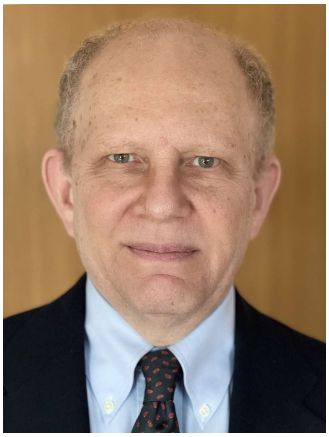
Invited Speakers



Edward C. Cooper M.D., Ph.D.
Graduate of Yale College and Yale University School of Medicine's Medical Scientist Training Program.
Resident in Neurology and post-doctoral research fellowship (Lily Jan laboratory) at UCSF.
Career has focused on voltage-gated ion channels, particularly Kv channels as Mendelian causes of epilepsy and neurodevelopmental disorders and therapeutic targets.
First showed that brain KCNQ2 and KCNQ3 channels co-assemble, co-localize at axon initial segments, interact with ankyrin-G, and bind ankyrin-G through conserved mechanisms.
Has led internation efforts to analyze genotype-phenotype relationships among the KCNQ-related disorders and develop mechanism-driven novel therapies, through in vitro, animal model, and patient oriented research.

Sheffali GULATI, M.D. Pediatrics, FRCPCH (UK), FAMS, FIAP, FIMSA, FNASc, FIANS, FASc, Fellow, INSAR, Distinguished Fellow, GAPIO
She co-founded South Asia's first DM Pediatric Neurology Program in 2004 and currently serves as Professor and Faculty In-charge of the Child Neurology Division at AIIMS, New Delhi.
She leads the Centre of Excellence & Advanced Research for Childhood Neurodevelopmental Disorders and serves as Adjunct Faculty at the National Brain Research Centre, with clinical and research interests in autism, epilepsy, neuromuscular disorders, cerebral palsy, and other neurodevelopmental disorders.
She has authored over 526 publications, delivered more than 950 invited talks, and is listed among Stanford University's top 2% scientists (2025).

Yuwu Jiang, M.D., PhD
Dr. Yuwu Jiang is the Chair of the Children's Medical Center and Director of the Pediatric Epilepsy Center at Peking University First Hospital, and is the Chair of the Pediatrics Faculty at Peking University Health Science Center (PUHSC). He serves as Vice Chair of the Chinese Association Against Epilepsy (CAAE) and the Chinese Pediatric Society (CPS), and is the Immediate Past Chair of the Chinese Child Neurology Society (CCNS) under CPS. He chairs the Chinese Association of Pediatric Neurologists (CAPN) under the China Neurology Association (CNA). He is an Executive Board Member of the International Child Neurology Association (ICNA) and the China national delegate to the Asian Oceanian Child Neurology Association (AOCNA). He is also a Guest Professor at the University of Manchester.

Hoon-Chul Kang, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor at Division of Pediatric Neurology,
Chief, Division of Pediatric Neurology,
Department of Pediatrics, Severance Children's Hospital,
Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea
EDUCATION
1986. 3 – 1988. 2Premedical Course, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences,
Yonsei University
1988. 3 – 1992. 2College of Medicine (Bachelor's Degree of Medical Science), Yonsei University
2003. 9 – 2006. 2Graduate School of Medicine (Ph.D. in Medical Science) Yonsei University, titled by "Behavioral improvement after transplantation of neural precursors derived from embryonic stem cells into globally ischemic brain of adolescent rats"
PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS
2002. 3 – 2008. 8Instructor, Assistant Professor at Department of Pediatrics, Epilepsy Center, Sanggye Paik Hospital, Inje University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea
2009. 3 – 2013. 2Clinical Associate Professor, Severance Children's Hospital
2013. 3 – PresentProfessor at Division of Pediatric Neurology,
Chief, Division of Pediatric Neurology,
Chief, Department of Pediatrics, Chief, Severance Children's Hospital, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

Katty (Jingqiong) Kang, MD, PhD
Professor, Department of Neurology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center
My lab is dedicated to developing more effective, mechanism-based treatments for epilepsy.
We have focused on GABAA receptor and GABA transporter 1/SLC6A1 mutation associated neurodevelopmental disorders and epilepsies
We use both cell and mouse models that bear patient mutations including patient iPSC derived neurons and astrocytes as well as knockin mouse models.
We identified that impaired trafficking of mutant protein is a major patho-mechanism for those disorders.
We identified common and differential mechanisms between the GABAA receptor and GABA transporter 1/SLC6A1 mutations
We repurposed 4 phenylbutyrate, an FDA approved drug for urea cycle disorders to treat children with SLC6A1 mutation mediated disorders with promising results.

