**NEUROLOGY**

**RESIDENCY APPLICATION HANDBOOK**

**JANUARY 2018**

**CAREER ADVISING COORDINATOR:**

**Cindy Zadikoff, M.D.**

**Contact: Sean Lynge**

**312-503-2465/sean.lynge@northwestern.edu**

**Davee Department of Neurology**

Dimitri Krainc, MD, PhD Chairman of Neurology

Cindy Zadikoff, MD Director of Medical Student Education

Stephen VanHaerents, MD Associate Director of Neurology Clerkship

Danny Bega, MD Program Director of Neurology Residency

Dear Students,

Congratulations on your decision to pursue or consider a career in Neurology. It is a truly fascinating field. This handbook has been designed to guide you or help you through the process.

You will find the members of our department will be very helpful to you in this process. The 2 main advisors are:

1. Cindy Zadikoff MD, Director of Medical Student Education

Email: [czadikof@nm.org](mailto:czadikof@nm.org), pager: 695-9240

1. Dimitri Krainc, MD/PhD Chairman of Neurology

Phone of administrative assistant: Suzanne Pressler: 312-503-3936

Please start by making an appointment to talk with Dr. Zadikoff (email or pager). She will help you with all aspects of the application process, including:

1. Assist you in planning your senior year including your senior electives and/ or research opportunities, based on your interests, strengths and weaknesses.
2. Review your CV and Personal Statement and help you develop a strategy for your application.
3. Help you identify members in the department whom you can speak with regarding letters of reference.
4. Suggest other members of the faculty to talk with particularly if they are knowledgeable about a particular program that you are interested in.

You should also meet with Dr. Krainc individually. You can do this by calling his assistant, Suzanne Pressler (312-503-3936). Dr. Kessler is also an excellent resource regarding various residency programs and both can assist you with formulating a potential list of programs to apply to

The Neurology Education Team usually puts in a considerable amount of time in helping you. In addition if you want to have a separate advisor/mentor, almost all of our faculty members are willing to spend time with you. Some of the reasons for having another advisor/ mentor are:

1. To receive specific advice about a geographic area or particular institute that you may be interested in applying to (particularly if the faculty member is from that area).
2. More information about a subspecialty such as epilepsy, stroke, neuromuscular disease, sleep etc.
3. Advice about lifestyle issues and other unique situations.
4. In an attempt to spend time with someone in your chosen field that you can personally relate to.

When you meet with any of the faculty advisors, please have the following available with you (*if you have not yet completed your CV, that is okay)*:

1. Curriculum vitae
2. Board scores
3. Grades and Clerkship evaluations

List of Faculty from NMH and LCMH in the fields of Neurology and Pediatric Neurology: (if you are considering applying for Child Neurology, please email Rebecca Garcia-Sosa (email: rgarciasosa@luriechildrens.org ); e-mails for the faculty below are at <http://www.neurology.northwestern.edu/faculty/index.html>.

