SEMINAR REPORT

NEUROLOGY

March 5-11, 2023

A Global Educational Initiative by the American Austrian Foundation
34 fellows from 25 countries

13 faculty members from the USA and Austria

34 fellows’ case presentations

20 didactic lectures

6 excellent case presentations

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<th>Sunday, March 5 – Saturday, March 11, 2023</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday</strong> 05.03.2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>07:00 - 08:00 Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:00 - 09:00 Introductions</td>
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<td>09:00 - 10:00 ALS – Update 2023</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:30 COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<td>10:30 - 11:30 Migraine Update</td>
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<td>11:30 - 12:30 Headache and Stroke</td>
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<td>12:30 - 14:00 LUNCH</td>
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<td>14:00 - 15:00 Status Epilepticus: What Is New in 2023</td>
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<td>15:00 - 16:00 Workshop How to Present a Case</td>
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<td>16:00 - 17:00 Workshop Case Presentations by Faculty to Fellows</td>
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<td>18:00 - 19:00 FACULTY MEETING TO REVIEW THE WEEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00 - 20:00 WELCOME RECEPTION &amp; DINNER</td>
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<td>20:00 - 21:00 20:30 - 21:30 CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT</td>
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<td><strong>Monday</strong> 06.03.2023</td>
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<td>07:00 - 08:00 BREAKFAST</td>
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<td>08:00 - 09:00 MS and Related Disorders</td>
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<td>09:00 - 10:00 Alzheimer Disease</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:30 COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<td>10:30 - 11:30 Treatment of MS</td>
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<td>11:30 - 12:30 Newly Diagnosed Epilepsies: A Practical Approach</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday</strong> 07.03.2023</td>
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<td>07:00 - 08:00 BREAKFAST</td>
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<td>08:00 - 09:00 Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders</td>
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<td>09:00 - 10:00 Functional Seizures and Neurological Symptoms</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:30 COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<td>10:30 - 11:30 Update Neurointervention</td>
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<td>14:00 - 15:00 Stroke: Venous Infarction</td>
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<td>07:00 - 08:00 BREAKFAST</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:00 - 09:00 Autoimmune Encephalitis</td>
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<td>08:00 - 09:00 Toxic/Metabolic Disorders</td>
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Matthew E. Fink, MD, FAAN, FAHA, FANA is currently the Louise and Gertrude Feil Professor and Chairman of the Department of Neurology at the Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell University. In addition, he is Co-Director of the Sackler Brain and Spine Institute at New York Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center and Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs at Weill Cornell Medicine. Prior to joining the faculty of Cornell, Dr. Fink served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Beth Israel Medical Center in New York, as well as Chairman of the Barbara and Alan Mirken Department of Neurology, Director of the Comprehensive Stroke Center, and Co-Director of the Hyman-Newman Institute for Neurology and Neurosurgery. He was Professor of Clinical Neurology and Clinical Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University. Dr. Fink attended college at the University of Pennsylvania, medical school at the University of Pittsburgh, and served as resident and chief resident in internal medicine at the Boston City Hospital. He came to New York and trained in neurology at the Neurological Institute of New York/Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and served as chief resident under Dr. Lewis P. Rowland. Subsequently, he joined the faculty of Columbia University and became the founding director of the Neurology-Neurosurgery Intensive Care Unit at New York Presbyterian Hospital and was appointed Associate Professor of Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery while at Columbia. Dr. Fink was a founding member and chairman of the Critical Care Section of the American Academy of Neurology, and the Research Section for Neurocritical Care of the World Federation of Neurology. He is board-certified in internal medicine, neurology, critical care medicine, vascular neurology and neurocritical care. Throughout his career, Dr. Fink has been involved in the education and training of students, residents, and fellows in the field of stroke and critical care neurology, as well as an active participant in clinical research within this field. He is a leader in this new specialty, has lectured widely, and has published many research and clinical articles in the field of stroke and critical care. In addition, he currently serves as editor of the monthly publication, NEUROLOGY ALERT, and is the past President of the New York State Neurological Society.
Eugen Trinka, MD, MSc, FRCP
(Co-Course Director)

