



Acoustic Neuroma
Association
of Canada

2010 AGM & Symposium
Saturday, September 18, 2010
Crowne Plaza Fallsview Hotel,
5685 Falls Avenue, Niagara Falls

Caring! Sharing! Supporting!

8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements



9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

“A Potential Biological Therapy of Vestibular Schwannomas: Bench to Bedside”

presented by Dr. Abhijit Guha, MD

Abhijit(Ab) Guha is currently Prof. of Neurosurgery, Co-Director of the Arthur & Sonia Labatts Brain Tumor Ctre. & The Alan & Susan Hudson Chair in Neurooncology at the Univ. of Toronto. His clinical interests are in management of peripheral and central nervous system tumors, which is also his research interest in molecular neurooncology.

Abhijit(Ab) Guha is a passionate humanitarian! Dr. Guha was born in Kolkata, India, where he helps to run several philanthropic ventures including the National Neuroscience Center and the newly opened 150 bed Inst. of Neuroscience Kolkata (INK) and Sashibhusan Karma Kendra, a primary school and work-education center. For these and other social activities he was recently recognized in Canada by receiving the Desi News Grants Community Achievers Award and the Humanitarian Award by the Indian Chamber of Commerce. He is married to Soma Guha and has two teenage children.

Current management of vestibular schwannomas is a decision made by the patient in consultation with their treating physician. There are valid reasons to observe, undertake radiosurgery or operate and sometimes in combination, each modality of management also having some risks. However, not all growing vestibular schwannomas require active intervention in terms of radiosurgery or surgery. Therapies targeting pertinent biological aberrancies based on pre-clinical research at the bench may play a role in slowing down the growth of these vestibular schwannomas. We have investigated one such family of biological targets leading to a research publication in 2009. On this basis we are embarking on a clinical trial to evaluate this biological therapy in growing vestibular schwannomas as will be discussed.



9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

“Radiosurgery Technologies for Acoustic Neuromas ”

presented by Dr. Arjun Sahgal, MD

Dr. Arjun Sahgal is passionate about serving patients better! The overall aim of his research is to further the potential to reduce radiation cognitive side effects.

Dr. Arjun Sahgal is a graduate of the University of Toronto Radiation Oncology Residency and completed fellowship at the University of California San Francisco in radiosurgery. There he gained expertise in brain and spine radiosurgery and evaluated both Gamma Knife and Cyberknife technology. He currently is a central nervous system radiation oncologist at both the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and the Princess Margaret Hospital and performs radiosurgery using the Gamma Knife at the Toronto Western.

Dr. Sahgal will provide a brief overview of radiation therapy for acoustic neuroma and in particular the process of radiosurgery with frame based systems, like the Gamma Knife, as the most common radiation approach for this disease. New technologies like the Cyberknife will also be discussed and the fundamental difference as a frameless radiosurgery system. Some limited data will be presented on outcomes and toxicity with radiosurgery.

10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Q&A – Dr. Guha and Dr. Sahgal

10:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Break



11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

“Brain Plasticity, Tinnitus & Hard of Hearing ”

presented by Dr. Larry Roberts, PhD

Dr. Roberts' passion is to investigate topics related broadly to plasticity in human sensory systems, particularly the auditory system.

Dr. Roberts is a Professor for the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario. He is currently involved in such projects as the study of brain sources and dynamics of auditory responses measured by EEG, MEG, and fMRI, effects of perceptual training on these sources, and the study of functional brain attributes in special populations including highly skilled musicians, children enrolled in Suzuki programmes, and in people who experience tinnitus (ringing of the ears).

Recent experiments (Bosynak et al, 2004) have shown that the tuning properties of neurons in the primary and secondary auditory cortex are affected differently by training at acoustic discrimination in the laboratory. The overall goal of this research is to understand the principles that describe neural plasticity in the human auditory cortex, and to apply these principles to optimizing brain development and remediating conditions such as tinnitus that involve cortical reorganization induced by hearing injuries.

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 pm. to 2:00 p.m.

2010 Annual General Meeting

Panel Members presenting on Management of Healthy Living Therapies:

Our afternoon speakers will offer information on different modalities. Following the panel presentation the speakers will lead round-table discussions on the information they have presented.

2:00 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.

