



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

MAY 8-9, 2026

Integrate knowledge of inflammation and genetic mechanisms into individualized epilepsy treatment programs

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).

## 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**

**2:20 pm      Welcome and Introduction**

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

*Jason K. Hsieh, MD*

**3:00 pm      Surgical Approaches**

*Jorge A. González-Martínez, MD, PhD*

**4:00 pm      Break**

**4:15pm      Intracranial Mapping**

*Stephan U. Schuele, MD, MPH*

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

*Matthew C. Tate, MD, PhD*

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

**5:45 pm      Adjournment**

**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>Immunotherapy 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>Niccolò 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

## **Hayr 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](http://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)™*. 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.