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Eugen Trinka, MD, MSc, FRCP is Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurology, Paracelsus Medical University, Christian Doppler University Hospital (CDK) and Head of the Neuroscience Institute of the Christian Doppler University Hospital in Salzburg, Austria. He qualified in Medicine at Vienna University in 1990 and undertook his postgraduate training in Salzburg before becoming a staff neurologist in 1998. In 2003, he was an Associate Professor of Neurology at the Innsbruck Medical University and then became Head of the Epilepsy Service at the Department of Neurology, University Hospital Innsbruck from 2004-2010. In April 2010, he was appointed as Chair of the Department for Neurology at the Christian Doppler Klink and Professor of Neurology at the Paracelsus Medical University Salzburg. His research interests include Epileptology (epidemiology, prognosis, pathophysiology, epilepsy surgery), clinical neurophysiology, functional neuroimaging, and clinical drug trials. Dr. Trinka holds an h-index of 70 and has published more than 600 original papers and book chapters. He is a member of the editorial board of several peer-reviewed journals. He is the Past-President of the Austrian Society for Neurology, the Austrian Society of Neurophysiology and the Austrian Epilepsy Society, and Executive Board Member of the International League Against Epilepsy. He is also President of the Salzburg Medical Society.
Stanley H. Appel, MD

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Houston Methodist Research Institute
Director, MDA/ALSA ALS Research and Clinical Center
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Stanley H. Appel, MD is the Director of the Johnson Center for Cellular Therapeutics, and the Peggy and Gary Edwards Distinguished Endowed Chair in ALS Research at Houston Methodist Hospital, and Professor of Neurology at Weill Cornell Medicine. He was previously Chief of the Neurology division and the James B. Duke Professor of Medicine at Duke University Medical Center, followed by Chair of the Department of Neurology at Baylor College of Medicine and Chair of the Stanley H. Appel Department of Neurology at Houston Methodist. Dr. Appel received his bachelor’s degree at Harvard University and his medical degree from Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. He is Emeritus member of the Board of Directors for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Chair of the Research Advisory Committee, and a member of the Board of Directors of ALS Therapy Development Institute. He is Director of the MDA/ALSA ALS Research and Clinical Center at Houston Methodist Neurological Institute, and past Director of the National Institute of Aging Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center. He is the author of 15 published books and over 450 articles on ALS, neuromuscular disease, Alzheimer disease, and Parkinson’s disease. He has received numerous awards for his accomplishments in Neurology and Biochemistry, including the Gold Medal Award from Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons for “Distinguished Achievements in Medicine”, the Sheila Essey Award from the American Academy of Neurology for “outstanding research in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis”, the Norris Award from the Alliance of ALS/MND Associations, and the Houston Academy of Medicine John P. McGovern Compleat Physician Award. Research in Dr. Appel’s laboratory has focused on the role of neuroinflammation in neurodegenerative diseases. In Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Parkinson Disease and Alzheimer Disease, neuroprotective regulatory T lymphocytes (Treg) are dysfunctional, and activated macrophages/microglia promote neuroinflammation. Expansion of Tregs ex vivo restores the suppressive functions and has formed the basis of two clinical trials of autologous infusions of expanded Tregs. Each of these trials has indicated a promising benefit of Treg therapy.
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Julia Hoefler, MD is a neurologist who specializes in epilepsy and functional seizures. Dr. Hoefler grew up in Tyrol, Austria and completed her undergraduate studies at commercial academy in Wörgl, Tyrol. She graduated from “Leopold Franzens” University Innsbruck, Austria, University School of Medicine and started her neurology residency at the Department of Neurology, Medical University of Innsbruck and at the Department of Neurology, Christian Doppler University Hospital, Paracelsus Medical University Salzburg, Austria. Dr. Hoefler’s research interests include outcome, comorbidities, and myoclonic status epilepticus in Juvenile myoclonic epilepsy syndrome, medical treatment of status epilepticus and therapy, and diagnosis of functional non-epileptic seizures. Recent publications include a multicentre, international study about the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on characteristics of functional seizures in Epilepsy and Behaviour. Dr. Hoefler is currently working at the Department of Neurology, Christian-Doppler-Klinik, Paracelsus Medical University Salzburg as an Assistant Professor of Neurology. She lives in Hallein, close to Salzburg, with her husband and two children.
Dara G. Jamieson, MD

