



Center Without Walls Program FORUM PANELISTS

MS Forum and Webinar | Saturday, October 26, 2024

Cameo Beverly Hills
9:30 am

Also available via Zoom Webinar

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OM9rdVnVRnS7X41_e2Olig

Peter Calabresi, M.D., Johns Hopkins



Peter A. Calabresi, MD is a Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, and Ophthalmology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and Director of the Division of Neuroimmunology and Neurological Infections, and Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins Multiple Sclerosis Precision Medicine Center of Excellence. He attended Yale College and Brown Medical School and trained in Neurology at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, NY, and Neuroimmunology at the NIH in Bethesda, Md. Dr. Calabresi has been the principal investigator or scientific advisor on several global phases 2 and 3 clinical trials. He has designed and directed several clinical trials investigating combination drug therapies in MS. Dr. Calabresi also mentors trainees and oversees translational laboratory research projects. His laboratory studies how to stop the immune attack and arrest neurodegeneration, and also strategies to promote myelin repair.

Dr. Calabresi has served on the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Clinical Investigation, Neurology, and the Multiple Sclerosis Journal. He served as Chair of a grant review committee of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and was a standing member of the NIH Clinical Neuroimmunology and Brain Tumors Study Section. His specific laboratory research interest lies in understanding the mechanisms of T lymphocyte differentiation into effector memory T cells and how these T cells interface with glial cells in the brain to modulate remyelination. Dr. Calabresi has published over 400 research papers including numerous articles on imaging and the immunopathogenesis of MS. He was the recipient of a five-year NMSS Collaborative Center grant from the National MS Society to study endogenous remyelination in MS, and the Jacob Javits Neuroscience Investigator award from the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Calabresi is a member of AOA, was co-awarded the Barancik Prize for Innovation in MS research in 2015, and was elected to the American Association of Physicians in 2017.

David Hafler, M.D., Yale



David A. Hafler, M.D. is the William S. and Lois Stiles Edgerly Professor and Chairman Department of Neurology and Professor of Immunobiology, Yale School of Medicine, and is the Neurologist-in-Chief of the Yale-New Haven Hospital. He graduated magna cum laude in 1974 from Emory University with combined B.S. and M.Sc. degrees in biochemistry, and the University of Miami School of Medicine in 1978. He then completed his internship in internal medicine at Johns Hopkins followed by a neurology residency at Cornell Medical Center-New York Hospital in New York. Dr. Hafler was trained in immunology at the Rockefeller University and then at Harvard where he joined the faculty in 1984 and later became the Breakstone Professorship of Neurology at Harvard and was a founding Associated Member of the Broad Institute at MIT. In 2009 he moved to Yale as the Chair of the Department of Neurology. Dr. Hafler is a clinical scientist with a research interest in the mechanism of multiple sclerosis with over 400 publications in the field of MS, autoimmunity and immunology. He is a co-founder of the International MS Genetic Consortium a group that identified the genes causing MS. He has served as a member of the editorial boards for *Journal of Clinical*

Investigation and the Journal of Experimental Medicine, and is co-founder of the Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies and leads the NIH Autoimmunity Prevention Center Grant at Yale. He was a Jacob Javits Merit Award Recipient from the NIH and has won many awards including Dystel Prize for MS research from the American Academy of Neurology, the University of Miami Annual Distinguished Alumni Award, the Raymond Adams Prize from the American Neurologic Association, and was the 2016 Frontier Lecturer at the AAN. Dr. Hafler has been elected to membership in the Alpha Omega Society, the American Society of Clinical Investigation, and the National Academy of Medicine.

