THE NEWBORN BRAIN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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INTERVIEW WITH STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER DR. TERRIE INDER

One of the founding members of the Newborn Brain Society is Dr.

Terrie Inder, the first appointed chair of the Department of Pediatric Newborn

Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr. Inder, a native New Zealander, received her education and training at the University of Otago in Dunedin. It was there that she completed her residency in Pediatrics and fellowship in Newborn Medicine. She describes her transition from pediatrics to neonatology, citing the impact the babies in the NICU had on her, "It was so disheartening to see that there weren't many ways to help them. This motivated me to learn more, so I sought out the leader of the field at the time – Dr. Volpe – and spent 3 years learning from him in Boston."

Dr. Inder's major discoveries have been in "clinical and translational research into the nature and timing of brain injury in preterm and high-risk term born infants." Recently, Dr. Inder has also contributed to research about the effects of the environment on neonatal brain development. She comments that "the current NICU environment could be improved substantially. The parents should be empowered and engaged to make decisions and care for their baby. Then the whole family becomes the center – not just the baby – which promotes nurturing." She has recently published a paper on this topic focused on "understanding the room environment and how it affects newborns."

With an impressive 245 total publications, Dr. Inder cites a few as some of her favorites over the years such as "the one that has the most citations ... in the New England Journal. It [discusses] using MRI of the newborn brain to help predict outcome in the preterm infant. Another one is the mechanistic work that I did with Dr. Volpe. This one [discusses] white and gray matter injury in preterm newborns and was actually the first [publication] to show gray matter injuries in newborns."

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Because of her many contributions to the field, Dr. Inder has received several awards over the years. She mentioned two that had a special impact on her, including "the Doris Duke Award, because [she loves] mentoring, and being a finalist for the Schwartz center because it was an honor to be recognized as a compassionate caregiver." Mentoring young faculty is one of Dr. Inder's greatest passions. She says "it is a privilege to mentor and watch young physicians start to grow their own passions in the field."

Throughout her experience, she has learned that "the most important thing is to provide a toolkit for the trainee in two ways: the intellectual content, as in knowledge of the field, and the common research tools, like how to write a good hypothesis, aims, etc., which are universal." She says that these, coupled with passion, will result in great success. She offers some advice to trainees and others that are new to the field, saying "find your passion and find really good people that you trust and will support your growth. Have pride in your accomplishments. We oftentimes are so focused on looking ahead that we forget to celebrate how far we've come."

As an expert in the field of Newborn Brain Care, Dr. Inder shares her views on the field so far. She says that one of the most important things the field has accomplished is "definitely therapeutic hypothermia for term infants as well as seizure monitoring and trials. She also discusses the social aspect of the field. "In neonatology, females now have predominance, …but this brings its own challenges.. There are not as many females in leadership positions. It's not just hiring and retaining women but promoting them as well." As a former member of the Washington University in St. Louis Gender Equity Committee and the Brigham & Women's Office of Women's Affairs, as well as currently being the first female chair at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dr. Inder has been an advocate for gender equity in the field for quite some time.

As one of the founding members of the Newborn Brain Society, Dr. Inder discusses her hopes for the future of the organization. "I'm incredibly proud of the NBS. It went from a small after-conference dinner table discussion to a large international organization." She hopes it will broaden its impact "through guidelines and lectures that show the importance of newborn brain care." When asked about possible challenges facing the society, she says "it requires passion and a very special kind of people who are committed to serving babies (and their colleagues)."

Over the years Dr. Inder has contributed to the field in so many ways, and we are very fortunate to have her as an integral part of the society. When asked if she would go back and do anything differently she answered, "I would slow down and spend more time enjoying the journey." She also offered a glimpse into her life, saying "what I'm most proud of is my three beautiful children." Dr. Inder has certainly gathered a lot of knowledge and many life lessons throughout her journey, and she leaves us with one final realization. "It is the people in your life, your colleagues, your patients and their families, that bring you the most joy. It's a privilege to be able to pursue your passion and be employed to do it."

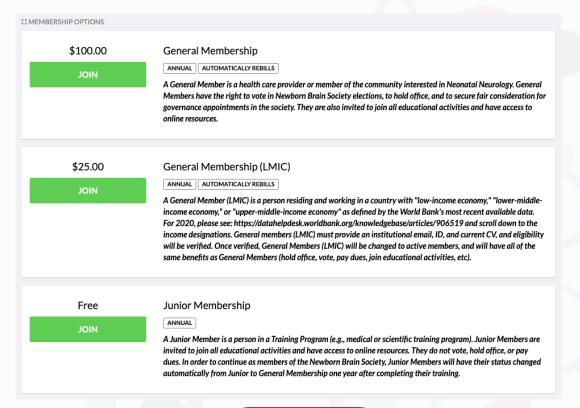


"It is the people in your life, your colleagues, your patients and their families, that bring you the most joy. It's a privilege to be able to pursue your passion and be employed to do it"

DR. TERRIE INDER,
NBS STEERING
COMMITTEE MEMBER

Click here to read the full interview

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!



<u>JOIN</u>

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





SEPTEMBER WEBINAR SCHEDULE

Join experts in the field of neonatal neurology as they speak on clinical and research guidelines, educate on new techniques, and answer your questions! Ask any speaker questions <u>HERE</u>.

For MEMBERS:

Recurring calendar invite sent out - no need to pre-register

For NON-MEMBERS:

Click on each session below to pre-register

- September 3: Anna Mrelashvili, MD
 - Neonatal Stroke: Little Brains, Big Consequences
 - Recording available now!
- September 10: Frances Cowan, PhD, FRCPCH
 - Neonatal Brain Doppler Applications
- September 17: Sylke Steggerda, MD
 - Cerebellar Injury in the Newborn
- September 24: Mehmet Cizmeci, MD
 - <u>Update on IVH and PHVD</u>

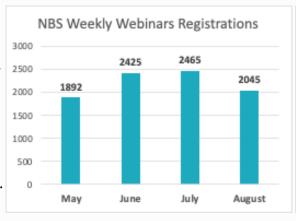
Thursdays @ 12 PM EDT

Weekly Webinars



In August, the Newborn Brain Society Webinar Series had 2,045 total registrations, 420 less than in July, but the August webinars reached 102 countries, a staggering 21 more than in July. Over the past couple of months we've seen a generally positive trend both in number of registrations, and international reach. and hope this growth and outreach will continue into the future.







NEWBORN BRAIN SOCIETY NEWS

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



<u>First Steering Committee Interview with</u> <u>Dr. Donna Ferriero:</u>

To kick off our new series of interviews with all of the steering committee members, we invite you to read our interview with the chair Dr. Donna Ferriero, where she discusses her personal experiences, her views on the field, and her advice for students. Click here to read.

CME and Nursing CE Accreditation:

Stay tuned for our new CME and Nursing CE accreditation coming soon for our weekly webinar series. We will be offering credits for physician and nursing members who attend our live sessions each week on Thursdays from 12 – 1 PM EDT.



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