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Dara G. Jamieson, MD received her medical education at the University of Pennsylvania and completed her neurology residency and cerebrovascular fellowship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. After a specialization in stroke and headache medicine, she came to New York Presbyterian Hospital to join the Stroke and Headache Center. She is currently teaching at Weill Cornell Medicine, as well as doing medical writing, editing, and consulting. Areas of interest include stroke in patients with chronic headache disorders such as migraines; stroke in women, who may be at increased stroke risk because of headaches, cardiac disease, or pregnancy; and clinical neuroimaging.
Monika Killer-Oberpfalzer, MD

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Monika Killer-Oberpfalzer, MD is a fully trained neurosurgeon who is specialized in neurointerventional therapy. Her clinical skills and scientific interests are focused on diagnosis and treatment of cerebrovascular diseases and spinal vascular malformations. Dr. Killer grew up in Vienna, Austria and graduated in 1993 with an MD from the University of Vienna Medical School. She received her license as a specialist in neurosurgery from the Austrian Medical Chamber in 1999, and her International Master (MSc) for Neurovascular Diseases in 2002 from Université Paris Sud-Faculté de Médecine de Bicêtre. Since 2004, Dr. Killer has been the attending Neurointerventionalist at the Christian Doppler Clinic in Salzburg, Austria, Paracelsus Medical University. From 2005 to 2010, she was the head of the Division Experimental Neurointervention of the Neuroscience Institute Salzburg (Dr. Gunther Ladurner). Dr. Killer's research interests include new interventional therapies of cerebral aneurysms and stroke. She is a peer reviewer for multiple international journals such as Stroke, AJNR, Neuroradiology and Acta Neurochirurgica. Since 2009, Dr. Killer is an associate professor in neurointervention at Paracelsus Medical University Salzburg and since 2011, she has been the head of the Research Institute of Neurointervention at the Department of Neurology, Paracelsus Medical University (Dr. Eugen Trinka). Since 2016, she has been a fulltime Professor for Clinical Neurosciences at Paracelsus Medical University.
Stefan Leis, MD, MME

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Stefan Leis, MD, MME is an associate professor and senior consultant at the University Clinic of Neurology in Salzburg, where he is responsible for the early-phase neurorehabilitation and for the outpatient pain clinic. He studied medicine at the Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg in Germany. After receiving his medical degree, he started working as a house physician in the Department of Neurology at the University Hospital Erlangen. From 2000 to 2001, he worked as a medical resident in the collaborative research center “pathobiology of pain” at the Department of Physiology. He completed his specialist training in the Department of Neurology and in the Department of Psychiatry at the University Hospital Erlangen. In 2019, he received his Master of Medical Education (MME) degree at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. Dr. Leis is Vice President of the Austrian Headache Society, Deputy Chair of the pain study group of the Austrian Society of Neurology, member of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN) Scientific Panel Pain, board member of the Austrian Pain Society, and member of the German Pain Society. His research focuses on neurorehabilitation of vegetative state and spinal cord injury and on pain disorders like complex regional pain syndromes and neuropathic pain with special interest in the function of primary nociceptive afferents and distinct mechanisms of neuroinflammation.
Tobias Moser, MD, PhD

