

ABN Trainees' Preview of the Birmingham 2018 ABN Meeting



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Ever since the Midlands enlightenment and subsequent Industrial revolution in the 18th century, Birmingham has been at the forefront of worldwide advances in science, technology, industry and economic development. Home of many inventions, including the steam engine and Xrays, Birmingham has become a large and diverse metropolis, earning the title of "the first manufacturing town in world" as early as 1791. Inspired by the industrious past and present of the city, the ABN returns to Birmingham's ICC, winner of the 2017 UK Best Conference Venue, for its 2018 ABN Annual Meeting with an innovative programme.

We start on the 8th of May with the ABN Trainees' Day which has been established as a major teaching and meeting day for neurology trainees across the UK. This year, we will address the topics that neurology trainees described as most difficult, starting with Referrals and Triage; four small group sessions will teach us how to better respond to A&E, ward and ITU referrals. We continue with a review of Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension by local expert Dr Alex Sinclair and a masterclass on How to approach the unconscious patient by Dr Robin Howard, an expert in neurocritical care. The day will finish with the Clinical skills laboratory: Keeping out of trouble with the clinical and managerial confessions of Prof Adrian Williams, chair of the National Neurological Advisory Group.

In parallel with the SpR session, medical students, foundation doctors and core medical trainees interested in neurology will have the opportunity to attend an excellent series of talks and case studies chaired by Chinar Osman, regional ABN Trainee representative. There will be insight into what neurologists do and where we fit in the wider neuro family, case studies on acute neurology, stroke and from the outpatient clinic as well as plenty of advice on how to pursue a career in neurology - encourage your junior colleagues to come along!

The pre-meeting day will finish with an evening

Research workshop where great speakers will share their insight on combining academic and clinical interests during and after neurology training. The main ABN meeting, running from 9th to 11th of May 2018, will have an equally interesting and full programme. The meeting will focus on areas of innovation in neurology including neuroinflammation, acute neurology, vascular neurology and genetics. Dr John Trojanowski of the University of Pennsylvania and Dr Bastiaan Bloem of Radboud University will deliver the Gordon Holmes and Practical Neurology Lectures respectively. With several parallel sessions, Special interest groups and posters covering the width and breadth of neurology, this year's ABN Annual Meeting will be one of the most industrious yet!

And after the first day of the meeting, time to relax and catch up with friends at the annual Trainees' Dinner; this year at the Bank restaurant, in the cosmopolitan Brindleyplace.

About Birmingham

The second largest city in the UK after London, Birmingham is a booming metropolis. Known for its industry and innovation, Birmingham is home to many attractions for those who have time to wander in between parallel sessions, lectures and posters.

Major tourist attractions include Back to Backs, a restored courtyard of 19th century working people's houses, the Birmingham library, the National Motorcycle Museum, the Barber Institute of Fine Arts and the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. Within walking distance from the conference venue, you can find the Symphony Hall, Victoria Square with one of the largest fountains in Europe known as "The River", the Gas street basin and Bingley Hall, the world's first purpose-built exhibition hall.

With such an excellent programme and venue, this year's meeting is promising to be one to remember; we would love to welcome everyone there.

New video guide to diagnosing Parkinson's disease

The Parkinson's Academy is working with Dr Frank Phelan, the 2017 MasterClass Project Award winner, to turn his video guide to diagnosis project into an interactive tool for clinicians. The MasterClass project is an integral part of the Parkinson's MasterClass which attendees undertake on a subject of interest within their own work setting. Frank decided to use his MasterClass project as an opportunity to create a resource which gives a description of the core features of Parkinson's disease and all of its mimics side by side, all supported by video clips demonstrating particular features. Not only is this an aid for the diagnosis of Parkinson's disease, but also helps with the subtle differentiation between the other possible mimics such as multisystem atrophy, progressive supranuclear palsy, dementia with Lewy bodies, corticobasilar degeneration and essential tremor.

Putting together a library of video clips was no mean feat, and Frank found it quite a challenge to source videos with the necessary permissions (from both the publishers and patients). However, Dr Neil Archibald has kindly volunteered his own video material and now the plans to take Frank's project to the next stage are going ahead. The Parkinson's Academy team is working on developing the video guide to diagnosis into a user friendly interactive tool, which clinicians can easily explore.

Read more about Frank Phelan's video guide to diagnosis project at <http://bit.ly/2DxWbLa>

See <http://parkinsonsacademy.co> for more information about the Parkinson's Academy.