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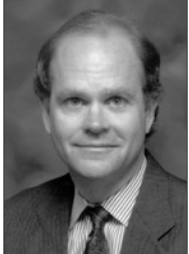
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Chairman's Message

Thomas G. Luerssen, MD



Thomas G. Luerssen, MD

The fall issue of *Pediatric Short Cuts* always is dedicated to the Annual Meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery. The AANS staff has been working all spring and summer to finalize plans for the meeting, and I have every confidence that this year's Pediatric Section meeting in Scottsdale will be an overwhelming success. Harold L. Rekate, MD, is chair of the meeting, and most of you know that he has had extensive experience in organizing national and international meetings in the Valley of the Sun. Overall, the general structure of the program is what you have expected and asked for in the past. Dr. Rekate has added some longer-format presentations and also has arranged for this year's Raimondi Lecture to be given by Volker K.H. Sonntag, MD. Look through the preliminary program and try to join us for what we all hope is an attractive scientific and social program.

Changes in Bylaws

I am hopeful that by the time you have received this issue of *Pediatric Short Cuts* the membership has approved the proposed changes in the Pediatric Section's bylaws, which the Executive Committee has designed to strengthen the governance of our organization. If the changes have been approved, this year's business meeting will be an important one for all active members of the section. With the addition of the office of chair-elect, the membership will be voting on the leadership team that will be in place for the next four years. This action will complete a necessary and planned expansion of the elected officers that began last year with the creation of the office of treasurer, as well as the expansion of the roles of the members-at-large and the Education Committee.

The availability of these additional officers, especially the new chair-elect, will allow appropriate (and expected) representation of the Pediatric Section

at the now numerous, and occasionally conflicting, meetings of the AANS and CNS leadership as well as several other important neurosurgical organizations. Finally, the expansion of the number of elected officers also will allow for a longer time horizon for planning the important activities and achieving the educational goals of the Pediatric Section. The nominating committee has now been charged to provide a slate of candidates for consideration at the annual business meeting. You should feel free to contact any or all of the recent past chairs (John Laurent, MD, Marion Walker, MD, and Dr. Rekate) and participate in this process. As always, nominations will be accepted from the floor at the time of the elections.

Who Carries Out Our Mission?

Finally, I would like to tell you about the concerns of the Pediatric Section over the past several months. Most of what your officers have been working on is related to the development of the numerous educational programs for the membership. As you know, the primary mission of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery is its educational mission. We are constantly being asked to provide printed and electronic materials, program ideas, reviewers, and speakers for a wide variety of publications and meetings. Ann Marie Flannery, MD, has expanded the membership of the Education Committee, which has been given the responsibility for much of this work. Despite this, volunteers are still needed. We also need people to undertake some writing and editorial positions. Many of these projects involve a substantial amount of time and effort, but they are critical to advancing the long-term mission of the Pediatric Section. The Executive Committee will be considering several new and expanded committee assignments at its meeting in Scottsdale. If you are an active member of the Pediatric Section and have the time and energy to contribute, please contact me with your interests.

I hope that this has been a happy and productive summer for the membership, and I look forward to seeing all of you at our winter meeting in Scottsdale.

31st Pediatric Section Annual Meeting

2002 Annual Meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery Scottsdale Is the Place to Be Dec. 4-7

Harold L. Rekate, MD Annual Meeting Chair

The annual meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery will be at the lovely Hyatt Regency Gainey Ranch Resort in Scottsdale, Ariz., from Dec. 4 through 7 of this year.

December is an excellent time to visit the Valley of the Sun with its warm temperatures and abundant natural beauty. The resort is recognized for its breathtaking setting as well as the amenities and facilities that you can enjoy. You should consider staying a day or two before or after the meeting to enjoy the excellent outdoor activities that are available at that time of year. Bring a



light jacket or sweater, as the evenings are cool due to the low humidity of the desert.

The scientific program is firm at this time and is of excellent quality from a clinical and basic science point of view. We are trying something new this year: For some of the more controversial topics, a designated discussant who is known in the field will provide context for a paper and then there

will be open discussion for the participants.

