

2026 WSANS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 11th - 13th • SUNCADIA RESORT • CLE ELUM, WASHINGTON



WASHINGTON STATE ASSOCIATION
of NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

WELCOME LETTER



On behalf of the Washington State Association of Neurological Surgeons, welcome to the 2026 WSANS annual meeting here at the beautiful Suncadia Resort.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as President of WSANS. We have a rich history of connecting colleagues from around the state as well as bringing in speakers from around the country to share innovative techniques and discoveries in neurosurgery. We are particularly grateful to those that have had to travel from far away to participate in our meeting.

Over the next two annual meetings we will endeavor to bring the attendees up to speed with the most important innovations, developments, and clinical trials in each sub-specialty of neurosurgery. The program is broad ranging and kicks off on Friday night

with a session on mindfulness and performance optimization in the operating room and in life. On Saturday we mix some more general sessions with more technical and research topics. The evening session wraps up with a discussion on conflict resolution and a fireside debate of “Robotic spine surgery vs the old school”.

I would also like to welcome members of our teams that make our neurosurgical mission possible. The RNs, ARNPs, PAs, operating room teams, administrative staff, and colleagues that make the practice of neurosurgery feasible. To the residents, fellows, and medical students – we welcome you. We hope you are inspired by what you see and hopefully learn something! We hope to foster a more broad, active participation in the development and growth of WSANS and welcome input from all.

We offer CME Category 1 credits for this meeting. WSANS will cover the cost for these credits for all members and associates that attend the annual meeting and renew membership. We are also grateful for the continued sponsorship of our industry colleagues, whose support makes these educational events possible. Thank you all for taking the time out of your busy schedules to attend the 2026 meeting.

[Stephen Monteith, MD, President](#)

WASHINGTON STATE ASSOCIATION OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS



COURSE DESCRIPTION

The 2026 WSANS Annual Conference at Suncadia Resort serves as an update for Washington State neurosurgeons, ARNPs, PA-Cs and nurses that provide neurosurgical care in the state of Washington to assemble and discuss a number of relevant topics, with the primary goal of providing current state of treatment in conditions of spine, tumor, vascular and functional neurosurgery.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Attendees will be able to describe the indications for prenatal myelomeningocele repair.
- Attendees will be able to describe the indications and limitations of LITT for neurosurgical pathologies.
- Attendees will be able to describe indications for spinal column shortening for adult tethered cord syndrome.
- Attendees will be able to describe the benefits of the Vivistim vagal nerve stimulation for stroke rehabilitation.
- Attendees will be able to describe the indications and limitations of robotic spine surgery.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

This educational activity is designated for a maximum of 8 hours of AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s). This live activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Colorado State Medical Society through the joint providership of Gritman Medical Center and Washington State Association of Neurological Surgeons. Gritman Medical Center is accredited by the Colorado State Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

HOW TO GET YOUR CME CERTIFICATE

Self-reporting CME certificates will be available for download via the WSANS website (wsans.org) starting on Sunday, September 13, 2026.

DISCLOSURES

The presenters, WSANS Board, and administrative team, have disclosed any relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest for themselves or their spouse. The standard is primarily here to not prevent speakers from speaking, but so the participants have full disclosure on the facts, so they can form their own judgment of the content.

AGENDA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

5:00 PM **REGISTRATION OPENS**

6:00 – 7:15 PM **WELCOME RECEPTION, EXHIBIT FAIR, AND DINNER BUFFET**

7:15 – 7:25 PM **WELCOME BY WSANS PRESIDENT**
Stephen Monteith, MD, Neurosurgeon, Swedish Cerebrovascular Center

7:30 – 9:00 PM **KEYNOTE**
“Awake at the Wound” & “Optimizing Performance In and Out of the OR,”
David Hanscom, MD, Orthopedic Spine Surgeon, Seattle
David Elaimy, Performance Surgical Coach, University of Washington

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

7:00 – 8:30 AM **BREAKFAST BUFFET AND EXHIBIT FAIR**

7:30 – 7:50 AM “Prenatal Myelomeningocele Repair: Update on the State of the Field and Future Directions,”
Matt Recker, MD, Pediatric Neurosurgeon, Seattle Children’s Hospital

