



14TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

FRI–SUN, SEPTEMBER 27–29, 2024

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Alison Alford, MD, FAHS, FAAN, hails from Pennsylvania where she grew up with an older sister and brother. She attended University of Miami for her Bachelor's in Psychobiology. She then traveled closer to home to attend medical school in Philadelphia at Jefferson Medical College. When she graduated, she matched to her residency and fellowship at Virginia Commonwealth University. She serves on a number of boards and committees including the Southern Headache Society, American Headache Society, and the American Academy of Neurology. Dr. Alford knows what her patients live with, having lived with migraines since she was in medical school. She also became passionate about helping children with migraines first during her rotations in medical school and it grew while in practice in the Richmond area. Also, as a former athlete, she is enthusiastic about helping children recover from sports concussions. She opened the Pediatric Headache Center of Richmond in 2016 to provide world-class care for headache and concussion patients by having all the best resources under one roof. Since that time, she has served over 5,000 patients, providing quality care and improving the lives of patients suffering from migraines.

Hrayr Attarian, MD, is a practicing neurologist and sleep medicine specialist as well as professor of neurology at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. He is board certified in Neurology, Sleep Medicine, and Neurophysiology. In addition to clinical practice, Dr. Attarian is involved in global health and medical ethics. He mentors students, residents, and junior faculty. He has three textbooks published as well as 103 peer-reviewed papers. He is an adjunct faculty at Lebanese American University in Beirut as well as Yerevan State Medical University.

Katie Blain, PharmD, MPH, BCACP, is the Director of Specialty Pharmacy Services for Norton Healthcare in Louisville, KY. She is a graduate of the University of Kentucky where she received Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition, Master of Public Health, and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees. Dr. Blain is a board-certified ambulatory care pharmacist with post-doctoral training and experience in specialty pharmacy and community pharmacy. In addition to providing strategic leadership and operational oversight for specialty pharmacy services, she enjoys precepting pharmacy students and residents. Dr. Blain's greatest accomplishments are her two young sons, and her time outside the pharmacy is spent making memories with her family.

Dawn Buse, PhD, FAHS, is a licensed psychologist, a Clinical Professor of Neurology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Headache Cooperative of the Pacific. She has more than 250 scientific publications and has won 14 U.S. and international research and professional awards. She is a co-investigator on the American Migraine Prevalence and Prevention (AMPP) Study, the Chronic Migraine Epidemiology and Outcomes (CAMEO) Study U.S. and International Studies, the Migraine Signature Study (MSS), the International Burden of Migraine (IBMS) Study, the Migraine, Symptoms and Treatment in America (MAST) Study, the OVERCOME Study, and the Migraine Clinical Outcome Assessment System (MiCOAS) grant. She offers free guided visual imagery and relaxation exercises for pain management at dawnbuse.com.

Megan Donnelly, DO, completed her undergraduate degree in neuroscience and psychology at Allegheny College and her medical degree at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, both in Pennsylvania. She completed both her Neurology residency and Headache fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio. She is currently the Lead Neurologist at Novant Health in Charlotte, NC. She serves in various leadership roles including vice chair of the Physician Governance Committee, Director of the Comprehensive Headache Center, and Founder and Head of Obstetrics/

Women's Neurology. She also serves as communications co-director for the Southern Headache Society. She has published several articles in peer-reviewed journals and frequently speaks at academic conferences. Teaching the physicians of tomorrow is important to her, so she serves as an adjunct professor and fourth-year neurology clerkship director at the UNC School of Medicine Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center campus, assistant professor at Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine, and as a member of the teaching faculty in the Novant Health Family Medicine Residency Program.

Carrie Dougherty, MD, FAHS, is associate professor of neurology and program director of the headache medicine fellowship at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC. She received her medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine, followed by an internship at NorthShore University HealthSystem in Evanston, IL. Dr. Dougherty completed her neurology residency at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, DC, followed by a fellowship in headache medicine at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA. She is board certified in neurology with sub-specialty certification in headache medicine. Dr. Dougherty is the current president of Southern Headache Society and has been a member since 2016. She is a fellow of the American Headache Society and serves as co-chair for the Headache Fellowship Director's committee, the Women's Leadership Development Committee, and the Scottsdale Headache Symposium. She has served as mentor for the AHS Emerging Leaders Program and on the board of the Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy. She has participated in Headache on the Hill since 2016. She is committed to improving the lives of patients through her clinical work as well as education and advocacy.

Randolph Evans, MD, FAAN, FAHS, is a native Houstonian who received his BA from Rice University in 1974 and MD from Baylor College of Medicine in 1978. Dr. Evans completed his internship and residency in Neurology at Baylor College of Medicine in 1982. He is board certified in Neurology; sub-specialty certified in Headache Medicine; and a fellow of the American Academy of Neurology, the American Headache Society, and the Texas Neurological Society. Dr. Evans is a clinical professor at Baylor College of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College, and on the staff of HCA Houston Healthcare Medical Center, the Houston Methodist Hospital, and CHI Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center Hospital. Dr. Evans is the author of over 350 articles, 85 book chapters, and the author or editor of 19 books.