The Pediatric Section's leadership looks forward to welcoming you to Scottsdale and to joining you in the scientific and social program that has been such an important part of the history of the Pediatric Section.

Program listings are subject to change. For updates and registration information, go to the Pediatric Section's Web site at www.neurosurgery.org/pediatric/meetings.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

NOON-5:00 PM

Pre-meeting CPT Coding Course— “Advanced Coding Strategies for Pediatric Neurological Surgeons”

This advanced coding and reimbursement course is targeted toward the practicing pediatric neurosurgeon and practice support staff who are interested in expanding their knowledge of pediatric neurosurgical coding.

The seminar will take attendees through an examination of complex pediatric case coding scenarios including a discussion on the use of the new endoscopic codes.

Prior to the course, registrants will have the opportunity to send in specific questions or operative notes which will be addressed during the seminar.

You may submit more than one question or scenario. All scenarios or questions should be forwarded via e-mail to jmr@aans.org and must include your contact information. Deadline for receipt is Oct. 25, 2002.

Attendees will need to bring CPT code books for use during the course. 2003 CPT books will be available for sale on-site, or you may pre-purchase your book from the coding reimbursement categories on the AANS Online Marketplace Web site at <http://www.neurosurgery.org/marketpl>.

Faculty: John Piper, MD

Learning Objectives

After completion of this course, participants should be able to:

1. Discuss the 2002 CPT, ICD-9 and Medicare updates.

2. Choose the correct code(s) for frequently performed pediatric neurosurgical cases—simple and complex.
3. Apply modifiers appropriately for streamlined reimbursement.

NOON-5:00 PM

Pre-meeting Nurses' Seminar

The Nurses' Seminar includes presentations of normal pressure hydrocephalus and cerebral spinal fluid physiology, and a variety of topics related to pediatric neurosurgery will be explored. Discussions will include an update on in-utero closure of myelomeningocele, pediatric brain tumors and current research in pediatric head injury.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this seminar, the participants should be able to:

1. Describe current treatment strategies in pediatric brain tumors, normal pressure hydrocephalus and in-utero myelomeningocele closure.
2. Describe cerebral spinal fluid physiology.
3. Identify current research in pediatric head injury.

2:00-7:00 PM

Registration

2:00-6:00 PM

Poster Setup for Medical Registrants

6:00-7:30 PM

Opening Reception in the Palm Grove Courtyard of the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale

Thursday, Dec. 5

7:00 AM–5:15 PM
Registration

7:00–8:00 AM
Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall

7:00–8:00 AM
Poster Setup for Medical Registrants

7:00 AM–4:00 PM
Exhibit and Poster Viewing

8:00–8:05 AM
Welcome and Opening Remarks

8:05–10:05 AM
Scientific Session I—Basic Science and Vascular Lesions
Moderators: Rick Abbott, MD; David Gruber, MD
Discussants: James Rutka, MD; William Shapiro, MD

Learning Objective

Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Identify the most current research as it relates to pediatric neurological surgery.

10:05–10:30 AM
Beverage Break in Exhibit Hall With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

10:30 AM–NOON
Scientific Session II—Craniosynostosis and Craniofacial Surgery

Moderators: Ann Marie Flannery, MD; James Goodrich, MD

Learning Objective

Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Differentiate various approaches to the management of craniosynostosis and craniofacial surgery and distinguish appropriate applications.

NOON–1:15 PM
Lunch in the Exhibit Hall With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

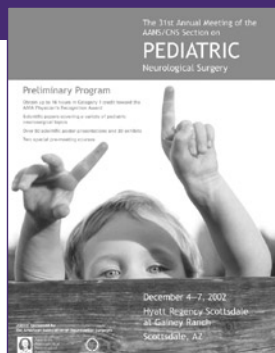
1:15–3:15 PM
Scientific Session III—Dysraphism and Congenital Anomalies
Moderators: John Grant, MD; Cheryl Muszynski, MD
Discussants: Ann Marie Flannery, MD; Mark Dias, MD

Learning Objective

Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Examine the diagnosis and treatment of dysraphic syndrome and congenital anomalies.

continued on page 4



At a Glance

31st Annual Meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery Dec. 4–7, 2002

Who Should Attend

The educational sessions are designed for neurosurgeons, residents, nurse clinicians, and physician assistants, and are directly applicable to the practice of pediatric neurosurgery.

