC) will be changed to active members, and will have all of the same benefits as General Members (hold office, vote, pay dues, join educational activities, etc).</p>
Free	<b>Junior Membership</b>
<a href="#">JOIN</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> ANNUAL
	<p>A Junior Member is a person in a Training Program (e.g., medical or scientific training program). Junior Members are invited to join all educational activities and have access to online resources. They do not vote, hold office, or pay dues. In order to continue as members of the Newborn Brain Society, Junior Members will have their status changed automatically from Junior to General Membership one year after completing their training.</p>

[JOIN](#)

## LOG INTO YOUR MEMBERS AREA TO VIEW THE APRIL - JULY WEBINAR RECORDINGS

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Newborn Brain Society website. On the left is the NBS logo. The navigation menu includes HOME, ABOUT, EVENTS, MEMBERSHIP, NEWS, and SUPPORT. On the right, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, followed by a 'Member Portal' button and a 'Join' link. The background of the navigation bar features a blurred image of a newborn in a hospital bed.

[LOG IN](#)



# AUGUST WEBINAR SCHEDULE


## CLICK ON EACH SESSION BELOW TO PRE-REGISTER

Join experts in the field of neonatal neurology as they speak on clinical and research guidelines, educate on new techniques, and answer your questions!

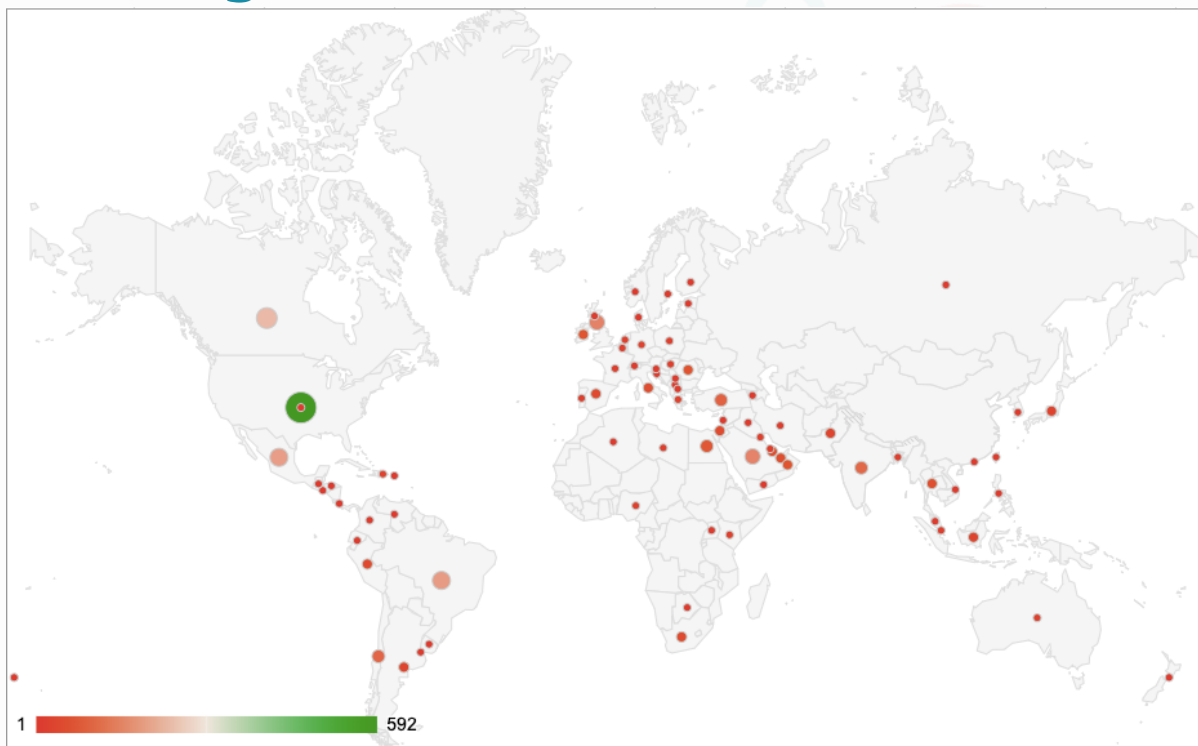
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- **August 6: Courtney Wusthoff, MD, MS**
  - *Diagnosis of Neonatal Seizures*
  - **Recording available now!**
- **August 13: Mark Scher, MD**
  - *Developmental Origins of Brain Health and Disease: Changing Phenotypes Across the Lifespan*
- **August 20: Sylke Steggerda, MD**
  - *Cooling Therapy in Middle-Income Countries*
- **August 27: Gabriel Variane, MD**
  - *Using Technology to Protect Brains in Resource Limited Countries*

