

76th Southern Neurosurgical Society Annual Meeting

March 11–14, 2026 | Rio Mar, Puerto Rico

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Thriving in Uncertainty: A Commitment to Excellence

President Adam Arthur, MD
Scientific Program Christopher Nickele, MD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

2:00–5:00 pm Registration Opens Rio Mar Ballroom Foyer
3:00–5:00 pm Executive Council Meeting Caribbean 3

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

7:00–7:30 am Registration; Attendee & Exhibitor Breakfast Rio Mar 1–5 & Foyer
7:30–7:40 am Meeting Welcome and Agenda Introduction Rio Mar 6–10
Adam Arthur and Christopher Nickele

Scientific Session I Spine and Peripheral Nerve

Moderators: Eric Nottmeier & William Mangham Rio Mar 6–10

7:40–7:50 am The True Advantages of Endoscopic Spine Surgery Mathew Gary
7:51–8:01 am Spinal Oncology Update Mike Galgano
8:02–8:12 am Deformity Principles for Non-deformity Surgeons Emil Pastrana-Ramirez
8:13–8:23 am Discussion
8:24–8:44 am Quality Tolerance in Board Certification: Russ Lonser
What Makes a Board-Certified Neurosurgeon?
8:45–9:00 am Interview and Q&A Session with Russ Lonser: Board Certification
Moderator: David Dornbos

9:00–9:30 am Refreshment Break with Exhibitors Rio Mar 1–5

Scientific Session II Best Paper Abstracts & Industry Presentations Non-CME

Moderators: Ricardo J. Fernández-de Thomas & Elizabeth Liptrap Rio Mar 6–10

9:30 am **Best Paper 1: McCravery Clinical Science Award Winner** | Efficacy of Pre-Radiosurgical Embolization for Brain Arteriovenous Malformations: A MISTA Consortium Analysis
Richard Cook, BS; Austin Tang, MD; Wen Li PhD; Hussein Zeineddine, MD; Spiros Blackburn, MD

9:35 am **Best Paper 2: McCravery Basic Science Award Winner** | RNA-Guided Exploration of Meningioma and Breast Cancer
Harsh P. Shah, MD, MPI; Yogesh Rakholia, BS; Hayden Dux, BS; Selvaraj Muthasamy, MBBS, PhD; Hope Richard, MD, PhD; Bhuvic Patel, MD; Albert Kim, MD, PhD; William Broaddus, MD, PhD

- 9:40 am Best Paper 3: Upper Instrumented Vertebra (UIV) Screw-Endplates, Screw-Rod Angles, and Association with Proximal Junctional Complications in Adult Spinal Deformity Surgery
Diego T. Soto Rubio, MD; Adrian Urdaneta, MD; Sawyer Bauer, MD; Patrick Kim, MD; Srujan Kopparapu, MD; Ahmad Alkadri, BS; Kiana J. Yeganeh, B.S.; Vito Evola, BS; Mark Greenberg, MD; Puya Alikhani, MD
- 9:45 am Discussion
- 9:50 am Best Paper 4: Impact of Preoperative Marijuana Use on Functional Recovery and Complications Following Spinopelvic Fusion in Adult Spinal Deformity
Mohsen Rostami, MD; Sadegh Bagherzadeh, MD; Diego Soto. Rubio, MD; P. Mitchell Johansen, MD; Gersham Rainone, MD; Puya Alikhani, MD
- 9:55 am Best Paper 5: Intraoperative 0.05% Chlorhexidine Gluconate Lavage for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infections in Lumbar Instrumented Fusions and Machine Learning Identification of Associated Risk Factors
Adriana S. Vazquez-Medina, MD; Gisela Murray Ortiz, MD; Gloria Carrasquillo, MS; Samuel Estronza Ojeda, MD; Aixa De Jesus Espinosa, MS, MPH; Esteban R. Rivera-Rivera, MD; Ashlie Maldonado, MD; Edward Garcia Lopez, BS; Abiel Roche, PhD; Emil A. Pastrana, MD
- 10:00 am Best Paper 6: Matrilin-3 Gene Expression Is Associated with Glial Remodeling and Poor Prognosis in Glioblastoma
Tyrel Porter; Miguel Mayol Del Valle, MD, MSc Lilia Kucheryavykh, PhD
- 10:05 am Discussion
- 10:10 am Best Paper 17: Long-Term Cerebral Venous Sinus Stent Patency in Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension
Connor R. Marqraf, BS; Omar Ashraf, MD; Jack Midtlien, BS; Kyle Fargen, MD, MPH, FAANS
- 10:15 am Best Paper 8: Inflammatory Tissue Collection from External Ventricular Drains Confirms Robust Cellular Immune Response in Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage
Zachary Sorrentino, MD, PhD; Luca Bertola, BS; Connor Rupp, BS; Matthew Koch, MD
- 10:20 am Best Paper 9: Oncologic and Medical Prognostic Factors Predict Survival After Surgery for Spinal Metastases
Emily M. Pearson, BS; Danielle Terrell, MD, MPH; Stephen G. Whipple-Bones, MD; Kevra O. Cao, BS; Anna Barnes, BS; James Liu, MD
- 10:25 am Best Paper 10: Targeting the Middle Meningeal Artery: Intra-Arterial Pharmacologic Strategies for Migraine Management
Brandon Lucke-Wold, MD, PhD
- 10:30 am Discussion

