

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

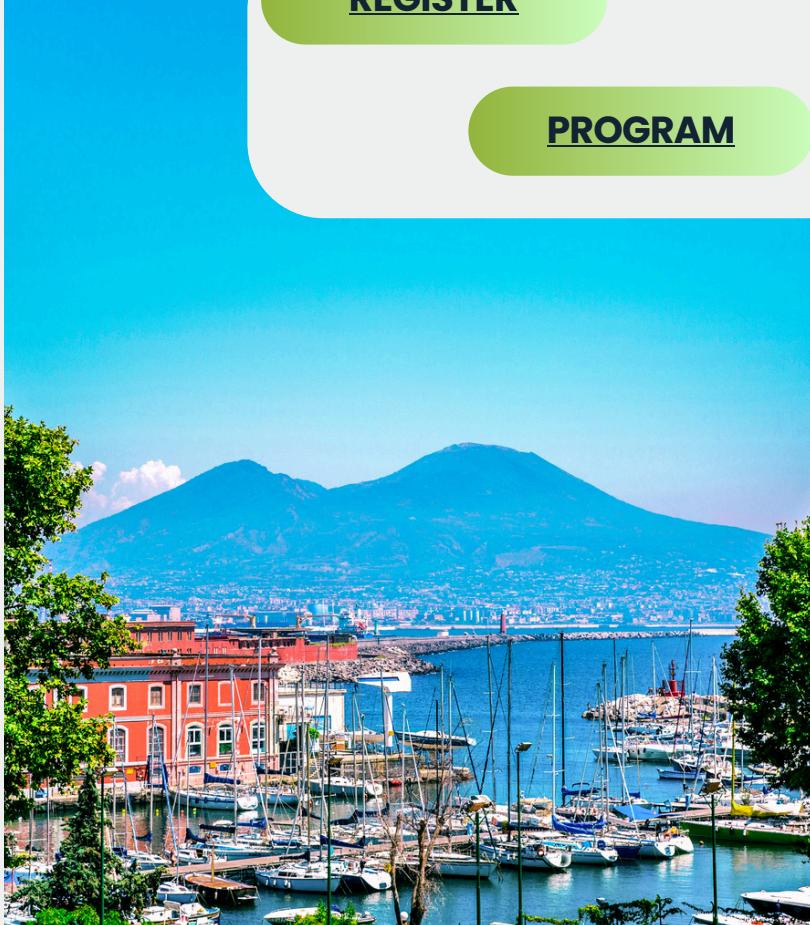
## The 17<sup>th</sup> International Newborn Brain Conference

This year's conference highlights the power of collaboration across the full neonatal care and research community. Participants from across disciplines and career stages will come together for shared learning and dialogue—bridging science, clinical practice, and training to address complex challenges in neonatal neurology.



**REGISTER**

**PROGRAM**



The program features a keynote lecture by Professor Luca Ramenghi, *Brains at work: the neonatal neurology journey from W.J. Little to the digital twin*.

This lecture offers a broad perspective on the evolution of neonatal neurology, reflecting on its clinical foundations and emerging directions in the field.

### **What's on the Agenda:**

- Cellular Therapies for Neonatal Brain Injury
- Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE) in Resource-Limited Settings
- Sleep in the Neonate: Impact and Outcome
- New Approaches to Managing Posthemorrhagic Hydrocephalus
- Screening and Impact of Congenital CMV
- Cooling Late Preterm Infants: Debate and Evidence
- Developmental Care, Seizure Management, and Neonatal Neurocritical Training
- Neuroimaging, Neuromonitoring, and Quality Improvement



## Early Career Award Congratulations to the 2025 Recipients!

Learn more about the  
2025 awardees, their  
backgrounds, and their  
projects [here](#).