**Thursdays at**  
**12 PM EDT**

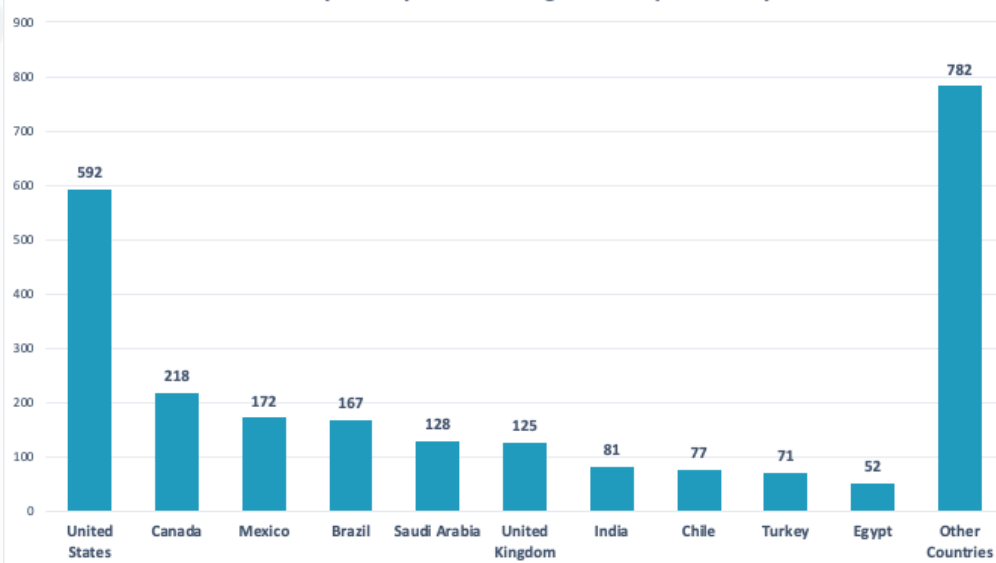


# Weekly Webinars

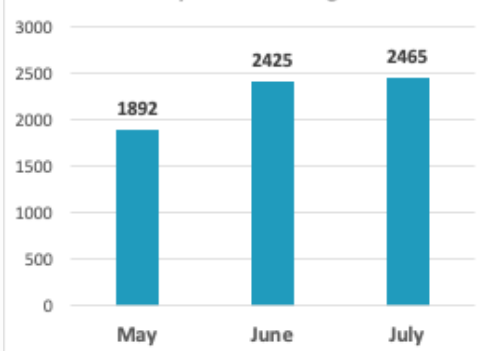


In July, the Newborn Brain Society Webinar Series had 2,465 total registrations, 40 more than in June. The July webinars also reached 81 countries, 4 more than in June. Over the past three months, the weekly webinars have amassed more viewers and are increasing their international range. We hope this growth and outreach will continue throughout the year.

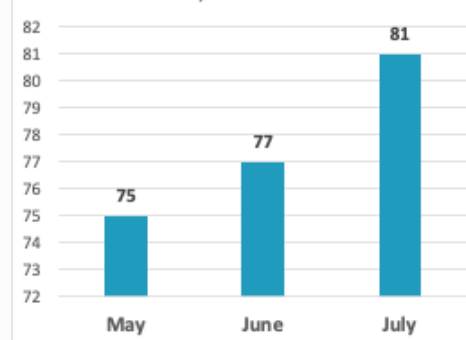
NBS July Weekly Webinars Registrations per Country



NBS Weekly Webinars Registrations



NBS Weekly Webinars Countries



# NEWBORN BRAIN SOCIETY NEWS

SEE WHAT YOU MISSED OVER ON OUR WEBSITE NEWS SECTION FROM LAST MONTH



**NEWBORN BRAIN  
SOCIETY**

## Committee Membership Recruitment:

If you are an active General Member of the Newborn Brain Society, and have an interest and experience in QI/Research or Finance, please consider applying to become a committee member with us. The BOD will review all applicants and reach out to the most qualified candidates.

[\*\*LEARN MORE\*\*](#)

**CONNECT WITH US!**

