

# CHICAGO'S 10TH ANNUAL ADVANCES IN EPILEPSY AND EEG - A HYBRID CME PROGRAM

MAY 8-9, 2026

Northwestern Medicine Prentice Women's Hospital  
250 E. Huron Street  
Third Floor, Conference Room L South  
Chicago, Illinois  
(Cocktail Reception: Friday, May 8, 6:15-8:00 pm)

**Offering CME and ASET**

*Sponsored by Northwestern Medicine and the  
Northwestern Medicine Comprehensive Epilepsy Center*



# Chicago's 10th Annual Advances in Epilepsy and EEG - A Hybrid CME Program

**Course Directors:** Linda C. Laux, MD, Stephan U. Schuele, MD, MPH, and Stephen A. VanHaerents, MD

Epilepsy is undergoing a transformative evolution—driven by breakthroughs in genetics and surgical innovation. Today, genetic testing is unlocking new insights into the underlying causes of epilepsy in both pediatric and adult populations, paving the way for precision medicine approaches that are reshaping diagnosis and treatment. Meanwhile, advances in functional neurosurgery are expanding possibilities for care.

Join Northwestern and Chicago-area faculty as they welcome both locally and nationally renowned guest speakers to participate in two days of engaging and thoughtful discussion as we delve into the latest developments shaping the future of epilepsy management. Be part of a dynamic educational experience that will deepen your understanding and enhance your clinical practice in epilepsy care.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

After attending this educational activity, participants should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the importance of semiology to diagnose paroxysmal disorders.
2. Identify patients who may benefit from epilepsy surgery close to functional cortex.
3. Discuss the risk and benefits of minimally invasive epilepsy surgery compared to a conventional approach.
4. Compare inflammatory and genetic etiologies of epilepsy and novel treatment approaches.
5. Apply evidence-based approaches to complex epilepsy cases through interactive discussion to enhance clinical competence.
6. Integrate knowledge of inflammatory and genetic mechanisms into individualized epilepsy treatment plans.
7. Interpret emerging evidence on inflammatory and genetic mechanisms in epilepsy to inform clinical decisions.

For more information, please contact **Tiffany McReynolds**, Continuing Medical Education Program Manager, [Tiffany.McReynolds@nm.org](mailto:Tiffany.McReynolds@nm.org).

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## Program Course Directors

### **Linda C. Laux, MD**

*Associate Division Head, Neurology  
Section Head, Lurie Children's  
Epilepsy Center  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie  
Children's Hospital of Chicago  
Lorna S. and James P. Langdon Chair in  
Pediatric Neurology  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
(Neurology and Epilepsy)  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine*

### **Stephan U. Schuele, MD, MPH**

*Division Chief, Epilepsy and  
Clinical Neurophysiology  
Medical Director,  
Neurological Testing Center  
Professor of Neurology and  
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine*

### **Stephen A. VanHaerents, MD**

*Associate Professor of Neurology  
(Epilepsy/Clinical Neurophysiology),  
Medical Education and Neurology  
(Neuro-infectious Disease and  
Global Neurology)  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine*

# Agenda

## Friday, May 8

### Resective Surgery in Eloquent Cortex Epilepsies

Chairs: *Jason K. Hsieh, MD, Stephan U. Schuele, MD, MPH, and James Tao, MD, PhD*

**1:30 pm**      **Registration and Welcome Reception**

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**2:20 pm**      **Welcome and Introduction**

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**2:30 pm**      **Functional Anatomy: Cortical and Subcortical Mapping**

*Jason K. Hsieh, MD*

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**3:00 pm**      **Surgical Approaches**

*Jorge A. González-Martínez, MD, PhD*

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**4:00 pm**      **Break**

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**4:15pm**      **Intracranial Mapping**

*Stephan U. Schuele, MD, MPH*

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**4:45 pm**      **Postoperative Syndromes and Recovery**

*Matthew C. Tate, MD, PhD*

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**5:15 pm**      **Panel Discussion: What Would You Do?**

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**5:45 pm**      **Adjournment**

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**6:15-8 pm**      **Cocktail Reception**

*D4 Irish Pub & Café (345 E. Ohio Street)*

# Agenda

## Saturday, May 9

### Novel and Emerging Therapies and Causes

Chairs: *Aaron F. Struck, MD, Thomas P. Bleck, MD, and Linda C. Laux, MD*

8:15 am	<b>Breakfast</b>
8:55 am	<b>Session Introduction</b>
9:00 am	<b>Stem Cell Therapy for Focal Epilepsy</b> <i>R. Edward Hogan, MD</i>
9:30 am	<b>Genetic Regulation Therapies (ASO, ABB Vector Studies)</b> <i>Linda C. Laux, MD</i>
10:00 am	<b>Immunotherapeutics for NORSE</b> <i>Stephen A. VanHaerents, MD</i>
10:30 am	<b>Break</b>
10:45 am	<b>Thalamic Stimulation</b> <i>Sandipan Pati, MD</i>
11:30 am	<b>Nonpharmacologic Treatment for Status</b> <i>Thomas P. Bleck, MD</i>
12:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>

### Mimics of Epilepsy

Chairs: *Stephen A. VanHaerents, MD, Douglas R. Nordli, Jr., MD, and Antoaneta J. Balabanov, MD*