Heung Dong Kim, M.D., PhD

Prof. Heung Dong Kim, Distinguished Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Chief, Epilepsy Center, Kangbuk Samsung Hospital, Sungkyunkwan University College of Medicine, graduated Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea, trained at Severance Hospital in Pediatrics and Peidatric Neurologyand spent 2 years of exchange fellowship training at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia from 1994 to 1996. He served as the president of Korean Epilepsy Society from 2011 to 2013, and the president of Korean Bureau for Epilpesy since 2018. He participated several committees of ILAE and served the Chair, Dietary Task Force, Commission of Medical Therapies, ILAE, in 2016-2021. He receive the Outstanding Achievement of Outstanding Achievement Award, International League against in Epilepsy-Asia-Oceania, 2025

Ara Ko, M.D., PhD

Assistant Professor2018 – 2021

Pusan National University College of Medicine, Pusan National University Children's Hospital, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Neurology Yangsan, Korea

Researcher 2021 – 2023

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Graduate School of Medical Science and Engineering Laboratory of Dr. Jeong Ho Lee, Daejeon, Korea

Assistant Professor 2023 – present

Yonsei University College of Medicine, Severance Children's Hospital, Department of Pediatric Neurology, Department of Pediatrics, Seoul, Korea

Wang-Tso Lee M.D. Ph.D.

Naomichi Matsumoto M.D. Ph.D.

Prof. Naomichi Matsumoto is Professor and Chair of the Department of Human Genetics at Yokohama City University Graduate School of Medicine.

A leading researcher in human genetics with an H-index of 95, he has identified the causative genes of more than 50 developmental genetic disorders.

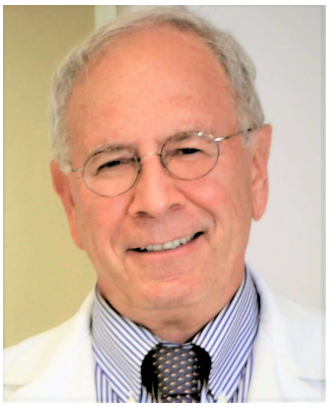
His discoveries include genes responsible for Sotos syndrome, Marfan syndrome type II, Coffin-Siris syndrome, SENDA, and NIID.

He served as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Human Genetics (2014–2020) and continues as an advisory editor.

His work has significantly advanced the understanding and diagnosis of rare genetic diseases.

He has been serving as President of the Japan Society of Human Genetics since 2024.

Lakshmi Nagarajan, MBBS, MD, FRACP
Designation: Child Neurologist / Epileptologist
Affiliation: Perth Children's Hospital. University of Westen Australia
Under and Postgraduate Training: India, Australia, USA.
Areas of Interest: Epilepsy, Neonatal Seizures, Neurophysiology
Award: Inaugural WA Child & Adolescent Services Excellence in Clinical Care Award, 2025
Chair: Constitution and Bylaws Committee, AOCNA
Ex: ND from Australia to AOCNA
Secretary and President-Elect of ICNA

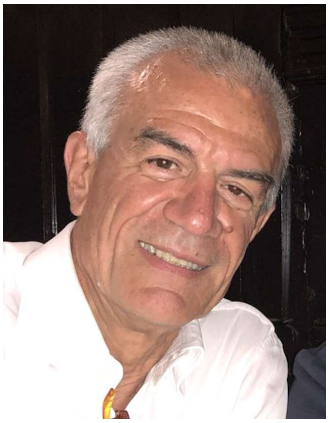


Jeffrey L. Noebels M.D. Ph.D.
Dr Noebels is Cullen Chair in Neurogenetics and Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, and Molecular and Human Genetics, and Director of the Developmental Neurogenetics Laboratory at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.
Received his PhD in Neuroscience at Stanford, postdoctoral training in Neuropathology at Harvard, MD at Yale, and neurology residency training at Massachusetts General Hospital.
Past President of the American Epilepsy Society, Chair of ILAE Genetics and Neurobiology Commissions
ILAE Ambassador and Fellow of the American Association of Arts and Sciences.
His discovery of the first single gene mouse model for childhood absence epilepsy in 1979 transformed the experimental approach to this disease.
Major research focus is to identify gene mechanisms of cortical network synchronization and molecular targets for treatment of epilepsy and related comorbidities.

Ingrid Scheffer, AO MBBS HonLLD PhD FRACP FAA AHMS FRS
Laureate Professor Ingrid Scheffer AO MBBS HonLLD PhD FRACP FAA AHMS FRS is a physician-scientist whose work as a paediatric neurologist and epileptologist at the University of Melbourne and Florey Institute has led epilepsy genetics research over more than 27 years. In collaboration with Professor Samuel Berkovic and molecular geneticists, they identified the first epilepsy gene and many genes subsequently. She led the first major International League Against Epilepsy revision of the classification of epilepsies in 28 years (March 2017) and was a co-recipient of the Australian Prime Minister's Prize for Science and in 2018 was elected to the Royal Society (London).