Non-CME Tech Updates

10:35–10:43 am	Enabling Modern Endoscopic Spine Surgery: Technology Enablers in a Rapidly Evolving Field Patrick Kim, MD <i>Supported by Arthrex</i>	
10:43–10:51 am	Unlocking Operational Efficiencies in Spine Surgery with Robotic Technology Patrick Kim, MD <i>Supported by Globus Medical</i>	
10:51–10:59 am	AiBLE in Action: How a Connected Ecosystem of Technology is Influencing Spine Care Michael Wang, MD <i>Supported by Medtronic</i>	
11:00–11:30 am	Refreshment Break with Exhibitors	Rio Mar 1–5

Scientific Session III Pediatric Neurosurgery

Moderators: Samuel Estronza & Dan Couture		Rio Mar 6–10
11:30–11:40 am	Rhizotomy in Cerebral Palsy	Brandon Rocque
11:41–11:51 am	Fetal Myelomeningocele Repair	Charles Stevenson
11:52–12:02 pm	Advances in Epilepsy Surgery	Nir Shimony
12:03–12:13 pm	New Society for Pediatric Neurosurgical Oncology	Toba Niazi
12:14–12:23 pm	Discussion	
12:24–12:29 pm	Introduction to the Hudson Lecture	Adam Arthur
12:30–12:50 pm	Hudson Lecture: From Chaos to Harmony: Patterns Within the Void	Carlos David
1:00–2:00 pm	Resident, Fellow, and Young Surgeon Lunch <i>Faculty: Stephen Pirris</i> <i>Supported by Greenlight Medical and Medtronic</i>	Caribbean 1
6:00–7:30 pm	Welcome Reception	Rio Mar 1–5

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

7:00–7:30 am	Registration; Attendee & Exhibitor Breakfast	Rio Mar 1–5 & Foyer
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Scientific Session IV Puerto Rican Neurosurgery

Non-CME

Moderator: Gisela Murray Ortiz		Rio Mar 6–10
7:30–7:35 am	Announcements	
7:35–7:45 am	History and Challenges of Puerto Rican Neurosurgery	Orlando De Jesus
7:45–7:55 am	Cultural Considerations in Caring for the Hispanic Patient	Miguel Mayol
7:55 – 8:05 am	Medical Start-up Investing: Understanding Valuations, Dilution and Expected Returns	J Mocco

