CONy 2022 Virtual Congress Scientific Program

Program times refer to Central European Time (CET)

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2022		
14:00-15:40	**AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS (ALS)**	**HALL C**
Chair:	**Nigel Leigh**, UK	
14:00-14:50	**Plasma neurofilament light (NfL) levels are now an essential addition to the ALS clinic**	
	Capsule: Measurements of plasma NfL levels are now widely available and may provide biomarkers for disease activity, progression and prognosis in ALS. However, their place in the ALS clinic is uncertain: Are they useful in diagnosis? If so, in what context? Do NfL levels have useful prognostic value? Can they help in monitoring response to therapy? Our debate will crystalise the evidence for and against the use of plasma measurements of NfL proteins in the ALS/neuromuscular disorders clinic.	
14:00-14:10	Introduction and Pre-Debate Voting	
14:10-14:25	Yes: **Henrik Zetterberg**, Sweden	
14:25-14:40	No: **Martin Turner**, UK	
14:40-14:50	Discussion, Rebuttals and Post-Debate Voting	
14:50-15:40	**The human is the only valid model for ALS drug discovery**	
	Capsule: Remarkable progress on the science of ALS pathophysiology has been made in the last decade. Yet similar progress has not been seen in the identification of successful ALS therapeutics. Since the mid 1990's much preclinical work depended on animal models of ALS with vanishingly few successful outcomes. More recently the emergence of various human models along with sophisticated approaches to human postmortem tissues/biofluids has surfaced. The discussants will provide arguments for and against these widely different approaches to ALS modeling and therapy identification.	
14:50-15:00	Introduction and Pre-Debate Voting	
15:00-15:15	Yes: **Albert Ludolph**, Germany	
15:15-15:30	No: **Lucie Bruijn**, UK	
15:30-15:40	Discussion, Rebuttals and Post-Debate Voting	

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15:40-17:20	**AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS (ALS)**	**HALL C**
Chair:	**Jeffrey D. Rothstein,** USA	
15:40-16:30	**Should high calorie high fat diet be started at diagnosis in ALS?**	
	Capsule: Catabolism is a negative prognostic factor for ALS. There is amounting evidence that counteracting catabolism in ALS is beneficial for survival of ALS patients and motor function. The focus is on the time of intervention which includes definition of the treatment target, and the type of intervention.	
15:40-15:50	Introduction	
15:50-16:20	**Albert Ludolph**, Germany	
16:20-16:30	Discussion	
16:30-17:20	**Are the new treatments for spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), successful in the young, also indicated for adults?** *Capsule: The recent identification of gene therapy for SMA has been one of the most profound therapy discoveries for neurology- to effectively cure a fatal infant disease of motor neurons. It is also one of the most expensive therapies in the whole of medical practice. SMA also affects adults as a slowly progressive yet disabling disorder. Should these remarkable therapies also be applied to adult onset SMA individuals?*	
16:30-16:40	Introduction and Pre-Debate Voting	
16:40-16:55	YES: **Susanne Petri**, Germany	
16:55-17:10	NOT ALWAYS: **Amos D. Korczyn**, Israel	
17:10-17:20	Discussion, Rebuttals and Pre-Debate Voting	