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| --- | --- |
| Dimitri Krainc, MD/PhD  [krainc@northwestern.edu](mailto:krainc@northwestern.edu) | Chairman Department of Neurology |
| Cindy Zadikoff , MD  [c-zadikoff@northwestern.edu](mailto:c-zadikoff@northwestern.edu)  John A. Kessler, MD  [jakessler@northwestern.edu](mailto:jakessler@northwestern.edu) | Associate Professor (Movement Disorders)  Director of Medical Education in Neurology  Ken and Ruth Davee Professor in Stem Cell Biology |
| Tanya Simuni, MD  [t-simuni@northwestern.edu](mailto:t-simuni@northwestern.edu)  Sabra Abbott, MD  [Sabra.abbott@northwestern.edu](mailto:Sabra.abbott@northwestern.edu) | Professor; Director, Movement Disorders Division  Instructor (Sleep Disorders) |
| Sandeep K. Aggarwal, MD  [Ska801@northwestern.edu](mailto:Ska801@northwestern.edu) | Clinical Assistant Professor |
| Senda Ajroud-Driss, MD  [s-ajroud@md.northwestern.edu](mailto:s-ajroud@md.northwestern.edu) | Associate Professor |
| Hrayr Attarian, MD  [h-attrian@northwestern.edu](mailto:h-attrian@northwestern.edu) | Professor |
| Rajeshwar Awatramani, PhD  r-awatramani@northwestern.edu | Associate Professor (Basic research) |
| Roumen Balabanov, MD  [roumen.balabanov@northwestern.edu](mailto:roumen.balabanov@northwestern.edu) | Associate Professor (Comprehensive Neurology) |
| Richard A. Bernstein, MD/PhD  [r-bernstein@northwestern.edu](mailto:r-bernstein@northwestern.edu) | Professor (Stroke/Cerebrovascular) |
| Carolyn Bevan, MD  [carolyn.bevan@northwestern.edu](mailto:carolyn.bevan@northwestern.edu) | Assistant Professor |
| Allan Burke, MD  [neuroflute@aol.com](mailto:neuroflute@aol.com) | Professor (General Neurology) |
| Katherine S. Carroll, MD  [kcarroll@northwestern.edu](mailto:kcarroll@northwestern.edu) | Clinical Instructor  (General Neurology) |
| Yvonne Curran, MD  [yvonnecurran@sbcglobal.net](mailto:yvonnecurran@sbcglobal.net) | Assistant Professor  (Stroke) |
| Bruce A. Cohen, MD  [bac106@northwestern.edu](mailto:bac106@northwestern.edu) | Professor; Director, Neuroimmunology Division |
| Karan S. Dixit  [karan.dixit@northwestern.edu](mailto:karan.dixit@northwestern.edu) | Instructor (Neuro-Oncology) |
| Elizabeth Gerard, MD  e-gerard@northwestern.edu | Assistant Professor |
| Nida G. Gleveckas-Martens, DO  [nidamartens@hotmail.com](mailto:nidamartens@hotmail.com) | Assistant Professor (General Neurology) |
| Elena Grebenciucova  [elena.grebenciucova@northwestern.edu](mailto:elena.grebenciucova@northwestern.edu) | Instructor (MS/Neuroimmunology) |
| Timothy C Hain, MD  [t-hain@northwestern.edu](mailto:t-hain@northwestern.edu) | Professor, Neurology and Otolaryngology |
| Scott L. Heller, MD  [s-heller@northwestern.edu](mailto:s-heller@northwestern.edu) | Associate Professor (General Neurology) |
| Priya Kumthekar, MD  [p-kumthekar@md.northwestern.edu](mailto:p-kumthekar@md.northwestern.edu)  Li, John Michael, MD  [John-michael.li@northwestern.edu](mailto:John-michael.li@northwestern.edu)  Eric Liotta, MD  [eliotta@nmff.org](mailto:eliotta@nmff.org)  Rimas V. Lukas, MD  [rimas.lukas@northwestern.edu](mailto:rimas.lukas@northwestern.edu)  Matthew Maas, MD  [mbaas@northwestern.edu](mailto:mbaas@northwestern.edu) | Assistant Professor (Neuro-Oncology)  Assistant Professor (Neuro Muscular)  Assistant Professor (Neuro Critical Care)  Associate Professor (Neuro-Oncology)  Assistant Professor (Neuro Critical Care) |
| Michael P. Macken, MD  [m-macken@northwestern.edu](mailto:m-macken@northwestern.edu)  Roneil Malkani, MD  r-malkani@md.northwestern.edu | Assistant Professor (Epilepsy)  Instructor (Sleep disorders) |
| Onur Melen, MD  [o-melen@northwestern.edu](mailto:o-melen@northwestern.edu)  Daniella Menichella, MD/PhD  d-menichella@md.northwestern.edu | Assistant Professor (Neuropthalmology)  Assistant Profesor/Instructor (General Neurology and Research) |
| M. Marsel Mesulam, MD  [mmesulam@northwestern.edu](mailto:mmesulam@northwestern.edu) | Ruth and Evelyn Dunbar Professor of Neurology, Psychiatry, and Psychology  Director, The Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer’s Disease Center |
| Michael Minieka, MD  [Chic.ergo@att.net](mailto:Chic.ergo@att.net) | Clinical Assistant Professor (General Neurology) |
| Andrew M. Naidech, MD/MSPH  [a-naidech@northwestern.edu](mailto:a-naidech@northwestern.edu)  Aditi Narechania, MD  a-narechania@northwestern.edu | Associate Professor of Neurology, Neurological Surgery and Anesthesiology  Instructor (Epilepsy) |
| Puneet Opal, MD/PhD  [p-opal@northwestern.edu](mailto:p-opal@northwestern.edu)  Shyam Prabhakaran, MD/MS  sprabhak@nmff.org | Associate Professor (Movement Disorders)  Associate Professor (Stroke) |
| Jeffrey J. Raizer, MD  [jraizer@nmff.org](mailto:jraizer@nmff.org)  Ilana Ruff, MD  Ialana.ruff@northwestern.edu | Professor; Director, Neuro-oncology Division  Assistant Professor (Stroke) |
| Stephan U. Schuele, MD, MPH  [s-schuele@northwestern.edu](mailto:s-schuele@northwestern.edu) | Associate Professor; Director, Epilepsy Division |
| Alan Shepard , MD  [a-shepard@northwestern.edu](mailto:a-shepard@northwestern.edu) | Clinical Assistant Professor (General Neurology) |
| Teepu Siddique, MD  [t-siddique@northwestern.edu](mailto:t-siddique@northwestern.edu) | Les Turner ALS Foundation/Herbert C. Wenske Foundation Professor Director, Neuromuscular/Neurogenetics Division |
| Marc W. Slutzky, MD/PhD  [mslutzky@md.northwestern.edu](mailto:mslutzky@md.northwestern.edu) | Assistant Professor (Epilepsy and General Neurology) |
| Robert L. Sufit , MD  [r-sufit@northwestern.edu](mailto:r-sufit@northwestern.edu)  Jinny Tavee, MD  [jinny.tavee@northwestern.edu](mailto:jinny.tavee@northwestern.edu)  Stephen VanHaerents, MD  [Stephen.vanhaerents@northwestern.edu](mailto:Stephen.vanhaerents@northwestern.edu) | Professor (Neuromuscular)  Associate Professor (Neuromuscular Disease)  Instructor (Epilepsy) |
| Phyllis Zee, MD/PhD  [p-zee@northwestern.edu](mailto:p-zee@northwestern.edu) | Professor; Director, Sleep Disorders Division |