Pratibha Singhi, MBBS, MD, FIAP, FNAMS
Former Head Dept of Pediatric Neurology, Amrita Hospital, Faridabad▪Former Director Pediatric Neurology, Medanta, The Medicity, Gurgaon.▪Former Head & Chief Pediatric Neurology, and Neurodevelopment▪Department of Pediatrics, APC, PGIMER, Chandigarh▪Consultant Rehabilitation Centre for Disabled children, Chandigarh▪Consultant Pediatric Neurologist–The Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, UK 2004,2008
President International Child Neurology Association (ICNA)
Former National Delegate India- Asian Oceanian Association of Child Neurology (AOCNA)
Former National President Association of Child Neurology (AOCN)
Rated among the top 2% scientists in the World by Stanford University USA
Published over 500 papers, 4 books.

Nicola Specchio, M.D, Ph.D, FRCP
Nicola Specchio is Chair of Neurology, Epilepsy and Movement Disorders Unit at Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, and Director of Research Unit on Neurological and Neurosurgical Diseases in Rome, Italy, and Guest Professor in Pediatric Neurology at University of Leuven, Belgium.
My main interest lies with seizure semiology and the classification of epileptic seizures and syndromes, drug resistant epilepsies, developmental and epileptic encephalopathies. I published more than 280 papers in many international journals. I am also principal investigator on different clinical trials in patients with rare and complex epilepsies and Developmental and Epileptic encephalopathies.
I am recipient of the Young Investigator Award from the Commission of European Affair of the International League Against Epilepsy (2016) and of the "John Stobo Pritchard Award" from the International Child Neurology Association (ICNA) (2020). In 2021 I got the Ambassador for Epilepsy Award from the International Leagues Against Epilepsy.



Federico Vigevano, M.D.
Since 1978 to 2024 Neurologist at Children's Hospital Bambino Gesù where he held the position of head of Neuroscience DPT. Since February 2024 head of Developmental Disabilities DPT at San Raffaele Research Institute in Rome.
Research interest: Epileptic Encephalopathies and Genetic of Epilepsy, Video-EEG and Long-term monitoring in epilepsy, Pediatric Neurology, Neuro-Developmental Disabilities, Neurorehabilitation. He identified a clinical entity, currently called Self-Limited Infantile Epilepsy. Author or co-author more than 300 papers in the most important international journals.
President of the LICE (Italian League Against Epilepsy) from 1999 to 2002; Chair of the European Advisory Council of the ILAE from 2001 to 2005, Ambassador of Epilepsy by ILAE since 2001. He received the European Epileptology Award by the European ILAE Commission in Prague, 2016. Chair of the Scientific Committee of the International Congress on Epilepsy, Rome 2011, and Honorary President of the European Epilepsy Congress, Rome 2024. He is the organizer of the "International Course on Drug Resistant Epilepsy" (Tagliacozzo – Italy) and he is member of the board of European Pediatric Neurology Society.

Kazuhiro Yamakawa, Ph.D

1980　B.Sc. (March 1984) Molecular Biology, Faculty of Science, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan.

1989　Ph.D. (May 1992) Medical Genetics　Faculty of Medicine, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan.

1984　Researcher, Department of Biochemistry, General Institute, Toyobo Co., Ltd.,Shiga, Japan.

1989　Researcher, Department of Biochemistry, Cancer Institute, Tokyo, Japan.

1994　Research fellow, Medical Genetics, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, UCLA School of Medicine, USA.

1997　Laboratory Head, Laboratory for Neurogenetics, RIKEN Brain Science Institute, Saitama, Japan

2018　Laboratory Head, Laboratory for Neurogenetics, RIKEN Center for Brain Science, Saitama, Japan

2019　Professor, NDD Genetics, Nagoya City University Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Aichi, Japan

Anannit Visudtibhan, MD

Emeritus Professor (Pediatrics: Pediatric neurology)

Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Thailand

Medical Education & Training

1984 Doctor of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Thailand

1990 Diploma, Thai Board of Pediatrics, Medical Council of Thailand

1991 Diploma of Clinical Neurology, National Hospital of Neurology and Neurosurgery, University of London, London, England

1995 Certificate in Neurology & Pediatric Neurology State University of New York, Health Science Center at Brooklyn, New York 11203, USA

1996 Certificate in Neuromuscular disorders & Electromyography, State University of New York, Health Science Center at Brooklyn, New York 11203, USA