7:55 – 8:15 AM “Lasers and Neurosurgery: An Update on LITT for Neurosurgical Pathologies,”
Miri Kim, MD, PhD Neuro-oncologist/Neurosurgeon, Providence Swedish Cancer Institute

8:20 – 8:40 AM “Updates in Neuro-Oncology,”
Alipi Bonm, MD, PhD, Neurologist/Neuro-oncologist, Swedish, Edmonds

8:45 – 9:05 AM “Spinal Column Shortening for Adult Tethered Cord Syndrome,”
Anubhav Amin, MD, Neurosurgeon, UW Medicine

9:10 – 9:40 AM **BREAK**

9:40 – 10:00 AM “Brain Rinse Cycle,”
David Newell, MD, Neurosurgeon, Seattle Neuroscience Institute

10:05 – 10:25 AM “Real World Outcomes from GRASP, the Vivistim Post-Market Registry,”
Christopher Kellner, MD, Neurosurgeon, Cerebrovascular Center, Mount Sinai

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AGENDA

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS:

“Chemogenetic Control of Central Nervous System Pericytes,”

Julian Clarke, MD, Neurosurgery Resident, UW Medicine

“Genomic Analysis of Mosaic Variants and Epigenetic Features in Drug-Resistant Focal Epilepsy Using Tissue From Stereo- EEG Electrodes,”

Adriel Barios-Anderson, MD, Neurosurgery Resident, UW Medicine

“Adverse Events Within 24 hours After 1070 Adult Brain Tumor Surgeries Recovered in a Neurocritical Care Unit or a Postanesthesia Care Unit,”

Abdulrahman Almansouri, MD, Skull Base Fellow, UW Medicine

“Stand Alone LVIS Stenting for PICA Aneurysms,”

James Brazdzionis, DO, Cerebrovascular Fellow, Swedish

10:30 – 11:30 AM

“Negating Brain Surgery’s Number One Complication,”

Ray King, MD, MBA, Phasor Health

11:35 – 11:55 AM

11:45 – 12:30 PM **LUNCH**

12:30 – 5:30 PM

TIME ON YOUR OWN

(GOLF, WINE TASTING, HIKING, SWIMMING, RELAXING)

5:30 – 6:30 PM

NETWORKING RECEPTION & INNOVATION SHOWCASE

6:30 – 8:00 PM

DINNER BUFFET

6:45 – 7:15 PM

WORKSHOP:

“Exploring New Techniques for Bone Removal,”

Jon Hougham, Globus

7:15 – 8:15 PM

“Why Brilliant People Hate Conflict - A Practical Discussion on How to Navigate the World of Conflict Resolution at the Worksite,”

Karl Pister, Founder and President of The Coaching Group

8:15 – 9:15 PM

DISCUSSION, DEBATE: “ROBOTICS VS’ OLD SCHOOL?”

Moderator: Katie Krause, MD, PhD, WSANS Secretary, Neurosurgeon, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

Panelists: JC Leveque, MD, Neurosurgeon, Spine Surgeon, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

Andrew Manista, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon, Olympic Orthopedic Associates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

8:00 – 10:00 AM

BREAKFAST BUFFET, WSANS BUSINESS MEETING

11:00 AM

SUNCADIA CHECK-OUT TIME



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

WSANS Executive Board Members:

Stephen Monteith, MD, President
Ali Ravanpay, MD, PhD, Vice President
Katie Krause, MD, PhD, Treasurer
Jacob Ruzevick, MD, Secretary
Akshal Patel, MD, Historian

WSANS Conference Coordinators:

Linda O'Keefe
Michi Wohns
Janet Clardy
Kelty Pierce



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS ACTIVITY:

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- STRYKER ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES
- VIVISTIM
- ZIMMER BIOMET

LUNCH SPEAKER: SATURDAY 11:35 – 11:55 PM

PHASOR HEALTH

“NEGATING BRAIN SURGERY’S NUMBER ONE COMPLICATION”

Dr. Ray King, founding CEO of Phasor Health, is a former neurosurgeon and JP Morgan Private Equity Vice-President who lead innovations in disposable power drills for cranial access, including FDA-cleared products widely used in U.S. hospitals and internationally.