Non-CME Tech Updates

8:05–8:13 am	Not all Dura is the Same—Advancing Dural Repair with Porcine Small Intestine Submucosa Timothy Ung, MD <i>Supported by Nexsis Biosciences</i>	
8:13–8:21 am	Technology Update Stephen Pirris, MD <i>Supported by Providence Medical Technology</i>	
8:21–8:29 am	Medical Revenue Recovery & Introduction of Sean Callagy	Fernando J. Valencia
8:30–9:10 am	Invited Special Lecture	Sean Callagy
9:10–9:40 am	Refreshment Break with Exhibitors	Rio Mar 1–5

Scientific Session V Debate & Scientific Papers

Moderators: Christopher Nickele & Nick Khattar

Rio Mar 6-10

9:40–10:05 am	We Need Randomization vs. Let's be Real Pro RCT – Brian Howard Pro Registries – Ramesh Grandi	
10:05–10:35 am	Scientific Papers 11–20 and Discussion	
10:05 am	Paper 11: C2–T1 vs C3–T1 Posterior Cervical Fusion: Effects on Upper Cervical Compensation, Alignment, and C2–3 Adjacent Segment Degeneration <i>Dana Saleh, MD; Ahmad Alkadri, BS; John lingam, BS; Mohsen Rostami, MD; Puya Alikhani, MD</i>	
10:08 am	Paper 12: Bone Marrow Aspirate Concentrate in Anterior Cervical Discectomy and Fusion: Does It Make a Difference? <i>Gabriel C. Tender; George Crabill</i>	
10:11 am	Paper 13: A Virtual Resection Model for Predicting Epilepsy Surgery Outcome <i>Elliot G. Neal, MD; Samantha Schimmel; Emma Dunn, BS; Julyssa A. Renteria; Adam Alayli, MD; Emma Sargent, B.S.; Deborah Liaw, MD; Joseph J. Boscarino, Psy.D.; Fernando L. Vale, MD; Yarema B. Bezchlibnyk, MD, PhD</i>	
10:14 am	Paper 16: Staged Vascular Embolization in an Infant with Refractory Seizures Secondary to Hemimegalencephaly <i>Tyrone DeSpenza, MD, PhD; Shivani Shah, DO; Praveen Kumar Ramani, MD; Muhammad Zafar, MD; Erik Hauck, MD</i>	
10:17 am	Paper 18: Long-Term Metabolic Network Modulation After STN-DBS in Parkinson's Disease: A Longitudinal ¹⁸ F-FDG PET Study <i>Wei Lin, MD, PhD</i>	
10:20 am	Paper 19: The Correction Paradox: Redefining Proximal Junctional Kyphosis Risk in Adult Spinal Deformity Surgery <i>Cesar M. Carballo Cuello, MD; Dana Saleh, MD; P. Mitchell Johansen, MD; Katherine Baker, MD; Natalie Bales, MD; Jay Kumar, MD</i>	

10:23 am Paper 20: Preoperative Spine Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT): Pooled Wound Complication Rates, Local Control, and Dosing Patterns Across Full-Text Clinical Studies
Muneeb K. Mohiuddin, MA; Quinn Jackson, BA; Adham Khalafallah, MD; Markus Bredel, MD, PhD; Stephen S. Burks, MD

10:27 Discussion

10:35–11:00 am Refreshment Break with Exhibitors Rio Mar 1–5

Scientific Session VI Cranial/Tumor

Moderators: Will Gordon **Rio Mar 6–10**

11:00–11:09 am Neuromodulation for Craniofacial Pain Nicholas Boulis

11:10–11:19 am LGG Surgery, Lessons Learned Kristen Riley

11:20–11:29 am MMA Embolization and Distal Penetration:
Is There Only One Way to Skin a Cat? Andy Bauer

11:30–11:39 am Transorbital Neuroendoscopic Surgery (TONES) Bhuvic Patel

11:40–11:49 am Discussion

11:50–11:59 am Introduction to Ned Downing Lecture Adam Arthur

12:00–12:20 pm **Ned Downing Lecture** **Joe Magliocco**

12:20–12:45 pm Q & A with Joe Magliocco

12:45–12:55 pm Washington Update Charlotte Pineda

12:55–1:00 pm Business Meeting Executive Council
All members are required to attend the SNS Annual Business Meeting

1:10pm **Shuttle to Golf Tournament** **Main Lobby Porte Cochere**
Advance signup required

2:00–7:30 pm **School Supply Drive – Volunteer Opportunity**
Inquire at the Registration Desk for more information about this local service project right here in the Rio Mar neighborhood.