Meeting Highlights

- Obtain up to 16 credit hours in Category 1 credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award and up to an additional 4.75 credit hours for attending optional pre-meeting programming.
- Scientific sessions presented by leading experts in pediatric neurosurgery
- Poster sessions
- Viewing of technical exhibits
- Optional pre-meeting CPT Coding and Reimbursement Course
- Optional pre-meeting Nurses' Seminar

Advance Registration Deadline — Nov. 14, 2002

Call the Registration Department at (847) 378-0500 to register or go to www.neurosurgery.org/pediatric/meetings.

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery wishes to thank the following for their unrestricted educational grants in support of the Annual Meeting (as of Oct. 4, 2002):

Celtic Innovative Technologies
Codman, a Johnson & Johnson Company
Medtronic Neurosurgery

Exhibitors (as of Oct. 4, 2002)

Acra-Cut, Inc.
Aesculap Inc.
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
BrainLAB, Inc.
Carl Zeiss Surgical, Inc.
Celtic Innovative Technologies
Children's Mercy Hospital
Codman, a Johnson & Johnson Company
Cook Neurological Inc.
Hydrocephalus Association
Image-Guided Neurologics, Inc.
Integra NeuroSciences
Jerome Medical
KLS - Martin L.P.
Leica Microsystems Inc.
Medtronic Midas Rex
Medtronic Neurological
Medtronic Neurosurgery
Phoenix Biomedical Corp.
Scanlan International, Inc.
Silverglide Surgical Technologies, Inc.
Synergetics, Inc.
Synthes
W. B. Saunders
W. Lorenz Surgical



3:15–3:45 PM
Beverage Break in Exhibit Hall With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

3:45–5:15 PM
Scientific Session IV—Functional and Epilepsy
Moderators: Glenn Morrison, MD; Frederick Boop, MD

Learning Objective
Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Integrate concepts related to functional and epilepsy surgery in the pediatric patient.

5:15–5:45 PM
Annual Business Meeting

Friday, Dec. 6

7:00 AM–4:00 PM
Registration

7:00–8:00 AM
Continental Breakfast With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

7:00 AM–4:00 PM
Exhibit and Poster Viewing

8:00–10:00 AM
Scientific Session V—Hydrocephalus
Moderators: Mark Luciano, MD; Joseph Piatt, MD
Discussants: Jogi Pattisapu, MD; Harold L. Rekate, MD

Learning Objective
Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Distinguish the benefits of the evaluation and treatment of hydrocephalus and related disorders.

10:00–10:30 AM
Beverage Break in the Exhibit Hall With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

10:30–11:20 AM
Scientific Session VI—Neuro-oncology
Moderators: Karin Muraszko, MD; Herbert Fuchs, MD

Learning Objective
Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Recognize the current best practices in the evaluation and treatment of pediatric brain tumor.

11:20–11:25 AM
Introduction of 2002 Raimondi Lecturer by Harold L. Rekate, MD

11:25 AM–NOON
Raimondi Lecture—“Assessment of Competence in Neurosurgery”
by Volker K.H. Sonntag, MD
Co-Director, Department of Neurosurgery
Barrow Neurological Institute
Chairman, ABNS Committee on Assessment of Competence
Moderator: Harold L. Rekate, MD

Learning Objectives
Upon completion of this program the participants should be able to:

1. Recognize his or her responsibilities regarding individual maintenance of knowledge base and skills required to continue to practice neurosurgery.
2. Assess competency in neurosurgery.
3. Recognize the methods by which the American Board of Neurological Surgery will judge competence in the neurosurgeons that it certifies.

NOON–1:15 PM
Lunch in the Exhibit Hall With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

Do You Know Someone Who Could Benefit From Pediatric Section Membership?

