



From The Top

VOLUME II, ISSUE III

OCTOBER 2007

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY NEWSLETTER

Department News

A Few Notes From Dr. Holtzman:

The beginning of the new academic year is always an exciting time. We welcome many new residents, fellows, and faculty. Faculty members who have started over the last year include Robert Baloh, MD, PhD, Tim Miller, MD, PhD, Chris Wehl, MD, PhD (all in the neuro-muscle section), Paul Golumbek, MD, PhD, Christine Gurnett MD, PhD (pediatric neurology), David Brody, MD, PhD (brain injury and stroke), Samiya Rashid, DO (adult epilepsy), Susan Criswell, MD, Morvarid Karimi, MD (movement disorders).

Events and dates to be aware of for the upcoming year for grand rounds include: Nov. 2 Harvey Checkoway; Nov. 9th Goldring lecture Warren Blume; Feb 1st Henry Kaminski; April 4th Levy lecture, Charles Thornton; April 11th William Gailard. The Bishop lecture will be given on Thursday, May 8, in the afternoon (time to be announced). We are preparing to open a new clinical office site at Barnes West County beginning ~ Jan. 1, 2008 along with the other clinical departments. The Memory and Aging project will be seeing research subjects there 3 days per week and clinics will be starting in the areas of general neurology, sleep, EMG, and movement disorders 2 days per week initially.

ADRC-

Dr. John Morris-Section Head

Familial Adult Children Study

The FACS or Familial Adult Children Study in Alzheimer's Disease is a comprehensive approach to understanding the changes in EOAD, or Early onset AD. The goal of this project, for which Dr. Randall Bateman serves as the principal investigator, is to develop a Familial Adult Children Study cohort of individuals with dominantly-inherited AD. Participants are followed closely with PET/PIB, MRI and CSF studies to determine what changes occur before and after Alzheimer's Disease begins. Our

participant coming from California in October stated, "I've watched my mother suffer with this disease at far too early an age. I want to be part of this research because I feel that it might really make a difference in the future."

Biomarkers Update

Recent findings by the Biomarkers group demonstrate: 1) The very mildest symptomatic stage of AD (CDR 0.5) exhibits the same CSF biomarker phenotype as more advanced AD, and the ratio of CSF tau/Ab₄₂ shows strong promise as antecedent (preclinical) biomarkers that predict future dementia in cognitively normal older adults (Fagan et al. 2007); 2) Despite the fact that ABCA1 normally plays an important role in regulating apoE levels in the brain and CSF (and apoE genotype and levels regulate AD pathogenesis), we found no evidence of association between ten polymorphisms in the ABCA1 gene and apoE levels in CSF, although study of additional polymorphisms are warranted (Wahrle et al., 2007); 3) By using CSF Ab₄₂ levels as an endophenotype for AD, we identified a known disease-causing PSEN1 mutation in a family with late-onset AD, suggesting analysis of endophenotypes may be useful for genetic studies of AD (Kauwe et al., 2007); and 4) Unbiased proteomics screens of control and AD CSF identified many novel candidate biomarkers of AD, several of which were subsequently validated by quantitative immunoassays, thus adding to the list of candidates that may be useful in future AD biomarker panels (Hu et al., 2007).

[Fagan AM, Roe CM, Xiong C, Mintun MA, Morris JC, Holtzman DM.](#) (2007) Cerebrospinal fluid tau/beta-amyloid₄₂ ratio as a prediction of cognitive decline in nondemented older adults. *Arch Neurol.*, 64(3):343-9.

Hu Y, Hosseini A, Kauwe JSK, Gross J, Cairns NJ, Goate AM, Fagan AM, Townsend RR, Holtzman DM. (2007) Identification and validation of novel CSF biomarkers for early stages of Alzheimer's disease. *Clinical Proteomics*, in press.

[Kauwe JS, Jacquart S, Chakraverty S, Wang J, Mayo K, Fagan AM, Holtzman DM, Morris JC, Goate AM.](#) (2007) Extreme cerebrospinal fluid amyloid beta levels identify family with late-onset Alzheimer's disease presenilin 1 mutation. *Ann Neurol.*, 61:446-53.