Adam Kaplin, M.D, Ph.D., Miralogx CSO and CIO, Adjunct Faculty Johns Hopkins



Dr. Adam Kaplin completed his undergraduate training at Yale University and his MD and PhD training at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. His research training experience includes having trained in the labs of two Nobel Laureates and completed his PhD and postdoctoral training in the Lab of Solomon Snyder, MD, who was the 2005 recipient of the National Medal of Science (the highest science honor in the United States). Dr. Kaplin, who maintains his Adjunct Faculty appointment at Johns Hopkins, was the Chief Psychiatric Consultant to the Johns Hopkins Multiple Sclerosis and Transverse Myelitis Centers. Dr. Kaplin investigated the biological basis of the effects of the immune system on mood regulation and cognition, and he provided neuropsychiatric care to patients afflicted with such comorbidities. His research is focused on understanding the biological basis of depression and dementia and discovering new ways to diagnose prognosticate and treat these diseases. Dr. Kaplin has transitioned to working for Miralogx, a scientific investigation and drug development company that has helped launch three companies—MyMD, Mira, and Telomir Pharmaceuticals.

Masoud Majed, M.D., USC



Masoud Majed, M.D. is a neuroimmunologist with specialized training in autoimmune neurology. He completed his residency training at UT Southwestern, a fellowship in Autoimmune Neurology at the Mayo Clinic, and an MS fellowship at Washington University. Dr. Majed is an expert in MOGAD, NMO, autoimmune encephalitis, autoimmune myelitis, paraneoplastic neurologic syndromes, and neurosarcoidosis. He plans to establish an Autoimmune Neurology clinic at USC. His main research goal is to characterize the clinical manifestations, radiological features, and serological accompaniments of these rare autoimmune neurological diseases to serve as a source for future translational studies and clinical trials.

Nancy L. Sicotte, M.D., Cedars-Sinai



Nancy L. Sicotte, MD, FAAN serves as Chair and Professor of Neurology in the Department of Neurology at Cedars-Sinai. She holds the Women’s Guild Distinguished Chair in Neurology and is the founding Director of the Multiple Sclerosis and Neuroimmunology Program. Her research focuses on the use of advanced structural and functional imaging to study MS disease progression including cognitive impairment and depression. She is a founding member of the North American Imaging in MS (NAIMS) Cooperative, which utilizes state-of-the-art imaging approaches across multiple centers in the US and Canada to develop reliable imaging markers of disease progression in MS.

Rhonda Voskuhl, M.D., UCLA



Rhonda Voskuhl, M.D. received her MD from Vanderbilt University, completed neurology residency at the University of Texas Southwestern and fellowship at the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Voskuhl is a Professor of Neurology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), the Director of the UCLA Multiple Sclerosis Program, holds the Jack H. Skirball Chair in MS Research, and is the Faculty Neurologist for the UCLA Comprehensive Menopause Care Program. In 2024, Voskuhl received the world's most prestigious award in MS, the John Dystel Prize, at the American Academy of Neurology. She also received the Rachel Horne Prize in Women's Health Research in MS in 2023, selected from researchers across the U.S., Europe, and Canada. Dr. Voskuhl attained a National Institutes of Health R35 Research Program Award in 2023, an eight year grant to only ten neuroscientists per year across the U.S. She received the Kenneth P. Johnson Memorial Lecture Award in 2019, and the Berlin Institute of Health Excellence Award for Sex and Gender Aspects in Health Research in 2018. Dr. Voskuhl was profiled in the #1 neurology journal (*Lancet Neurology*) in 2024 for her translational work from bedside (clinical observations) to bench (research) to bedside (novel clinical trials). The Voskuhl laboratory studies brain cell-specific and region-specific gene expression, comparing females versus males, as well as young versus old ages, to discover neuroprotective treatments for women and men during aging and MS. Dr. Voskuhl sees MS patients in the UCLA Neurology Clinic and healthy women with cognitive issues in the UCLA Comprehensive Menopause Care Program. Her clinical research focuses on a tailored estrogen type, dose, and timing to prevent MS disability worsening during menopause. As the lead inventor on over fifteen UCLA owned patents in the U.S. and Europe, she works with a company (CleopatraRX) and a nonprofit (The CleopatraRX Foundation).