Let them know about us. E-mail direct links to:

- Pediatric Section’s Web Site
www.neurosurgery.org/pediatric
- Pediatric Section Membership Application
www.neurosurgery.org/pediatric/pedsapp.pdf

Invite them to join us at:

- Pediatric Section’s Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, Dec. 4-7
www.neurosurgery.org/pediatric/meetings

1:15–2:55 PM

Scientific Session VII—Tumors

*Moderators: Jeffrey Wisoff, MD; Leland Albright, MD
Discussants: Timothy Mapstone, MD; Arnold Menezes, MD*

Learning Objective

Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Recognize the current best practices in the evaluation and treatment of pediatric brain tumors.

2:55–3:15 PM

Beverage Break in the Exhibit Hall With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

3:15–4:15 PM

Scientific Session VIII—Dysraphism II

Moderators: Timothy George, MD; Michael Partington, MD

Learning Objective

Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Examine the diagnosis and treatment of dysraphic syndrome.

4:15–5:30 PM

Wine & Cheese Reception With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

Saturday, Dec. 7

7:00 AM–NOON

Registration

7:00–8:00 AM

Continental Breakfast With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

7:00–11:00 AM

Exhibit and Poster Viewing

8:00–10:00 AM

Scientific Session IX—Endoscopy and Trauma

*Moderators: Andrew Parent, MD; Alan Cohen, MD
Discussants: Ann-Christine Dubaime, MD; Alan Cohen, MD*

Learning Objective

Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

1. Identify current trends in intracranial endoscopy and pediatric trauma.

10:00–10:30 AM

Beverage Break in the Exhibit Hall With Exhibit and Poster Viewing

10:30 AM–NOON

Scientific Session X—Pediatric Neurosurgery Potpourri

Moderators: Arthur Marlin, MD; Paul Steinbok, MD

Learning Objective

Upon completion of this program, the participants should be able to:

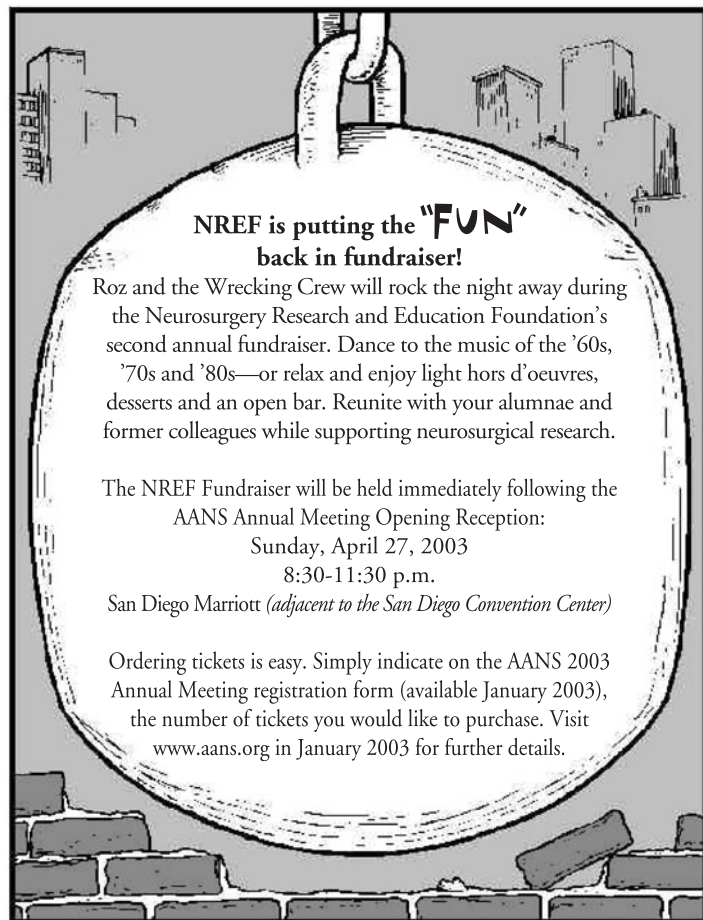
1. Examine current treatment and outcomes in a variety of neurosurgical conditions.