[Wahrle SE, Shah AR, Fagan AM, Smemo S, Kauwe JS, Grupe A, Hinrichs A, Mayo K, Jiang H, Thal LJ, Goate AM, Holtzman DM.](#) (2007) Apolipoprotein E levels in cerebrospinal fluid and the effects of ABCA1 polymorphisms. *Mol Neurodegener.*, Apr 12;2:7.

Grant Awards

As a supplement to the Adult Children Study, a grant (P01AG026276) in the amount of \$754,508 for three years was awarded to the Amyloid-Beta Metabolism in Familial Adult Children Study. The goal of this project, for which Dr. Randall Bateman serves as the principal investigator, is to develop a Familial Adult Children Study cohort of individuals with dominantly-inherited AD.

Other Awards

Dr. Anne Fagan and her colleagues wrote a paper (see reference below) about PIB/CSF that, amidst fierce competition, won the award for "highest impact" paper in 2006/2007 from the Annals of Neurology journal. Dr. Dave Holtzman will accept the plaque on behalf of the authors at the American Neurological Association meeting in October.

[Fagan AM, Mintun MA, Mach RH, Lee S-Y, Dence CS, Shah AR, LaRossa G, Spinner ML, Klunk WE, Mathis CA, DeKosky ST, Morris JC, Holtzman DM.](#) Inverse relation between *in vivo* amyloid imaging load and CSF Ab₄₂ in humans, *Ann. Neurol.*, 2006, 59:512-519.

Anniversaries

Dr. John Morris, director of the ADRC, celebrates 25 years with Washington University.

Department News Continued...

Adult Epilepsy

Dr. Edward R. Hogan

The Adult Epilepsy Center would like to welcome Heather Grogan. Heather is the Inpatient Admission /Outpatient Procedure Coordinator for the Adult Epilepsy Center. Heather is a graduate of the University of Phoenix where she received her Master's degree in education; she also is a graduate of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville where she received her Bachelor's degree in psychology. Her training as a medical assistant was completed through the United States Air Force. She has over 17 years experience in the medical field, prior to joining the Adult Epilepsy Center.

Samiya Rashid, DO joined the program as an assistant professor and attending physician. Dr. Rashid joins the program after completing a two year fellowship in epilepsy at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Rashid will be seeing outpatients in the Center for Advanced Medicine and rotating through as attending physician in the epilepsy monitoring unit.

In September, Dr. Kelly Brown closed her practice within the Epilepsy Section of the Department, and moved back with her family to Pennsylvania. The epilepsy section wishes her well, as she and her husband move back to their home state to be closer to their extended families.

Business Office

Tom Giandinoto
Marianne Blankenship-

The Neurology Business Office has completed its move back to the Medical School campus. Patient accounts, purchasing, grants and personnel are now located on the third floor in the McMillan Building.

Pediatric Neurology

Dr. Michael Noetzel—

Department News-Pediatric and Developmental Neurology

Ed Trevathan, M.D., former Director of the Division sends his warm regards to all from Atlanta. As you probably know, Ed has settled in as Director of the National Center of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta.

On September 8, 2007, Brad Schlaggar, M.D., Ph.D. received a special humanitarian award

from the National Tourette Syndrome Association. Earlier this year Dr. Schlaggar received a grant from the TSA to study the functional connectivity of executive control networks in patients with Tourette Syndrome.

The Faculty Practice Plan Board recently awarded the Neurology Outpatient Clinic area at St. Louis Children's Hospital an honorable mention for highest patient satisfaction scores for a large clinical site.

NNICU

Dr. Michael Diring—

Raj Dhar MD, FRCPC was awarded a grant from the Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation. The \$100,000 award will his effort to carry out a study of the Effect of red blood cell transfusion on brain metabolism in patients with subarachnoid hemorrhage.

Michael Diring, MD has received subspecialty certification in Vascular Neurology.