**Daphney Clermont-Cheng, MD, MPH**

Neonatal-Perinatal Fellow  
Division of Neonatology, Department of  
Pediatrics  
Johns Hopkins University School of  
Medicine, United States

**Project: Epigenetic Biomarkers of  
Perinatal Brain Injury Secondary to  
Chorioamnionitis and Targeted  
Therapies**



**Hawley Helmbrecht, PhD**

JHU Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Division of Neonatology, Department of  
Pediatrics  
Johns Hopkins University School of  
Medicine, United States

**Project: Identifying the Lifelong Role of  
Reactive Astrocytes in  
Posthemorrhagic Hydrocephalus of  
Prematurity**

## Global Needs Assessment Surveys

In support of our mission to integrate international efforts and professionals, we are conducting regional needs assessment surveys to better understand clinical, research, and educational priorities across diverse settings. Professionals residing in European and African countries are invited to participate and contribute input that will inform future membership initiatives, educational programming, and collaboration opportunities.

[African Region  
Needs  
Assessment  
Survey](#)

[European  
Region Needs  
Assessment  
Survey](#)

## MAKE AN IMPACT

### Call for Nominations for NBS Leadership and Committee Roles

Members of the Newborn Brain Society are invited to apply for leadership and committee roles for the upcoming term. Opportunities are available for Board of Directors members, committee chairs, and committee members across our various committees.

[To Learn More & Apply](#)

#### OPEN POSITIONS

- Vice President and Board of Directors Member
- Secretary and Board of Directors Member
- Chair of Membership Committee and Board of Directors Member
- Steering Committee Member
- Communications & Networking Committee General Member
- Education Committee General Member
- Finance Committee General Member
- Guidelines and Publications Committee General Member
- Membership Committee General Member
- QI & Research Committee General Member

#### NOMINATE A COLLEAGUE

Email [membership@newbornbrainsociety.org](mailto:membership@newbornbrainsociety.org) with the following information:

- Your full name
- Full name of the nominee
- Email address of the nominee
- Credentials and affiliations of the nominee
- Position nominated and rationale for the nomination

#### TERM

October 1, 2026 -  
September 30, 2029

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## Volpe's View

### January 2026 Commentary

#### Antenatal Opioid Exposure—Discovery of a Broad Spectrum of Impaired Brain Development in Affected Newborns

Read the recently released commentary by Dr. Joseph Volpe, exclusively on NBS.

**VISIT:** [newbornbrainsociety.org/commentaries-volpes-view/](http://newbornbrainsociety.org/commentaries-volpes-view/)

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## NBS Educational Live Webinars

Every Thursday | 12 PM ET

Supported by our Learning and Education Partner  
**Medtronic**

**January 27**

### NBS Trainee and Early Career Webinar

How to Break into Research – A Conversation with Dr. Lina Chalak and Dr. Brian Walsh

[Register](#)

**January 29**

### NBS Webinar QI Session

Ensuring Successful Quality Improvement Through Teamwork and Leadership – Gautham Suresh Kanekal

[Register](#)

**February 12**

### NBS Webinar Session

Brain Morphogenesis and Congenital Brain Malformations – Jennifer Gettings

[Register](#)

Live session attendees can claim free CME through USF Health.

NBS members have access to all webinars through their member portal.

Missed a webinar? Watch the latest one on our website – available with open access for one week.

**Visit:** [www.newbornbrainsociety.org/educational-webinars](http://www.newbornbrainsociety.org/educational-webinars).



[View full calendar and RSVP.](#)

## Explore Neonatal Neurology Around the World - Starting 2026

This upcoming webinar series aims to highlight how neonatal neurology is practiced around the world. Each session will feature a country-specific overview, offering insight into how neonatal neurology is organized, delivered, and integrated within that nation's healthcare system.

Speakers will discuss local clinical protocols and guidelines, present available mortality and outcome data, and describe the structures that support neonatal neurological care in their country. Together, the series provides a global perspective on both shared principles and regional differences in neonatal neurology practice. Stay tuned!