NOON–12:05 PM

Closing Remarks

Moved? New E-mail?

Notify AANS, CNS and ABNS of changes to your contact information online. Go to www.neurosurgery.org/directory, locate your record by searching on your name, click the “update your listing” button, and follow the instructions to quickly and easily update your listing for all three organizations at once.



**Mark Your Calendars
for the 71st AANS Annual Meeting!**

“Cultural Connections: Bringing Global Perspective to Neurosurgery”

**April 26-May 1, 2003
San Diego, Calif.**

Visit the AANS Web site at www.aans.org to learn about this year’s captivating speakers and innovative scientific program. Registration materials will be available in January.

Business Meeting Minutes: AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

SEPT. 24, 2002

**Liberty Hall
Philadelphia, Penn.**

Call to Order

Thomas G. Luerssen, MD, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

New Business

Dr. Luerssen presented a proposed change to the Pediatric Section's bylaws to establish the office of chair-elect. The section would therefore have the following officers: chair, chair-elect, secretary and treasurer. There was no discussion and the measure was approved by acclamation.

Next Dr. Luerssen asked for the membership's approval to have Cheryl Muszynski, MD, rewrite the bylaws to be gender neutral. This too was approved by acclamation.

Adjournment

No further business was brought from the floor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Abbott, MD
Secretary

APRIL 9, 2002

**McCormick Place, Lakeside
Chicago, Ill.**

Call to Order

Thomas G. Luerssen, MD, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

There was a motion that the minutes of the previous business meeting in December 2001 be accepted. There were no corrections and the minutes were approved by acclamation.

Financial Report

Jeffrey Wisoff, MD, reported the treasury to be roughly \$20,000 in the black, although expenses would still be tallied against this until the close of the fiscal year.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee

On behalf of Ann-Christine Duhaime, MD, Rick Abbott, MD, presented the following names as applicants for membership in the Pediatric Section:

For Active Membership

David Gruber, MD; Spokane
Jeffrey Campbell, MD; Charleston
Howard Weiner, MD; New York
Nathan Selden, MD; Portland
Mark Mittler, MD; New Hyde Park
George Burson, MD; Little Rock

For Associate Membership

Michael Nido, PA; Charlotte

It was moved, seconded and passed to accept all candidates for membership to their respective categories.

Annual Meeting Report

Harold L. ReKate, MD, reported that the winter meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Gainey Ranch in Scottsdale, with the opening cocktail reception being held on Wednesday, Dec. 4, and the scientific session running from Thursday, Dec. 5, through Saturday, Dec. 7.

New Business

Dr. Luerssen next presented a proposal to establish the office of chair-elect. His rationale was that the section was increasingly being asked to provide representation to meetings of various societies and organizations throughout the year. These meetings frequently conflicted with obligations held by the chair. The establishment of the office of chair-elect would greatly alleviate this problem. A proposed change in the bylaws will be circulated to the membership within the next few months and a special business meeting will be held at the CNS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia this fall to allow membership to vote on the bylaws change. This will allow the Nominating Committee to present a nominee for this new office at our winter meeting in Scottsdale.

Dr. Wisoff then questioned whether membership would accept either a Web-based or e-mail version of *Pediatric Short Cuts* in lieu of the currently mailed paper version. He made the point that this would result in a significant savings in publishing and mailing expense. After some discussion it was decided that Dr. Wisoff would investigate the costs for the current publication.

Ann Marie Flannery, MD, then announced that she was forming a team of speakers with prepared topics that would be available for presentation at various meetings throughout the year. She asked both for volunteers for this speakers' bureau and for topics of interest from the membership.

Adjournment

No further business was brought from the floor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Abbott, MD
Secretary

News From the Hydrocephalus Association

Joining California NeuroAlliance Aids Advocacy

Advocacy is one of the three primary goals of the Hydrocephalus Association. Toward that end, the association recently participated in the second annual Advocacy Day sponsored by the California NeuroAlliance in Sacramento, Calif. Longstanding Hydrocephalus Association board member and healthcare advocacy veteran Cynthia Solomon has been responsible for getting the association more actively involved in healthcare policy development and consumer advocacy in recent years.