Avi Mazumdar, MD joined us this July to begin fellowship training in Neurocritical Care. No stranger to Washington University, Avi completed a fellowship in Interventional Neuroradiology in the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology and now seeks to expand his clinical expertise.

Neuro-Immunology

Dr. Anne Cross-

The MS Section welcomes Junqian "Gordon" Xu, PhD, who began September 1 as a post-doctoral fellow. Gordon is a physical chemist and expert in human diffusion tensor imaging. He will study patients with transverse myelitis and optic neuritis, in an attempt to better understand pathophysiology and predict outcomes.

Sleep Center

Dr. Stephen Duntley-

We are proud to announce that Michelle Epperson from the Sleep Medicine Center was named the Star Performer for the Month of September. Michelle does an outstanding job here at the Sleep Center and we all congratulate her on being named a Star Performer.

A Certificate of Distinction was awarded to the Sleep Medicine Center front desk and scheduling staff for achieving 100% documentation of notice of privacy practice (NPP) for the past 10 months. Our congratulation to Lynn Calvird, Diane Brumfield, Nancy Ogle, and Marilyn Gleason for a job well done.

HIPAA

To Physicians who use an Electronic Medical Record keeping system for patient notes

HIPAA requires that computers be locked when a physician or user leaves the room

DURING THE DAY, IF YOU NEED TO LEAVE THE ROOM, YOU NEED TO LOCK YOUR COMPUTER BY:

HOLD DOWN THE "CONTROL AND ALT" BUTTONS AND AT THE SAME TIME, HIT THE "DELETE" KEY.

YOU WILL GET A SCREEN THAT LETS YOU LOCK YOUR COMPUTER BY HITTING THE "K" KEY.

AT THE END OF THE DAY,
PLEASE "LOG OFF"
DO NOT "LOCK"
DO NOT "SHUT DOWN"

Thank you,
Shirley Moore
Neurology/HIPAA Privacy Liaison
by e-mail at moores@neuro.wustl.edu
by phone at 747-0532 <http://hipaa.wustl.edu>

Congratulations !!!
to resident
Rawan Tarawneh, MD
for receiving the highest
score in the nation on the
PGY2 RITE Exam!!!
Her percentile was 100%

**Dr. Tarawneh would like to
thank the Neurology faculty
for their tremendous
support and dedication to
teaching!**

EDUCATION

Resident Updates—

Carol Lane—

Neurology Residency Coordinator

We are in the process of reviewing Neurology applicant applications. So far we have received 283 applications. The first interview date is scheduled for November 13. Any Neurology faculty or fellows who are interested in attending lunch with our applicants should contact Carol Lane, lanec@neuro.wustl.edu or 362-3296.

Medical Student Updates—

Pre-Clinical Neurological Education

Dr. Allyson Zazulia
Coursemaster—

Please join me in congratulating Diego Torres-Russotto for receiving a Distinguished Service Teaching Award from the medical school class of 2009 for his teaching efforts in Diseases of the Nervous System this past year. Congratulations! ¡Felicitaciones!

Thank you for your responses to the request for preceptors for the 2nd year medical student neurology patient sessions that run between January and March 2008. We have now filled all slots. All faculty members should have recently received an email from one of our Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN) members, Ariel Lyons-Warren, regarding a shadowing program. As part of this program, interested 1st and 2nd year Wash U medical students and pre-medical students at the

Wash U undergrad campus who are considering a career in the neurosciences will be matched with a preceptor in their field of interest. If you are willing to have a student shadow you for a morning or afternoon in clinic or on rounds, please respond to Ariel (warrena@wustl.edu). All participating stu-

dents will have completed necessary HIPAA training and all undergrad students will have also signed a confidentiality agreement, which I will verify prior to their assignment.

Dr. Robert Naismith Coursemaster— 3rd Year Neurology Clerkship

Please help us make this another year of success by being available to the students while they are on the floor and seeing patients for the first time. Although we are all busy, the students really appreciate the personalized attention they receive on our service.

Again thank you for your cooperation and efforts that continue to make this department successful in educating each and every student that comes through, as thoroughly as possible.