Jennifer Fehmel, CCRC

Marshall Freeman, MD, FAHS, FAANEM, FAAN, is Director of the Headache Wellness Center. He is board certified in Headache Medicine, Neurology, Neuromuscular Medicine, and Electrodiagnostic Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American Headache Society (FAHS), Fellow of the American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine (FAANEM), and Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology (FAAN). Dr. Freeman received his undergraduate education at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and his Doctorate of Medicine from Wayne State University in Detroit. He trained in the Adult Neurology Program at the Neurological Institute of Columbia University in New York City. He received additional fellowship training in Electrodiagnostic Medicine and Neuromuscular Diseases from the Eleanor and Lou Gehrig ALS Center at Columbia University. Dr. Freeman has authored and co-authored numerous articles and textbook chapters on headache medicine and neuromuscular diseases. He lectures throughout the United States as a headache expert. He serves as Chief Medical Officer of Headache Wellness Center Research (HWCR) and as principal investigator on multiple headache studies. He is an active member of the American Headache Society (AHS), International Headache Society (IHS), American Academy of Neurology (AAN), and the North Carolina Neurological Society (NCNS).

Deborah Friedman, MD, MPH, FAAN, FAHS, is Neurologist specializing in Headache Medicine and Neuro-Ophthalmology and the Principal of Yellow Rose Headache and Neuro-Ophthalmology in Dallas, TX. She was the founding director of the Headache and Facial Pain Program and Cerebrospinal Fluid Dynamics Program at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. She is board certified in Neurology and Headache Medicine and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology, the American Headache Society (AHS), the American Neurological Association, and the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (NANOS). She served on the Board of Directors of AHS, is the Treasurer of the Southern Headache Society, was a Past-President of NANOS, and was a member of

the steering committee for the Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension Treatment Trial. She has published over 130 articles in peer-reviewed journals and 28 book chapters. Her key interests are intracranial pressure disorders, cluster headache, and migraine.

Chaouki Khoury, MD, MS, FAAN, FAHS, is a dually trained adult and child neurologist working at the South-Eastern Center for Headaches. He is an adjunct clinical professor at Morehouse School of Medicine and adjunct professor at Emory School of Medicine. Dr. Khoury graduated magna cum laude from the American University of Beirut with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 1996. He then received his medical degree and a Master of Science in Neuroscience from the American University of Beirut and was ranked second in his graduating class. He completed neurology residency at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in 2005, followed by fellowship in Child Neurology at Texas Children's Hospital/Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX, in 2007. He initially joined the faculty at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center as Assistant Professor and then was promoted to Associate Professor. He also served there as the residency program director. Later, he moved to Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, TX, and joined the faculty at Texas A&M University as Associate Professor. He was the Neurology Clerkship Director and the Headache Fellowship Director. He then served as Director of Neurology Education and Research and as Director of the Comprehensive Headache Center. Subsequently, he moved to private practice, where his work has been focused solely on Headache Medicine. Beyond a busy clinical practice, he is heavily involved in clinical research and continues working on developing educational programs. He joined both the Morehouse School of Medicine and the Emory School of Medicine with a promotion to Professor level, as Adjunct Professor. He is core faculty at the newly established Neurology residency at Morehouse School of Medicine, where he serves as the director of Child Neurology education. He also directs an elective in Headache Medicine that is offered at Morehouse School of Medicine, as well as the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Georgia campus, and the Medical College of Georgia/Augusta University. He is also the Director of the Headache Medicine rotation for the fellows in the Brain Injury Medicine fellowship at Emory School of Medicine. He remains engaged at a national level with headache organizations despite his busy clinical and academic practice. He currently is on the boards of the Southern Headache Society and the Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy, serving as Treasurer on both boards. He is also currently serving as chair of the Procedural Special Interest Section within the American Headache Society.

Elizabeth "Liz" Leroux, MD, FRCPC, is a neurologist and headache specialist. She currently practices at the Montreal Neurology Center. She is a Faculty Lecturer for McGill's Neurology Department. Dr. Leroux did her neurology training at the University of Montreal and her Headache Fellowship in Paris, France. She directed the headache clinic of Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (2010-2016), then the CHAMP multidisciplinary program of the University of Calgary (2017-2019). Dr. Leroux is Past President of the Canadian Headache Society, the founder of Migraine Quebec, and founder and Chair of Migraine Canada. She's a well-known speaker for all audiences interested to hear about headache medicine and science. Dr. Leroux is passionate about education and advocacy for headache disorders. Particular interests include multidisciplinary and holistic approaches, impact of migraines in the workplace, vestibular migraines, and cluster headaches.

