

**25th Anniversary of the Division of Neuroimmunology and
Neurological Infections
Department of Neurology
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
September 25th and 26th, 2026**

**Scientific Symposium
Chevy Chase Auditorium
Johns Hopkins Hospital**

Friday, September 25th, 2026

8:30-8:45 am	Welcome & Introductions	
8:45-9:00 am	Justin McArthur, MD Chair, Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	Welcome Lecture “The Division of Neurology and Neurological Infections: A legacy of research and innovation”
9:00-9:15 am	Daniel S. Reich, MD, PhD Translational Neuroradiology Section, NINDS, National Institutes of Health	“From image to tissue to trial.”
9:15-9:30 am	Pavan Bhargava, MD Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	“Biological Aging in Multiple Sclerosis - from Biomarker to Therapeutic Target”
9:30-9:45 am	Jiwon Oh, MD, PhD Barlo Multiple Sclerosis Program, St. Michael’s Hospital & Keenan Research Centre of the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, University of Toronto, ON, CANADA	“Spinal cord imaging in MS” Jiwon
9:45-10:00 am	Daniel M. Harrison, MD Department of Neurology, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD	“Seeing Small is Big: High Resolution Brain and Retinal Imaging for MS”
10:00-10:15 am	Interactive Discussion	
10:15-10:30 am	Tea and coffee break	
10:30-10:45 am	Marjan Gharagozloo, PhD	“Targeting Innate Immune Pathways for the Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis”

	Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	
10:45-11:00 am	Sachin Gadani, MD, PhD Department of Neurology, University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA	"Beneficial Treg – glia interactions in multiple sclerosis".
11:00-11:15 am	Amanda Brown, PhD Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	"Osteopontin: A Multifaceted Host Response Functioning at Neuroimmune Interfaces"
11:15-11:30 am	Jennifer L. Orthmann- Murphy, MD, Ph.D. Department of Neurology Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA	"Glia as drivers of acquired and genetic neuroinflammatory disorders"
11:30-11:45 am	Michael D. Kornberg, MD, PhD Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	"Novel ways to target smoldering neuroinflammation in MS"
11:45-12:00 noon	Interactive Discussion	
12:00-1:10 pm	Lunch	
1:10-1:35 pm	Peter Calabresi, M.D. Professor and Chair, Department of Neurological Sciences, Larner College of Medicine, Burlington, VT	Founder Keynote Lecture: "Advancing Multiple Sclerosis Through Imaging, Fluid Biomarkers, and Animal Models: Reflections on 25 Years of Research".
1:35-1:45 pm	Interactive Discussion	
1:45-2:00 pm	Deanna Saylor, MD, MHS University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, NC	"Multiple Sclerosis in Sub- Saharan Africa: Absence of Data Does Not Indicate Absence of Disease".
2:00-2:15 pm	Maria Isabel-Reyes, MD Neuroimmunology and Neuroinfectious Diseases Program at Hospital Simón Bolívar, Subred Norte, Bogotá, Colombia	"From multiple sclerosis to neurological infections: the challenge of neuroimmunology in Latin America."
2:15-2:30 pm	Bardia Nourbakhsh, MD Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	"Not All Fatigue Is the Same: Phenotypes, Responders, and the Future of MS Fatigue Treatment"
2:30-2:45 pm	Ellen Mowry, MD	Tackling progression in MS

	Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	
2:45-3:00 pm	Interactive Discussion	
3:00-3:15 pm	Tea and coffee break	
3:15-3:30 pm	Kate Fitzgerald, PhD Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	"Precision Genomics for Predicting Outcomes and Discovering Therapeutic Targets in Multiple Sclerosis"
3:30-3:45 pm	Benjamin M. Greenberg, MD, MHS, Department of Neurology University of Texas Southwestern Dallas, TX	"Therapeutically Useful Antibodies Produced by Patients with Neuroimmunological Conditions"
3:45-4:00 pm	Elias Sotirchos, MD Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	"Preventing neuroinflammatory damage at the outset"
4:00-4:15 pm	Shiv Saidha, MBBCh, MD, MRCPI, Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	"Achieving remyelination in MS"
4:15-4:30 pm	Interactive Discussion	
4:30-5:15 pm	Future of Treatments in Neuroinflammation- A Round Table with Pharma	

Saturday, September 26th, 2026

8:00-8:30 am	Welcoming Tea & Coffee	
8:30-8:45 am	Scott Newsome, DO Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	"Establishing the world's largest SPS center."
8:45-9:00 am	Paula V. Barreras, MD Department of Neurology Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA	"The Evolving Understanding of Myelitis and Myelopathies"
9:00-9:15 am	Haiwen Chen, MD, PhD Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	"The pediatric landscape of myelitis and myelopathies"
9:15-9:30 am	Michael Levy, MD, PhD Mass General Hospital, Department of Neurology	"The evolving therapeutic landscape in NMOSD and MOGAD"

	Harvard School of Medicine, Boston, MA	
9:30-9:45 am	Interactive Discussion	
9:45-10:00 am	Tea and coffee break	
10:00-10:25 am	Avindra Nath, M.D. Clinical Director, Section of Infections of the Nervous System, Division of Neuroimmunology & Neurovirology, National Institutes of Health	Founder Keynote Lecture: “Emerging and Reemerging Neurological Infections: Lessons, Gaps, and Priorities”
10:25-10:35 am	Interactive Discussion	
10:35-10:50 am	Nicoline Schiess, MD, MPH Neurological, Sensory and Oral Conditions Unit Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health Department World Health Organization Geneva, Switzerland	“The landscape of encephalitis around the world: between infection and autoimmunity”
10:50-11:05 am	Ahmed AL Saadi, MD, FRCPC, CSCN Head of Neurology Unit, Sohar Hospital, Oman	"Neuroimmunology in the Middle East: Where Science Meets Complexity"
11:05-11:20 am	Tory P. Johnson, PhD Section of Infections of the Nervous System NINDS, National Institutes of Health	"Exploring triggering factors for autoimmune disorders: following after the Nodding Syndrome and autoimmune epilepsy"
11:20-11:35 am	Carlos A. Pardo, MD Department of Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	“From clinical phenotypes to mechanisms: 25 Years of Research in Neurosarcoidosis”
11:35-11:50 am	Interactive Discussion	
11:50-12:00 noon	Adjourn	