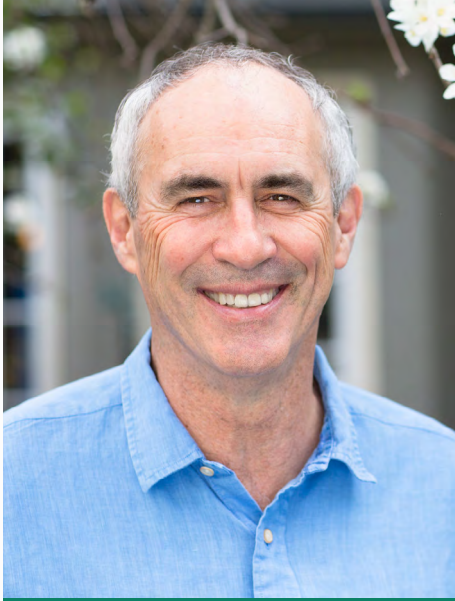
WORKSHOP SATURDAY: 6:45 - 7:15 PM

GLOBUS MEDICAL

“EXPLORING NEW TECHNIQUES FOR BONE REMOVAL”

“Oscillating power is designed to spare soft tissue while allowing for seamless bone removal with the same techniques used with a high speed drill. Beyond bone removal, oscillation is optimized for pilot hole drilling without skive and efficient discectomy from any access approach.”

SPEAKER SESSIONS



DAVID HANSCOM
MD

Orthopedic Spine Surgeon,
Seattle

[additional information](#)



DAVID ELAIMY

Performance Surgical Coach,
University of Washington

[additional information](#)



MATT RECKER
MD

Pediatric Neurosurgeon,
Seattle Children's

[additional information](#)



MIRI KIM
MD, PHD

Neuro-oncologist/ Neurosurgeon,
Providence Swedish Cancer Institute

[additional information](#)



ALIPI BONM
MD, PHD

Neurologist/ Neuro-oncologist,
Swedish, Edmonds

[additional information](#)



ANUBHAV AMIN
MD

Neurosurgeon,
UW Medicine

[additional information](#)

SPEAKER SESSIONS



DAVID NEWELL
MD

Neurosurgeon,
Seattle Neuroscience Institute

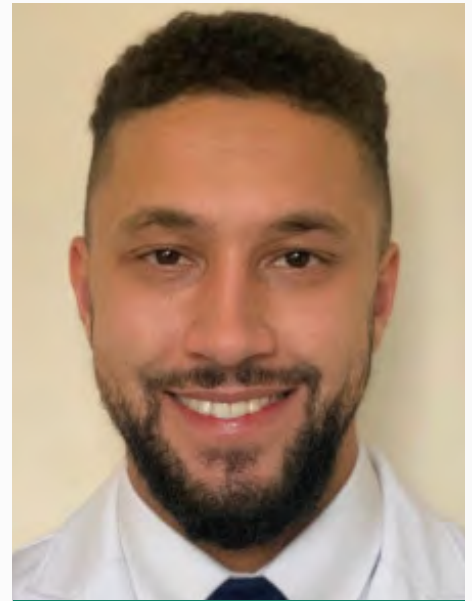
[additional information](#)



CHRISTOPHER KELLNER
MD

Neurosurgeon,
Cerebrovascular Center,
Mount Sinai

[additional information](#)



JULIAN CLARKE
MD

Neurosurgery Resident,
UW Medicine

[additional information](#)



ADRIEL BARIOS-ANDERSON
MD

Neurosurgery Resident,
UW Medicine

[additional information](#)



ABDULRAHMAN ALAMANSOURI
MD

Skull Base Fellow,
UW Medicine

[additional information](#)



JAMES BRAZDZIONIS
MD

Cerebrovascular Fellow,
Swedish

[additional information](#)

SPEAKER SESSIONS



KARL PISTER

Founder and President,
The Coaching Group

[additional information](#)



KATIE KRAUSE
MD, PHD

WSANS Treasurer, Neurosurgeon,
Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

[additional information](#)



JC LEVEQUE
MD

Neurosurgeon, Spine Surgeon,
Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

[additional information](#)



ANDREW MANISTA
MD

Orthopedic Surgeon, Olympia
Orthopaedic Associates

[additional information](#)



Medical Student/ Resident Support of \$25,
to attend WSANS Annual Meetings.



SAVE THE DATE

2027 WSANS Annual Conference
September 24-26, 2027, Suncadia Resort

For more information, please contact:

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Linda O'Keefe: 206-650-6018, linda@wsans.org