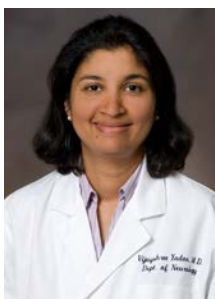
Emmanuelle L. Waubant, M.D., Ph.D., UCSF



Emmanuelle L. Waubant, MD, Ph.D., received her medical degree at the University of Lille, France. She then trained in France as well as at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) in adult neurology, neuroimmunology, and MS clinical research. She is currently Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics at UCSF. She has served as the Race to Erase MS medical director since 2001. She also directs the Regional Pediatric MS Center at UCSF and is the secretary for the American Committee on Treatment and Research in MS. Dr. Waubant serves or has served on the clinical care, fellowship, and research grant review committees of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and on the advisory board of the Society's

Northern California Chapter. She is the Chair of the Clinical Trial Task Force of the International Pediatric MS Study Group. She is a member of the International Pediatric MS Study Group Steering Committee. She is ACTRIMS president-elect. She also directs several translational research projects and mentors medical students, fellows, and junior faculty on various clinical, research, and career development aspects in the field of MS and related diseases. In 2018, Dr. Waubant started an international consortium (International Women in MS) to foster a community of clinicians and scientists and contribute to mentoring and blossoming of junior women in the field of MS. Dr. Waubant's specific interests include the translation of promising agents from the bench to bedside to advance patients' care, and risk factors for MS susceptibility and disease modification in pediatric and adult MS.

Vijayshree Yadav, M.D., Oregon Health Sciences



Dr. Yadav is a MS Fellowship trained Board-Certified Neurologist and a Clinician-Scientist with joint appointments as a Professor of Neurology at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) and a Veterans Affairs Merit Grant Awardee at the Veterans Affairs Portland Health Care Services (VAPORHCS). She is the Director of the OHSU Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Center, a Staff Neurologist at the VAPORHCS and an Assistant Director of Clinical Care at the MS Center of Excellence-West (MSCoE) at the VAPORHCS. Dr. Yadav holds Endowed Professorship by Tykeson Family Foundation in Wellness Research since 2015. Dr. Yadav also serves as the Fellowship Training Director of the Joint MS and Neuroimmunology program at OHSU and VAPORHCS. She also holds a Master's degree in Clinical Research. Her research includes

examining the role of Vascular Disease Risk Factors on brain metabolism in people with MS using advanced brain imaging techniques. She is currently evaluating role of an oral antioxidant called Mitoquinone on fatigue in MS. She led a novel study evaluating role of low-fat diet in people with relapsing-remitting MS that showed significant improvement in fatigue. Her research has been funded by National Institute of Health, Department of Veterans Affairs, National MS Society, Private Foundations and Pharmaceutical Companies. Dr. Yadav's interest and research in Complementary and Alternative (CAM) therapies for MS has been recognized nationally and internationally. She has published several peer reviewed journal articles and regularly presents her research at national and international meetings.

Panelists with MS:

Claudia Curry Hill (Moderator)



Claudia Curry Hill was diagnosed with Primary Progressive MS over 30 years ago. An activist for women's health and the disabled, she is very active in founding and serving on Non-Profit and Community Boards and Committees, including the Race to Erase MS and Colorado, Wyoming MS Society Government Relations Committee, and is a spokesperson for Multiple Sclerosis. Claudia is married, the mother of three, and the owner of CCH Connections, a non-profit and event consulting group in Colorado. She believes that exercise, a positive attitude, and empowering yourself with all the information you can find to improve your quality of life.

Nancy Davis (Founder of Race to Erase MS)



Nancy Davis, one of five children, was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. In 1987 she moved to California and now resides in Los Angeles with her husband and children. She is an extremely dedicated philanthropist, jewelry and now clothing designer, and author. Nancy was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis at the age of 33 in 1991. After being told by her doctors that she would be "lucky" to operate a remote control on her TV, she realized she was too young and too busy to let the disease stop her life in its tracks. She was determined to devote her time, relationships, and resources to finding a cure. Nancy's hope, courage, and strength continue to inspire her to maintain a vibrant quality of life despite this chronic disease, but most of all, she remains positive, continues to live her life to the fullest, and is tireless in her efforts to find the cure for MS.