6:30–9:30 pm **Family Night** **Vista Verde Garden**
Vista Verde Garden is located directly outside the meeting space

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

7:00–7:30 am **Registration; Attendee & Exhibitor Breakfast** **Rio Mar 1–5 & Foyer**

Scientific Session VII Vascular/General

Moderator: Andrey Belayev, Kendrick Johnson & Harry Van Loveren **Rio Mar 6–10**

7:30–7:32 am Announcements

7:33–7:44 am Aneurysm Indications: Are We Re-treating Too Many Aneurysms? Howard Riina

7:45–7:56 am Best Uses of Awake Craniotomy Nitin Tandon

7:57–8:08 am IIH and Venous Stenting: Evaluation and Management Pearls Stacey Wolfe

8:09–8:20 am Photobiomodulation Ricardo Hanel

8:21 – 8:31 Business of Medicine in Resident and Fellow Education:
A Novel Certificate Program at UAMS Deanna Sasaki-Adams

8:32–8:45 am Discussion

8:45–8:55 am Introduction to Presidential Address Russ Lonser

8:55–9:25 am **Presidential Address** **Adam Arthur**

9:25–9:55 am Refreshment Break with Exhibitors Rio Mar 1–5

Scientific Session VIII Functional

Moderators: Benjamin Carroll & Wendell Lake **Rio Mar 6–10**

9:55–10:00 am Tribute to Dr. Sanjeet Grewal Stephen Pirris

10:00–10:08 am Closed Loop DBS Jeremy Bezchlibnyk

10:09–10:17 am BBB Disruption with HIFU and/or FUS Update Amir Faraji

10:18–10:26 am Vagal Nerve Stimulation for Stroke Recovery in Practice Mark Bain

10:27–10:32 am Discussion

10:33–10:40 am Introduction to Distinguished Practitioner Lecture Nitin Tandon

10:41–11:11 am **Distinguished Practitioner Lecture** **Jacques Morcos**

11:11 – 11:47 am Scientific Papers 21–30 and Discussion

11:11 Paper 21: Pre-Operative Tumor Morphometrics Predict Post-Operative Hydrocephalus After Craniopharyngioma Resection
Debraj Mukherjee, MD, MPH; Adham M. Khalafallah, MD; Mazin Elshareif, BS; Briana Santo, PhD; Omar Selim, BS; Austin Carmichael, BS; Taha Khalilullah, BS; Ritvik Pulya, BS; Yves Greatti, MS; Connor Liu, MD; Karim Ahmed, MD

11:14 Paper 22: The Illusion of Correction: Why Steeper Cages Don't Improve TLIF Alignment
Kiana J. Yeganeh, B.S.; Schahin Salmanian, MD; Ryan Screven, MD; Jay Kumar, MD; Mohsen Rostami, MD; Diego Soto. Rubio, MD; Mohammad Noureldine, MD; Mark Greenberg, MD; Puya Alikhani, MD