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Tobias Moser, MD, PhD is a clinical neurologist with special interests in neuroimmunology disorders. His research focuses on immune reconstitution treatment approaches in multiple sclerosis (MS), where he has extensively explored the modes of action of cladribine. Moreover, he has investigated the extent and duration of B-cell depletion medications and their impact on vaccination. He has also studied the course of the novel biomarker neurofilament light chain protein among different MS cohorts. Dr. Moser is involved in autoimmune encephalitis research and interested in other autoimmune disorders of the central nervous system. Lastly, he would like to focus more on the interactions between nutrition and brain functions, especially that of plant-based diets. He was born in Italy and has lived in Austria since 2009. Due to various experiences abroad, he speaks four languages.
Tamara Oberlader, MD is a young neurology resident with special interest in Parkinson’s Disease and movement disorders. Dr. Oberlader grew up in the western and mountainous part of Salzburg in a tiny village within a huge ski resort, then later moved to the capital of Tyrol to study at the Medical University of Innsbruck. Although she has always had an interest in neurology, her special interest in Parkinson’s Disease was sparked the year she did her clinical internship. In December 2020, she started her residency at the Department of Neurology at the Christian-Doppler Clinic in Salzburg, where she is learning everything about general neurology, but can also dive into her special interest, too. Besides Parkinson’s and other movement disorders, Dr Oberlader is keen on botulinum toxin injections, neuro-urology, and sports medicine such as diving medicine. As an observer in the Gailtalklinik in Hermagor, she learned about advanced Parkinson’s Disease and its therapy options. Furthermore, she is part of the “Jungen Neurologen”, a network of young neurologists within Austria.
Jai S. Perumal, MD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurology and Neuroscience at Weill Cornell Medicine and Attending Neurologist at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medicine. She is also part of the clinical staff at the Judith Jaffe Multiple Sclerosis Center at NYPH/WC. She is a Feil Family Clinical Scholar in Multiple Sclerosis at Weill Cornell Medicine. She is board certified in neurology and has additional specialized training in demyelinating disorders including multiple sclerosis. Dr. Perumal received her medical degree from Stanley Medical College which is one of the top medical schools in India. She completed her internship in internal medicine and residency in neurology at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. She was Chief Resident in neurology. She then completed her two-year fellowship in clinical neuro-immunology including multiple sclerosis at Wayne State University. She is a recipient of the Sylvia Lawry Fellowship of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. She has presented at several neurology meetings and conferences and has published in peer reviewed journals. Dr. Perumal's research interests include studying disease phenotypes in MS and MS variants including devic's disease or neuromyelitis optica, central nervous system manifestations of other autoimmune diseases like SLE, sarcoidosis and MS therapeutics and ethnic influences on disease characteristics.
Cornelia Roesler, MD is a neurologist who specializes in cerebrovascular disease and neurological intensive care medicine. Dr. Roesler grew up in Vorarlberg, the westernmost region of Austria. After graduating from Innsbruck Medical University, she started her neurological residency in Vorarlberg. In 2013, she moved to Salzburg to complete her residency at the Neurological Department of the Paracelsus Medical University Hospital, Christian Doppler Clinic. Throughout her residency, she focused on the treatment and prevention of cerebrovascular disease. Her main field of research is the use of loop recorders in detecting atrial fibrillation in patients with embolic stroke of undetermined source. She completed additional training as a neurointensivist in 2019 and has been one of the attending physicians at the Neurointensive Care Unit of the Christian Doppler Clinic's Department of Neurology ever since. She implemented intensive care patient diaries as a valuable tool in helping patients and their relatives come to terms with their experience in critical illness. Dr. Roesler is a member of the clinical ethics committee, an instrument to help other clinicians make therapeutic decisions in ethically challenging cases. Furthermore, she is currently completing her master's degree in medical law at the Danube University Krems. She lives in Salzburg with her partner Stefan and her son Johannes.
Peter Wipfler, MD

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Peter Wipfler, MD is a clinical neurologist who specializes in Neuroimmunology. His research focuses on pathophysiologic mechanisms of neuroimmunological disorders with particular interest in Multiple Sclerosis. His main aim is to develop and validate body fluid biomarkers for disease progression, different disease phases/stages, and response to disease modifying treatments. He lives in Salzburg city with his wife and three children.
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"It's a fantastic and rewarding experience to teach at the OMI and to engage with each other. Networking and long-standing relationships often evolve from the OMI programs."

Eugen Trinka, MD, MSc, FRCP
Neurology
One day I found myself sharing a lunch table with colleagues from all three Baltic states - Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. We were able to discuss similarities and differences in our medical systems and neurology training.

Katherine Dray, MD
OMI fellow from Estonia

These were the best neurology lectures I have ever heard in my life. Thanks to Dr. Perumal’s excellent lecture, I filled in some of the gaps in my understanding of the MS diagnosis. Dr. Hoeffer’s lecture on functional seizures and neurological symptoms generated one of the most engaging discussions, likely because the mechanisms’ underlying functional disorders are still poorly understood.

Mantas Jukubaitis, MD
OMI fellow from Lithuania

The whole OMI experience was fascinating. I enjoyed every lecture, learned a lot, and had the great opportunity to discuss and share experiences with colleagues from different countries. I would like to express my gratitude to the OMI for organizing such a marvelous educational event.

Tseki Hylle, MD
OMI fellow from Ethiopia
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