



February 2010

Grand Rounds Presentations

See videos of select Mayo Clinic [Grand Rounds presentations](#).

New presentations are posted regularly.

Refer a Patient

To refer a patient or arrange a consultation:

[Arizona Referrals](#)

866-629-6362 (toll-free)

[Florida Referrals](#)

800-634-1417 (toll-free)

[Minnesota Referrals](#)

[Neurology](#)

507-284-1588

[Neurosurgery](#)

507-284-8008

[Other Consults](#)

800-533-1564 (toll-free)

Clinical Trials

Clinical Trials Open to Patient Recruitment for [Brain and Nerve Disease Research](#)

Continuing Medical Education

Mayo School of Continuous Professional Development
[Neurology and Neurologic Surgery Course Offerings](#)

Comments?

We're interested in your [feedback](#) about this newsletter.

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Patient Care

Virtual Spine Clinic

At Mayo Clinic in Arizona, a prescreening process for potential patients with complicated spine problems expedites evaluation and treatment for many people and saves others an unnecessary trip. An interdisciplinary team of physicians reviews 30 to 40 cases every other week, including the patient's medical record, imaging studies and patient-provided data. [Learn more.](#)

Cancer Detection in Patients with Paraneoplastic Disorders

The use of positron emission tomography-computed tomography (PET-CT) improves the detection of some cancers when other standard screening test results, including CT, are negative in patients with paraneoplastic neurological disorders. A Mayo Clinic study identified abnormalities suggestive of cancer in 22 of 56 consecutive patients with clinically suspected paraneoplastic neurological disorders. [Learn more and view video.](#)

Collaborative Management of Pediatric Brain Tumor

Children with brain tumors may exhibit obvious signs, but often their symptoms are less specific. Experience is a major factor affecting pediatric brain tumor surgical outcomes. At Mayo, specialists from pediatric oncology, neurology, neuroradiology, neurosurgery and neuropathology collaborate to smooth the diagnostic process and provide state-of-the-art surgical and medical management for pediatric brain tumor. [Learn more.](#)

Research

Deep Brain Stimulation

Neurosurgeons know that deep brain stimulation (DBS) works, but not exactly how. The Mayo Clinic-based Deep Brain Stimulation Consortium — a team of scientists and engineers from four research institutions — works to uncover the mechanisms that make DBS effective and develop a smart DBS that acts something like a thermostat for the brain. [Learn more.](#)

Monitoring and Treating ALS

Neurologists at Mayo Clinic in Florida are working to develop a reliable peripheral blood test to monitor the rate of nerve fiber loss in patients with Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS). Current tests used to measure the effects of therapeutic intervention to slow disease progression lack precision and can require 12 months to give results. [Learn more.](#)

Novel Therapies for Glioblastoma

Mayo Clinic research on the use of oncolytic viruses and novel targeted drug combinations in the treatment of glioblastoma has translated into clinical trials that provide data for further research. Glioblastoma is a key focus area for Mayo's brain cancer researchers. These tumors are resistant to conventional therapy, including surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy. [Learn more.](#)

STATISCOM Improves Seizure Localization

A statistical parametric mapping and MRI voxel-based method of analyzing ictal-interictal SPECT difference data (STATISCOM) builds upon the previous SISCOM technique for seizure localization before temporal lobe epilepsy (TLE) surgery, according to research conducted at Mayo Clinic. Use of STATISCOM improves surgical accuracy and increases the probability of seizure freedom for patients with epilepsy. [Learn more and view video.](#)

Mild Cognitive Impairment — 10 Years Later

Mild cognitive impairment represents the intermediate stage between normal aging and the early stages of Alzheimer disease. People with mild cognitive impairment have an increased risk of developing Alzheimer disease within five years. New research studies the role of imaging measures and chemical biomarkers in predicting the development of Alzheimer disease and the possibility of disease-modifying therapies. [Learn more and view video.](#)

Education

Hot Topics in Neurology and Neurosurgery for the Primary Clinician

May 14-15, 2010

This course provides education on new interventional therapies available for various neurological and neurosurgical conditions that have evolved over the last 10 years. Updates include deep brain stimulation and endovascular interventions for cerebrovascular disease. Location: Geffen Auditorium, Gonda Building, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

Contact: 800-323-2688 (toll-free) or [email](#)

[Register now](#)

Practical Neurology Update

July 7-10, 2010

This course is both a primer of common neurological, neurosurgical and psychiatric clinical problems faced by primary care providers and an intensive review for neurologists, neurosurgeons and psychiatrists.

Location: Coronado, Calif.

Contact: 480-301-4580 or mcs.cme@mayo.edu

[Register now](#)

Neuroradiology: Practice to Innovation

Nov. 8-12, 2010

Learn about new trends, relevant techniques and applications in diagnostic and therapeutic neuroradiology. This course is designed for the practicing radiologist and others involved in the neurological sciences.

Location: Naples, Fla.

Contact: 866-246-1581 (toll-free) or radiology.cme.@mayo.edu

Online registration not yet available

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