- 11:17 Paper 23: A Preliminary Validation of Glioblastoma Hub Genes in the Canine Model: Candidate Biomarkers with Cross-Species Potential
Grayson Stacey, David M. Brockington, Jeremy Foote, DVM, PhD; David Crossman, PhD; Michael Crowley, PhD; Jianqing Zhang, PhD; James Markert, MD, MPH; G. Yancey Gillespie, PhD; M.R. Chambers, DVM, MD
- 11:20 Paper 24: Computational Hemodynamic Analysis of Venous Sinus Stenosis and Restenosis in Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension
Jason J. Sims, Bryan Good, PhD; Luke A. Silveira, MD; Kaan Yagmurlu, MD; Carlos Osorno Cruz, MD; Christopher M. Nickele, MD
- 11:23 Paper 25: Use of a Split Trocar for Abdominal Access in Ventriculoperitoneal Shunt Placement: A Safe Surgical Technique
Katherine Belanger, MD; Chesney Billiter, MD; Richa Saxena, BS; Carol Kittel, MA; Molly Ehrig, MB; Daniel Couture, MD
- 11:26 **Paper 26: Anil Nanda Award Winner** | Impact of an Interdisciplinary Peripheral Nerve Board on the Management of Peripheral Nerve Injuries: A Prospective Study
Adham M. Khalafallah, MD; Bhavjeet S. Sanghera, B.S.; Muneeb K. Mohiuddin, MA; Joseph Tigre, MD; Stephen S. Burks, MD
- 11:29 Paper 27: Neurosurgeon Utilization and Perceptions of Palliative Care in Glioblastoma
Helen Hansel, BA; David Voce, MD; Patrick Kelly, MD, MSCI; Saniya Godil, MD, MBBS, MSCI; Lola Chambless, MD, FAANS; Mohana B. Karlekar, MD
- 11:32 Paper 28: Outcomes in Venous Sinus Stenting versus Ventriculoperitoneal Shunting for Fulminant Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension: A Dual-Center Analysis
Lohit Velagapudi, MD; Michael Longo, MD; Austin Hilvert, BS; Fatima Gauhar, MBBS; Nishit Mummareddy, MD; Keyan Peterson, MD; Elad Levy, MD; Jason Davies, MD; Adnan Siddiqui, MD; Ryan Lee, MD; Matthew Fusco, MD; Rohan Chitale, MD; Michael Froehler, MD; Kunal Raygor, MD
- 11:35 Paper 29: Predictors of Severe and Progressive In-Stent Stenosis Following Flow Diversion for Intracranial Aneurysms: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis
Kirit Arumalla, MD; Ashish Sonig, MD, FAANS, FACS, FCNS; Brian Tong, MD
- 11:38 Paper 30: Stereotactic Radiosurgery for First Recurrence in Glioblastoma
Antonio Dono, MD; Oscar Alcantar, Chris Wei, MD; Bardia Hajikarimloo, MD; Johnathon Smith, BSc; Vanshika Lohia, MSc; Jheremy Reyes, MD; David Bailey, MD; Robert Bartos, MD; Joshua Hack, M.S.; Daniel Cifarelli, MD, M.S.; Anne-Marie Langlois, MD; Monica Mureb, DO; Takuma Sumi, MD; Mustafa Siddiq, MD; Kenneth Bernstein, M.S.; Anais Moura, MD; Ali Düzkalir, MD; Manjul Tripathi, MCH; Carolina Benjamin, MD; Gustavo Passos, MD; Alessandro De Bonis, MD; Onam Verma, MBBS; Narendra Kumar, MD; Selcuk Peker, MD; Sameul Chao, MD; Hideyuki Kano, MD, Ph.D.; Brad Zacharia, MD; David Mathieu, MD; Roman Liscak, MD; Deniz Kılıç, MD; Christopher Cifarelli, MD, Ph.D.; Mark Amsbaugh, MD; Nitin Tandon, MD; Angel Blanco, MD; Douglas Kondziolka, MD, MSc; Lilyana Angelov, MD; Ajay Niranjana, MD, M.B.A.; Jason Sheehan, MD, Ph.D.; L. Dade Lunsford, MD; Yoshua Esquenazi, MD

11:50–11:53 am Introduction to the Semmes Lecture

11:54 am–12:28 pm **Semmes Lecture**

Kevin Foley

12:28–12:30 pm Raffle Drawing and Final Announcements

Adam Arthur

12:30 pm 76th Annual Meeting Adjourns

6:30–8:00 pm Closing Cocktail Reception

Marbella Garden