1:00 pm	<b>Psychogenic Seizures and Ictal Psychiatric Symptoms</b> <i>Adriana C. Bermeo-Ovalle, MD</i>
1:30 pm	<b>Sleep-Related Paroxysmal Disorders Mimicking Epilepsy</b> <i>Hrayr P. Attarian, MD</i>
2:00 pm	<b>Paroxysmal Movement Disorders Mimicking Epilepsy</b> <i>Niccolo E. Mencacci, MD, PhD</i>
2:30 pm	<b>Break</b>
2:45 pm	<b>Behavioral Stereotypies in Children</b> <i>Joshua B. Ewen, MD, FANA, FACNS, and Douglas R. Nordli, Jr., MD</i>
3:15 pm	<b>Case Presentation by Fellows</b>
3:45 pm	<b>Closing Comments</b>
4:00 pm	<b>Adjournment</b>



# Program Faculty

**Hrayr P. Attarian, MD**

*Medical Director  
Northwestern Medicine Center for  
Sleep Health  
Professor of Neurology  
(Sleep Medicine)  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine*

**Antoaneta Balabanov, MD**

*Professor, Rush Medical College  
Chief, Division of Epilepsy  
Department of Neurological Sciences  
Rush University Medical Center*

**Adriana Bermeo-Ovalle, MD**

*Vice Chairperson, Faculty Affairs  
Professor, Department of  
Neurological Sciences  
Rush University Medical Center  
Epilepsy Division  
Medical Director, Laboratory of  
Electroencephalography  
Rush University Systems for Health*

**Thomas P. Bleck, MD**

*Senior Editor, Critical Care Medicine  
Founding Past President, The  
Neurocritical Care Society  
Director, Neurocritical Care Fellowship  
Professor of Neurology (Epilepsy/  
Clinical Neurophysiology and  
Neurocritical Care)  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine  
Emeritus Professor of Neurological  
Sciences, Neurosurgery, Medicine and  
Anesthesiology  
Rush Medical College*

**Joshua B. Ewen, MD, FANA, FACNS**

*Chief, Developmental Behavioral  
Pediatrics  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's  
Hospital of Chicago  
Professor of Pediatrics  
(Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics)  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine*

**Jorge A. González-Martínez, MD, PhD**

*Stuart Niles Rowe Professor  
Vice-Chair, Department of  
Neurological Surgery  
Director, Epilepsy & Movement  
Disorders Program  
Co-Director, University of Pittsburgh  
Epilepsy Center  
Director, Cortical Systems Laboratory  
University of Pittsburgh*

**R. Edward Hogan, MD**

*Professor of Neurology  
(Adult Epilepsy)  
WashU Medicine*

**Jason K. Hsieh, MD**

*Assistant Professor of  
Neurological Surgery  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine*

**Niccolo E. Mencacci, MD, PhD**

*Assistant Professor of Neurology  
Director, Movement Disorders  
Genetics Program  
Department of Neurology  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine*

**Douglas R. Nordli, Jr., MD**

*Professor and Chief of  
Pediatric Neurology  
Co-Director, Comprehensive  
Epilepsy Center  
The University of Chicago Medicine*

**Sandipan Pati, MD**

*Professor of Neurology  
University of Minnesota*

**Aaron F. Struck, MD**

*Associate Professor of Neurology  
Inaugural Chair of Epilepsy  
Barnes Jewish Foundation  
Section Head  
Washington University in St. Louis*

**James Tao, MD, PhD**

*Director of Neurophysiology and  
Epilepsy  
Adult Epilepsy Center  
Professor of Neurology  
University of Chicago  
Pritzker School of Medicine*

**Matthew C. Tate, MD, PhD**

*Associate Professor of Neurological  
Surgery and Neurology  
Director, Northwestern Low Grade  
Glioma Program  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine*

## Program Location

The program will be held at **Northwestern Medicine Prentice Women's Hospital**, 250 E. Superior Street, Third Floor, Conference Room L South, Chicago, IL.

## Directions and Parking

Please visit our website at [nm.org](https://nm.org) for directions to the conference. We offer discounted parking in the garage just south of Northwestern Medicine Prentice Women's Hospital at 222 E. Huron Street.

## Hotel Accommodations

We have arranged a room block with discounted rates at the Hyatt Centric Magnificent Mile, conveniently located on Northwestern's campus. To make a hotel reservation, please visit [this link](#). We encourage you to secure your reservations as soon as possible to ensure availability.

## Audience

Neurologists, neurosurgeons, pediatricians, genetic counselors, epilepsy specialists and other healthcare professionals involved in epilepsy care, including advanced practice providers (APPs), nurses and EEG techs. Be part of a dynamic educational experience that will deepen your understanding and enhance your clinical practice in epilepsy care.

## Registration Fees

### *In-Person Attendance*

Attending physician: \$140

APP, RN or tech: \$60

Trainee, student or Northwestern faculty/employee: \$0

### *Virtual Attendance*

Attending physician: \$100

APP, RN or tech: \$25

Trainee, student or Northwestern faculty/employee: \$0

## Registration Procedure

To register online, please visit [here](#). If paying with check, please mail your check, made payable to Northwestern Memorial Hospital (CME), to the address listed below.

Tiffany McReynolds  
C/o Northwestern Memorial HealthCare  
541 N. Fairbanks Court, Suite 950  
Chicago, IL 60611

## Cancellations/Refunds

Cancellations must be made in writing to [tiffany.mcreynolds@nm.org](mailto:tiffany.mcreynolds@nm.org). The registration fee will be refunded if cancellation is received on or before **April 24**. No refunds will be issued after this date.

## Accreditation Statement

The Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

## Credit Designation Statement

The Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of *8.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## ASET

The Neurodiagnostic Society has granted ASET Continuing Education Units [ASET-CEUs] for this program. Such crediting, however, should not be construed by program participants as an endorsement of any type of instruments or supplies mentioned or involved in these presentations.