The California NeuroAlliance began as a pilot project of the American Academy of Neurology. It is a diverse coalition of voluntary health organizations, physicians, and other healthcare professionals throughout California. Organizations include United Cerebral Palsy Association, Epilepsy Foundation, Brain Injury Association of America, Alzheimer's Association, and others. The alliance is dedicated to promoting access to quality healthcare through education, public awareness, and advocacy.

About California NeuroAlliance

The California NeuroAlliance has identified a number of primary concerns affecting persons with neurological conditions. In particular, it plans to address:

- limited drug access; closed formularies;
- out-of-pocket costs for the care of chronic neurological conditions;
- access to specialist physicians;
- insurance coverage (if covered and level of coverage);
- access to community resources about neurological conditions; and
- employment situations of persons with neurological conditions.

There Is Strength in Numbers

Alone, the Hydrocephalus Association represents a relatively small number of voters. Alone, the association does not have the clout to meet with senators and assembly members. Alone, it does not have the person-power or the expertise to effectively track and comment on relevant legislation.

In joining the California NeuroAlliance, the Hydrocephalus Association brings to this coalition 20 years of experience as the nation's largest and most respected organization devoted exclusively to hydrocephalus. Understanding the value and importance of taking an active role in formulating healthcare policy for chronic conditions, the association welcomes this opportunity to strengthen its reach by joining the California NeuroAlliance with the goal of becoming more effective advocates for our diverse community—patients, family members and healthcare professionals.

AANS Course Schedule

Beyond Residency: The Real World

Oct. 26, 2002 Chicago, Ill.
Oct. 4, 2003 Los Angeles, Calif.

Managing Coding & Reimbursement Challenges in Neurosurgery

Nov. 15-16, 2002 Washington, D.C.
Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2003 Tampa, Fla.
Feb. 21-22, 2003 San Antonio, Texas
March 14-15, 2003 Seattle, Wash.
May 16-17, 2003 Chicago, Ill.
Aug. 22-23, 2003 Charlotte, N.C.
Sept. 26-27, 2003 San Francisco, Calif.
Nov. 21-22, 2003 Baltimore, Md.

Neurosurgical Review by Case Management:

Oral Board Preparation

Nov. 10-12, 2002 Houston, Texas
May 11-13, 2003 Cincinnati, Ohio
Nov. 9-11, 2003 Houston, Texas

Advanced Endoscopic Surgical Procedures

Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2003 Memphis, Tenn.

Basic Principles of Anatomy and Terminology for Neurosurgery Office Staff

Jan. 30, 2003 Tampa, Fla.
Feb. 20, 2003 San Antonio, Texas

Neurosurgical Practice Management

May 18, 2003 Chicago, Ill.
Sept. 28, 2003 San Francisco, Calif.

For more information or to register call (888) 566-AANS or visit www.neurosurgery.org/aans/meetings/epm/epmcourses.html.

AANS/CNS Section Annual Meetings 2003-2004

AANS/CNS Section on Cerebrovascular Surgery and the American Society of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology

Feb. 16-19, 2003 Phoenix, Ariz.
Feb. 1-4, 2004 San Diego, Calif.
www.neurosurgery.org/cv

AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves

March 5-8, 2003 Tampa, Fla.
March 17-20, 2004 San Diego, Calif.
www.neurosurgery.org/spine

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Dec. 3-6, 2003 Miami, Fla.
www.neurosurgery.org/pediatric

Other Meetings of Interest

American Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery

Feb. 2-7, 2003 Kona, Hawaii
www.aspn.org

International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery

Sept. 14-18, 2003 Monte Carlo Grand Hotel, Monaco
www.ispn.org

For frequent updates to these events and others, go to www.neurosurgery.org/calendar.

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Future Annual Meeting Chair

TBA

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