Brain and Spinal Cord Injury: Current Status and the Future Hope for Concussion, Encephalopathy, Dementia and Paralysis

This extended forum will explore recent insights into Brain and Spinal Cord injuries which are increasing in prevalence and significance even as we gain understanding of their causes and consequences.

Program Description

The importance of concussion and deteriorating brain function resulting from mild repeated head injuries has increased with new technology. We will explore attempts to prevent and treat these injuries. Spinal cord injury, which is still largely not reversible, has stimulated ingenious technology to restore function and to enable regrowth and repair of these injuries.

Our internationally recognized speakers will present breakthrough technologies which offer hope in the prevention and treatment of these tragic injuries.

Session 1 3:30 – 5:50

Afternoon session will focus on Concussions - the acute and chronic consequences, treatment expectations and protection of the adult and adolescent brain.

This session will be moderated by Bernie Gordon with presentations by Dr. Robert Cantu, the internationally recognized, highly published neurosurgeon and Dr. Grant Iversen, who has dedicated his illustrious career to working with veterans and children with brain injury.

Kyle Lamson will share his experience with developing helmet technologies for military and sports use.

Session 2 6:30 – 8:30

The After Dinner session will focus on Spinal Cord Injuries - Restoring Spinal Cord Function and Regeneration.

Dr. John Pracyk, an outstanding neurosurgeon, will act as both moderator and presenter. He has recently re-directed his career into industrial biomedical technology and will present an overview of spinal cord injury and the resulting paralysis and disability, including insights which drive value in treatment and prevention of spinal cord injury.

Dr. Leigh Hochberg will present the leading research concepts on restoring function following spinal cord injury and paralysis, and their application to practice.

Dr. Charles Vacanti will present the most promising work on nerve and spinal cord regeneration resulting from cellular and tissue engineering.

Q&A to follow each session.

For more information, go to mdgboston.org
MDG Boston 2017–2018 Forum Schedule

Aug 16  11th Annual: Transitioning Into and Within the Medical Device Industry

Sep 13  Brain and Spinal Cord Injury: Current Status and the Future Hope for Concussion, Encephalopathy, Dementia and Paralysis

Oct 4   Augmented and Virtual Reality - From Video Games to Game Changing Developments

Nov 1   Medical Device Single Use Disposables

Dec 11  Body Shaping from the Outside

Jan 17  Advances in Lifesaving Pump Technologies

Feb 7   Wearables, Sensors

Mar 14  Health Information Technology - Clarity or Chaos

Apr 4   Success Strategies for Medical Device Startups

Apr 30  Genomics and epi-Genetics Impact on Developments in Medicine

Jun 4   Pathways to Market

Location: Regis College Fine Arts Center, Weston, MA

Member News

Welcome these New MDG Members:

Luc Aalmans  Mark Fraga  Lida Reed
Bob Andrews  Charles Freeman  Peter Rosenblatt, MD
Elizabeth Balayan  Channing Lai  Jessica Schenck
James Benedict  Mark Lefkowitz  Dhasharath Shrivathsa
Glen Bunnell  Randolph Linderman  Jeff (Jianfeng) Sun
Isaac Burk  Darcy Martin  Bernd Wagner
Marcos Caro  Carlos Morales  Stephen Wise
michael cullinan  James Natale
Lenny Dao  Lelia Adelina Paunescu
Nabeh Doumit  Maggie Pax

Renewed MDG Members:

W. Burke Bero  Kevin Pelletier
Marcos Caro  Peter Reinhart
michael cullinan  Kevin Riley
Alex Goddard  Ed Ross
David Hamacher  Peter Vandermeulen
Bill Harris  Thomas Williams
Tony McCook
Session 1 – Concussion

Moderator

Bernie Gordon, Ph.D
As one of the world’s preeminent engineers and inventors, he holds over 100 U.S. patents, many more worldwide, for breakthroughs including instant imaging CT scanning, the fetal heart monitor, and digital Doppler radar.
He was awarded the National Medal of Technology by President Reagan and established the National Academy of Engineering’s Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Engineering Leadership Education.

Presenters

Robert Cantu, MD
Clinical Prof in the Dept of Neurology and Neurosurgery, Clinical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Leader AD and CTE Center, at the BU School of Medicine, and Medical Dir and Dir of Clinical Research, Cantu Concussion Center, Emerson Hospital.
A nationally and internationally recognized expert in concussion.
Published extensively on both serious acute brain injury and the disastrous long term consequences which result in loss of brain function. A consultant to the NFL, the NHL as well as college and high school sports authorities.

Grant Iverson, PhD
Professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Harvard Medical School
Director of the Mass General Hospital for Children Sport Concussion Program
Associate Director of the Traumatic Brain Injury Program for Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Program

Kyle Lamson
Director of New Product Innovation for Xenith, LLC, a Detroit, MI manufacturer of football helmets and equipment
He is an active member of the ASTM Committee F08 on Sports Equipment and Facilities, serving on multiple sports personal protective equipment subcommittees. Projects included sports helmets as well as multiple integrated military helmet systems and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) systems. Since joining Xenith in 2012 he has helped to further develop Xenith’s patented helmet technologies through design, prototyping, testing, 3D CAD engineering, and production tooling.

Session 2 – Spinal Cord

Moderator and Presenter

John Pracyk, MD, PhD, MBA
Franchise Medical Director, Spine Strategic Medical Affairs Center of Excellence Research & Development | Global Orthopedics DePuy Synthes, Johnson & Johnson Medical Devices Companies
He has been a program architect and center director of multidisciplinary spine centers in the non-profit sector. Dr. Pracyk provides deep clinical insights to accelerate meaningful innovation and drive value and safety for spine patients worldwide.

Presenters

Leigh Hochberg, MD, PhD
Senior Lecturer on Neurology, Harvard Medical School Neurologist, Mass General Hospital, Prof of Engineering, Brown University Investigator, Rehabilitation R&D Service, Dept. VA
Dr. Hochberg’s research focuses on the development and testing of novel neurotechnologies to help people with paralysis, and understanding cortical neuronal ensemble activities in neurologic disease.

Charles Vacanti, MD
Professor Emeritus
Harvard Medical School
In 1988, Dr. Vacanti helped pioneer a new field of science, termed “Tissue Engineering”. He is known for the Vacanti mouse, a mouse with cartilage shaped like a human ear on its back.
He has published more than 116 original articles, 130 abstracts, 31 book chapters/reviews and edited one textbook. He is the inventor of more than approximately 20 pending/issued patents. His research has focused on Regenerative Medicine and stem cells.

Agenda

3:30 Assemble
4:00 Introductions MDG President, Regis University
4:30 Concussion, Acute and Chronic Consequences
4:50 Hope for Concussion Treatment
5:10 Protecting the Adult and Adolescent Brain in Sports
5:30 Panel Discussion
5:50 Dinner
6:30 Overview of Spinal Injury
6:50 Restoring Spinal Cord Function
7:10 Spinal Cord Regeneration Myth or Reality?
7:30 Panel Discussion
7:50 Displays, Networking
8:30 End
MDG Boston

We would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers who help to make this organization a success.

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About MDG Boston

MDG is the professional association for career building, knowledge acquisition and mutual support for New England medical technology professionals.

MDG sponsors Forums, Networking, SIGs (Special Interest Groups), Workshops and Special Events where diverse industry leaders can share their experience and knowledge as presenters and through peer-to-peer communications.