APRIL 2026

## Polar Bear Care: Highlighting the HIE Hold-a-Thon

As part of Polar Bear Care initiative, the Newborn Brain Society and Hope for HIE are hosting the HIE Hold-a-Thon in April. This global, clinician-led event encourages NICUs to explore and implement family-centered approaches to holding infants during cooling therapy. The Hold-a-Thon provides educational resources and a supportive community—without mandated protocols or patient-level data—and is an opportunity for teams to learn, adapt, and lead locally while contributing to a worldwide movement.

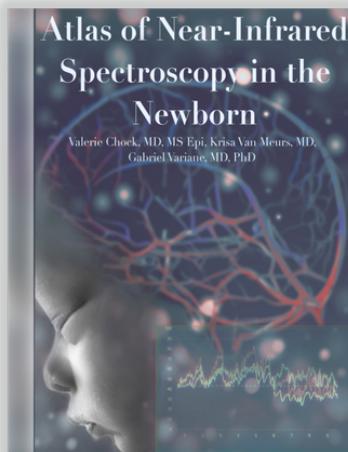
NICUs can designate physician or advanced practice provider and nurse champions to lead local engagement, develop site-specific approaches, and participate in global learning.



**REGISTER  
YOUR NICU**

**Learn More**

**Polar Bear Care:** The Polar Bear Care initiative, led by Dr. Alexa Craig with a multidisciplinary team of neonatal professionals, promotes safe, evidence-informed holding and supportive touch for infants undergoing therapeutic hypothermia. The initiative supports early bonding, enhances family involvement, and strengthens NICU culture for infants with HIE.



## Call for Case Submissions: Atlas of NIRS in the Newborn

We're inviting clinicians to submit cases for the next edition of the *Atlas of Near-Infrared Spectroscopy in the Newborn*. Selected cases will be included in the Atlas and authors of selected cases will be included as contributors.

Cases may focus on the use of NIRS in various clinical conditions such as: *hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy, prematurity, congenital heart disease, shock, cardiorespiratory failure, and during surgical interventions*. Cases may also depict data from any commercially available NIRS device for real-world applicability.

**[ Submit Case ]**    **[ View Current Atlas ]**

### Overview

- 10 overviews of NIRS topics and 32 clinical cases authored by 43 contributors from the U.S., Brazil, Canada, The Netherlands, Belgium and Romania.
- 1st version of the NIRS Atlas was released April 2025 and has since been viewed online in over 80 countries.
- Medtronic has distributed over 800 printed copies globally to NICUs across the U.S., Australia, and Europe.

# Support the Newborn Brain Society

AND SUPPORT THE MISSION TO  
ADVANCE NEONATAL  
NEUROCRITICAL CARE, ENSURING  
EVERY BABY HAS THE OPPORTUNITY  
TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL.

**DONATE**



Newborn Brain Society, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation registered with the IRS under EIN 84-2910990.



# BECOME A MEMBER

**Join our global community today!**

## **Membership Categories**

- General Physician Member – \$175 annually
- General Non-Physician Member – \$130 annually
- General LMIC Member – \$25 annually
- Junior Member – Free
- Emeritus Member – \$130 annually

## **Our Multidisciplinary Network Includes**

- Physicians
- Researchers and Scientists
- Neonatal and Pediatric Nurses
- Advanced Practice Providers
- Therapists
- Trainees and Students
- Families and Community Members

**[LEARN MORE & JOIN](#)**



## **Member Benefits**

- Access to grants to support the work of early-stage researchers
- Access to member-only online educational, QI and research resources
- Access to library of educational webinars led by experts in the field
- Discounted membership dues for LMIC members
- Discounts on select scientific conferences, courses, and workshops
- Free membership for Junior members in a training program

## **CONNECT WITH US!**

**For the latest news, updates, and more.**



**Website**

[www.newbornbrainsociety.com](http://www.newbornbrainsociety.com)



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**Email**

[info@newbornbrainsociety.org](mailto:info@newbornbrainsociety.org)



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