For questions regarding the clerkship, please contact Michelle Aubuchon at abuchonm@neuro.wustl.edu

CONGRATULATIONS!!!! **Distinguished Service Teaching Awards:**

**Allyson Zazulia, MD—Neurology
Second Year Distinguished Service Teaching Award:**

**Diego Torres-Russotto, MD—
Neurology**

**Third Year Awards
Distinguished Service – Resident of the Year Awards:**

Manu Goyal, MD - Neurology

*For Academic Year 2006-07
as voted by 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-
year medical students*

DSTA Ceremony: Thursday, November 8, 2007 at 5:15 p.m.

*Reception follows at 6:15 p.m.
Eric P. Newman Education Center
(EPNEC) Main Auditorium & Atrium
Lobby*

IT & HELP DESK

To contact the IT help desk,

- call 747-1165,
- send an e-mail to neurosupport@neuro.wustl.edu or
- visit their website at <http://neusupport.wustl.edu>

Touchworks

For Neurology physicians who use Touchworks (Allscripts) to prescribe medications.

Touchworks does not have the ability to let you know that your license or DEA have expired except when you try to create a prescription after the expired date. Touchworks will give you an error message stating you don't have the proper license to prescribe medications.

If your license or DEA are being renewed, please send me the new expiration date and I will contact the Touchworks helpdesk to update your profile. It would be helpful to get the license and DEA expira-

tion date before they actually expire in Touchworks so you can continuously prescribe medications.

If someone calls you to say that your documents are printing on the printer in their area, will you please ask them the name and IP address of the printer that the documents printed on? In order to find out what is causing this the FPP helpdesk needs:

1. the person who printed the document
2. the document type
3. the name and IP address of the printer the document should have printed to
4. the name and IP address of the printer the

document printed to the contact person and phone number in the other department that contacted you to let you know your documents are printing on their printer.

Contact Information:

Shirley Moore
747-0532
Moores@neuro.wustl.edu

Jami Papenberg;
362-3281
Papenbergj@neuro.wustl.edu

GRANTS

Randall Bateman
NIH – K23
AV and Proteomic Analysis of CSF in AD and Aging
9/1/07-5/31/11

David Clifford
University of Missouri
Functional Neuroimaging of Cognitive Dysfunction in HIV/HCV
9/1/07-8/31/08

Christina Gurnett
Children's Discovery Institute
Genetic Etiology of Musculoskeletal Diseases
2/1/07-1/31/08

David Holtzman
NIH – T32 (competing renewal)
Nervous System Development & Injury
7/1/07-6/30/12

David Holtzman
American Federation for Aging Research
Peptide Mimetic Therapeutic Agents for Blocking the
Apolipoprotein E/AB Interaction
8/1/07-7/30/09

David Holtzman
American Health Assistance Foundation
Role of APOE in Neurodegeneration
4/1/07-3/31/08

Da Yong Lee
Children's Tumor Foundation
The differential Impact of NF1 Loss on Brain Region-Specific Neural Stem Cells
7/1/07-6/30/09

Robert Naismith
NIH – K23
Diffusion Imaging of Axonal Loss in the Optic Nerves
8/1/07-7/31/12

Michael Wong
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
Rational Therapy for Neurological Manifestations in a Mouse Model
7/1/07-6/30/10

We still do not have a clean report on anniversary dates for the department. We greatly apologize for the discrepancies and are actively pursuing a solution to the problem. We will be sure to get the anniversary dates posted on the online Newsletter as soon as possible and are working to prevent future complications.

Thank you so much for your patience with this issue!

Marianne Blankenship
and
Laura Colvin



Dear Neurology Faculty, Fellows, Residents and Staff—

As always we are pleased to hear so many positive comments following the distribution of the previous newsletters and welcome further comments and suggestions for future issues.

Thank you so much.

Michelle Aubuchon

Washington University
Department of Neurology Newsletter
Attention: Michelle Aubuchon
660 South Euclid Ave.
Campus Box 8111
St. Louis Mo 63110
Phone: 314-362-7177
Fax: 314-362-2826
E-mail: aubuchonm@neuro.wustl.edu