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**Residents in Adult Neurology**

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| **PGY** | **Name** |
| 4 | George Culler |
| 4 | Linda Jiang |
| 4 | Douglas Juvinall |
| 4 | Danielle Larson |
| 4 | Adam Margolius |
| 4 | Neil Nadkarni |
| 4 | Atif Sheikh |
| 4 | Arth Srivistava |
| 3 | Amanda Abuaf |
| 3 | Scott Adney |
| 3 | Joshua Cahan |
| 3 | Ornella Dubaz |
| 3 | Paulina Latapi |
| 3 | Alexa King |
| 3 | Shailee Shah |
| 3 | Neil Shetty |
| 2 | Isaac Bourgeois |
| 2 | Nupur Brahmbatt |
| 2 | Nicholas Hac |
| 2 | Jose Morales |
| 2 | Behnam Sabayan |
| 2 | Jennifer Smith |
| 2 | Eunice Torres-Rivera |
| 2 | Margaret Yu |

**Fellows in Pediatric Neurology (Lurie Children’s)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PGY** | **Name** |
| 6 | Theresa Czech, MD |
| 5 | Mithal Divakar, MD |
| 5 | Alejandro De La Torre, MD |
| 4 | Reega Purohit, MD |
| 3 | Laura Vernon, MD |
| 3 | Ethan Rosenberg, MD |
| 3 | Matias Lopez Chacon, MD |