“Cutting-edge information on Autologous Serum Drops”

(speaker to be confirmed)

“Recently, the use of autologous serum in the form of eye drops has been reported as a new treatment for severe ocular surface disorders. Serum eye drops may be produced as an unpreserved blood preparation. They are by nature non-allergenic and their biomechanical and biochemical properties are similar to normal tears.” *excerpt from a British Journal of Ophthalmology article.*

Autologous serum drops contain essential tear components such as epidermal growth factor, hepatocyte growth factor, fibronectin, neurotrophic growth factor, and vitamin A—all of which have been shown to play important roles in the maintenance of a healthy ocular surface epithelial milieu.

2:20 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.

BREAK

2:40 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

“Treatment Option for Facial Retraining”

presented by Jann Sumner C. Ac., CD

Jann Sumner is passionate about providing information and treatment to patients with facial paralysis. Jann hopes that some day medical practitioners will consider this type of treatment as a mainstream option for those dealing with asymmetric facial conditions.

Jann has treated a myriad of conditions using mainly acupuncture as well as micro current techniques using the Accu-O-Matic. Her interest in facial paralysis is due to her own experience after coming down with a severe case of Bells Palsy in November of 2000. Jann will provide information on how she has used the micro current technique to help retrain muscles and asymmetrical facial conditions quite successfully with Acoustic Neuroma asymmetries.

Jann is a Certified Acupuncturist since 2002, Certified Doula since 2001, Herbalist since 1989. Currently practicing in Whitby Ontario. Presently earning diploma in Holistic Nutrition.

2:40 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

“Educational Kinesiology: Brain Gym”
presented by Linda S. Clark, B.Mus

Linda thinks being a human being is FASCINATING! She is passionate about helping people perform at their best in every walk of life.

The connections between the brain and body are a two-way street. Strategic movement stimulates neural development, neural repair, and relief from stress. Brain Gym is movements that support natural skill development, optimal performance, and stress release. Linda will provide information on how simple, adaptable and suitable Brain Gym is for people of all ages and conditions. It can be an important addition to your Personal Wellness Kit.

Linda is a licensed Brain Gym instructor since 1990. She has given Brain Gym keynote presentations and trainings to various school boards and social service agencies, Otonabee College Teacher Candidates (Trent University), St. Lawrence College (Kingston, ON, campus), the Senior Centre Kingston (Ontario), and corporate wellness programs.

3:20 p.m. to 3:40 p.m.

“Qigong”
(speaker to be confirmed)

For thousands of years, millions of people have benefited from Medical Qigong practices and believed that improving the function of Qi (qi = energy) maintains health and heals disease. It is believed that the regular practice of Medical Qigong helps to cleanse the body of toxins, restore energy, reduce anxiety and stress, and help individuals maintain a healthy and active lifestyle. Medical Qigong is said to be one of the most powerful healing traditions ever developed in human history.

The Qigong is developed through years of cooperation between the most experienced physiotherapists and well-established Qigong masters from around the world. It is Medical Qigong that focuses on the western way of explanations and is said to be the most powerful and healing method. *“excerpt from a Canadian Qigong”*

3:40 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. Discussion Groups

Breakout to discussion groups lead by the panel of speakers will give you the opportunity to learn more about the topics or experience a demo.

4:10 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Speakers subject to change without notice



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Registration Form 2010 AGM & Symposium Saturday, September 18, 2010 Crowne Plaza Fallsview Hotel,

5685 Falls Avenue, Niagara Falls, Ontario

Please send your payment with your completed registration form to:
Acoustic Neuroma Association of Canada
171 Rink St., Suite 163, Peterborough, ON K9J 2J6
OR FAX TO 705-749-1614

Registration fee includes breakfast, lunch & sessions.

- \$75/person
- \$125/couple
- Friday Night Social & Silent Auction (no charge)

Please indicate if you are attending the Friday night social/silent auction to ensure we have enough space for everyone.

Participants are responsible for their own hotel and airline reservations. Please print, list all names if more than one

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

(for speedy confirmation please provide your email address)

- Cheque (payable to ANAC) Visa Mastercard
in the amount of \$ _____

Card Number: _____

Expiry Date Month/Year: _____

Name on card: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____

- Would you share a room? We will give your name and address to another who requests a roommate.

Do you have special needs?

- Deaf interpretation Wheelchair Dietary requirements
 Other _____

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR SYMPOSIUM--TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2010

**DEADLINE TO RESERVE SPECIAL RATE HOTEL ROOMS AT THE
CROWNE PLAZA FALLSVIEW--AUGUST 17, 2010**

Sponsored in part by:



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