



For Immediate Release
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Global Neurology and BRAIN Initiative Research to Headline American Neurological Association's 2017 Annual Meeting

142nd Annual Meeting is October 14-17, 2017 in San Diego, CA

(MOUNT LAUREL, NJ, July 18, 2017) – The latest research on ways to deliver neurologic care in low-resource settings via innovative use of mobile health technologies, or deployment of community health workers, is among the work by leading academics in global neurology that will headline the **142nd Annual Meeting of the American Neurological Association (ANA) at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina on October 14-17.**

More than 2,000 of the nation's leading neurology and neuroscience scholars are expected to convene to share updates and late-breaking research on the diseases that affect more than 100 million Americans each year who suffer from stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis and more. The inclusive nature of the ANA allows for academic researchers from all of the neurology subspecialties to attend and contribute to the Annual Meeting where they learn about others' work and thereby broaden their knowledge of the field.

This year's Presidential Symposium, "**Translational Neuroscience Research to Improve Outcomes for the 'Bottom Billion,'**" will address some of the world's most devastating neurological diseases, and the innovations being developed to treat them.

"From South America to Africa and Asia, a growing number of our peers are uncovering new knowledge about mechanisms of neurologic diseases such as konzo and potential treatments for cerebral malaria," said Barbara G. Vickrey, MD, MPH, president of the ANA and professor and neurology system chair at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. "As they study how to deliver neurologic care in low-resource settings, they demonstrate how we might improve care for uninsured and under-resourced populations in the United States."

Through a variety of formats spanning the four-day event, sessions will include:

- A Pre-Meeting Symposium on the BRAIN Initiative, the ambitious federally-funded project launched in 2013 by President Barack Obama to move neuroscience forward;
- Plenaries on topics including Precision Medicine in Neurologic Disease; Optogenetic Technology; and Linking Circuits to Behavior: Promise & Perils;
- Special Interest Group Symposia in Neuro-Oncology, Neurocritical Care, Behavioral Neurology, Multiple Sclerosis, Movement Disorders, and more;
- Poster presentations of late-breaking research

Pre-Meeting Symposium: Big Science and the BRAIN Initiative

Kicking off this year’s event on October 14 is a Pre-Meeting Symposium on Big Science and the BRAIN Initiative, the most ambitious neuroscience project to date aimed at equipping researchers with insights for treating a wide variety of brain disorders including Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, autism, epilepsy, and traumatic brain injury. Likened to the Moonshot for Cancer, the BRAIN Initiative was federally-funded in 2017 with \$400 million, plus \$500 million committed by major foundations, private research institutions and companies since 2013. BRAIN Initiative-sponsored research has yielded major breakthroughs including the blueprint for a brain scanning helmet and designer drugs for turning neurons on or off.

Topics presented at the BRAIN Initiative symposium will include:

- “The Structure of the Brain Initiative” - Walter J. Korshetz, MD, NIH’s National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
- “New Tools to Develop a Brain Cell Census” - Arnold Kriegstein, MD, PhD, University of California - San Francisco
- “New Tools for Understanding Circuits for DBS” - Viviana Gradinaru, PhD, California Institute of Technology
- “New Tools for Monitoring and Analyzing Human Brain Activity/Neurology” - Sydney Cash MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School
- “Microscopic Foundation of Multimodal Human Imaging” - Anna Devor, PhD, University of California - San Diego

In addition, the ANA continues its tradition of recognizing colleagues and collaborators from overseas by welcoming the Japanese Society of Neurology to the 2017 meeting. “This coincides with new efforts within the ANA to consider potential programs to extend collaborations in neurological teaching and research with academic neurologists globally,” said Laura P.W. Ranum, Ph.D., director of the Center for NeuroGenetics at the University of Florida and chair of the ANA’s Scientific Advisory Committee. “We are confident that this year’s ANA Annual Meeting will be exceptional.”

Note to Editors: For more information including the advance conference agenda, visit: 2017.myANA.org. Please contact Tracy Simon at tsimon@stegethomson.com for media registration.

About the American Neurological Association (ANA)

Founded in 1875, the American Neurological Association is the premier professional society of academic neurologists and neuroscientists devoted to understanding of diseases of the nervous system and the profession’s ability to treat them. Its monthly Annals of Neurology, first published in 1977, is one of the world’s most prestigious medical journals, publishing high-impact clinical and basic research in

neurology and neuroscience. For more information, visit www.myana.org and www.annalsofneurology.org.

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