**Neurologic Fellows**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Ian Grant, MD | Behavioral/Cognitive | [ian.grant@northwestern.edu](mailto:ian.grant@northwestern.edu) |
| Zehra Husain, MD | Clinical Neurophysiology | [zehra.husain1@northwestern.edu](mailto:zehra.husain1@northwestern.edu) |
| Egidio Spinelli, MD (Peds) | Clinical Neurophysiology | [egidio.spinelli@northwestern.edu](mailto:egidio.spinelli@northwestern.edu) |
| Melissa Cirillo, MD (Peds) | Clinical Neurophysiology | [mcirillo@luriechildrens.edu](mailto:mcirillo@luriechildrens.edu) |
| Yara Mikhaeil-Demo, MD | Epilepsy Fellow | [y-mikhaeil@northwestern.edu](mailto:y-mikhaeil@northwestern.edu) |
| Dave Shahani, MD | Epilepsy Fellow | [dave.shahani@northwestern.edu](mailto:dave.shahani@northwestern.edu) |
| Neha Prakash | Movement Disorders Fellow | [neha.prakash@northwestern.edu](mailto:neha.prakash@northwestern.edu) |
| Hamza Malek, MD | Neuromuscular Fellow | [hamza.malek@northwestern.edu](mailto:hamza.malek@northwestern.edu) |
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| Dionne Swor | Neuro-critical Care Fellow | [dionne.swor@northwestern.edu](mailto:dionne.swor@northwestern.edu) |
| Alan Long, MD | Neuro-critical Care Fellow | [alan.long1@northwestern.edu](mailto:alan.long1@northwestern.edu) |
| Nawal Shaikh, MD | Neuro-Oncology | [nawal.shaikh@northwestern.edu](mailto:nawal.shaikh@northwestern.edu) |
| Innessa Donskoy | Sleep Fellow | [innessa.donskoy@northwestern.edu](mailto:innessa.donskoy@northwestern.edu) |
| Annise Wilson, MD | Sleep Fellow | [annise.wilson@northwestern.edu](mailto:annise.wilson@northwestern.edu) |
| Ashima Sahni, MD | Sleep Fellow | [ashima.sahni@northwestern.edu](mailto:ashima.sahni@northwestern.edu) |
| Chen Lin, MD | Vascular Neurology | [chen.lin1@northwestern.edu](mailto:chen.lin1@northwestern.edu) |
| Philip Chang, MD | Vascular Neurology | [philip-chang@northwestern.edu](mailto:philip-chang@northwestern.edu) |
| Rasha Katib | Stroke Research | [rasha.alkhatib@northwestern.edu](mailto:rasha.alkhatib@northwestern.edu) |

**OTHER KEYS TO SUCEED IN APPLICATION PROCESS:**

**I**. Taking an elective early (July, August and September) in your M4 year is strongly advised for the following reasons:

* + 1. To help confirm your interest in Neurology.
    2. To form a relation with the Neurology faculty members. Remember, they need to get to know you, so that they can write letters for you.

In general it is not necessary to do more than 1 month of elective in neurology, unless you have a special reason, such as wanting to spend time in research or wanting to do an outside rotation. You should spend your time learning as much as you can about other fields such as cardiology, ophthalmology etc. You will have the rest of your life to learn neurology.

The following electives are available:

1. *Selected experience rotation* in the outpatient clinic – you are given the opportunity to choose from a variety of subspecialty clinics in Neurology. This is a great experience, and gives a realistic view of how outpatient Neurology will be like. Remember most of Neurology is outpatient. In addition, this rotation can be combined with a selected inpatient or subspecialty experience or you can spend all 4 weeks in a subspecialty service such as Epilepsy or Neuro-Oncology. We try to tailor the experience to your interests.
2. *Research Elective in Neurology-* this is a 3 month elective, under the supervision of Dr. Jack Kessler and various other research faculty in the department.

**II.** Plan for *letters of recommendation*. At least 1-2 of your letters should be from the department of Neurology. Also it is advisable to request letters from faculty members from internal medicine or any other specialty where you spent a good deal of time. Programs will want to know how faculty members from other specialties view you.

**III.** Compose your *personal statement* and review it with Dr. Zadikoff and/or other advisors.

**IV.** Complete your application by the required ERAS date.

**V.** Plan to interview in November and/or December. Most programs also have dates available in January.

**VI.** The Neurology Match is part of the regular match. You will need to submit separate applications for Neurology and Preliminary Medicine positions. The Neurology programs may be categorical and offer a first year preliminary spot as part of their program.

**VII.** Keep your advisor updated regarding your interviews and how they went. Remember to write brief letters of thanks to the people you interviewed with. If for any reason you cannot make it to an interview, you should call them a week before or as soon as you can to let them know that you cannot make it.