Brian Loftus, MD, is in private practice in Bellaire, TX, specializing in Headache Medicine and Hyperhidrosis. He is the Co-Founding President of the Southern Headache Society.

Barbara Nye, MD, FAHS, is a board-certified Neurologist, UCNS board-certified Headache sub-specialist, Associate Professor of Neurology at Wake Forest School of Medicine, Director of the Headache Fellowship at Atrium Health – Wake Forest Baptist, and Fellow of the American Headache Society. She is a board member of both the Southern Headache Society (SHS) and Alliance of Headache Disorders Advocacy (AHDA) serving in the role of Vice President. She graduated from the University of South Florida College of Medicine and completed both her residency and subspecialty training at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Dr. Nye is participating in the clinical education of medical students, residents, and fellows. She is also the principal investigator on several clinical research studies and involved in quality improvement projects within the clinic/hospital. She enjoys speaking as well as teaching patients and providers about headache and is participating in Headache Advocacy on Capitol Hill and locally.

Christopher Oakley, MD, is an Assistant Professor of Neurology and Nursing. He sees patients with a variety of pediatric and adult headache concerns with his focuses on the treatment of pediatric and adolescent migraine. He is the co-director of the Johns Hopkins Adult Headache Center and has established the Pediatric Headache Center at The Johns Hopkins Hospital where he has served as director since its beginning to better serve children and adolescents with these common and potentially disabling conditions. A long-standing migraine sufferer himself, Dr. Oakley is a member of the Child Neurology Society, American Academy of Neurology, the American Headache Society, and the National Headache Foundation. He lectures frequently to the general public and healthcare providers on a multitude of headache topics but focuses on pediatric migraine and other childhood headaches, as this is his primary clinical focus.

Simy Parikh, MD, is a board-certified neurologist and headache medicine specialist. She is the director of the Post-Graduate Certificate Program in Advanced Headache Diagnosis and Management at Thomas Jefferson University, medical advisory board member of the Spinal CSF Leak Foundation, section editor for Current Pain and Headache Reports, and editorial board member of the American Medical Journal. Dr. Parikh's specific interests in headache medicine include migraine, headache in pregnancy and puerperium, and spontaneous spinal CSF leak, on which she holds several publications.

Brian Plato, DO, FAHS, is the medical director of headache medicine with the Norton Neuroscience Institute in Louisville, KY. Dr. Plato received his medical degree from the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed both his internship and residency at the University of Louisville School of Medicine in neurology, where he also served as chief resident of neurology and completed a mini-fellowship in headache medicine. Dr. Plato is board certified in both neurology and headache medicine. Dr. Plato has served on the board of directors of the Southern Headache Society from 2011-2024, including serving as president from 2020-2022. Dr. Plato is an investigator on several clinical trials to develop new treatments for headache disorders.

Michael Ready, MD, FAHS, is certified in Headache Medicine by the United Council of Neurological Subspecialties. He was awarded the 2014 National Headache Foundation Annual Lectureship Award and is author of *Discussing Migraine with Your Patients: A Common Sense Guide for Clinicians*.

Will Renthal, MD, PhD, FAHS, is the Director of Research at the John R. Graham Headache Center. He completed his MD, PhD, and neurology residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, and joined Brigham and Women's Hospital for his final year of residency and postgraduate training in headache medicine. He is board certified in neurology and provides patients with comprehensive headache care including advanced diagnostics and personalized treatment plans, which may include behavioral/complementary therapy, medication and/or procedures (e.g. nerve blocks, Botox). In addition to clinical care, Dr. Renthal conducts neuroscience and genetics research. His laboratory is interested in the genetic and epigenetic mechanisms underlying migraine and chronic pain. He has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on his research.

Lawrence Robbins, MD, is an Associate Professor of Neurology at Chicago Medical School. He has contributed to 400 articles and abstracts as well as written six headache books. Three books are out in 2nd editions (the latest being Clinical Pearls, 2nd Edition). He is the Vice President of the World Headache Society.

Sara Sacco, MD, FAHS, is the medical director of the Carolinas Headache Clinic in Matthews, NC. She completed her residency in Neurology at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and fellowships in Clinical Neurology and Strokes at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. She is board certified in both Neurology and Headache Medicine. She is a member of the American Academy of Neurology, American Headache Society, International Headache Society, and Southern Headache Society (SHS). Dr. Sacco is a Fellow member of the AHS and is on the Board of Directors of SHS and Carolinas Headache Foundation. She has been the education chair for SHS and is the program co-chair for the 2024 SHS Fall meeting. She has a special interest in and is actively involved in the education of healthcare providers and patients on the topic of headaches and their treatment.

Gloria Simms, MD, is the Medical Director and founder of Headache Center at DHR Health Neurology Institute and is certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology with a sub-specialty board certification in headache medicine by the United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties. As the only certified headache medicine physician in the region, Dr. Simms brings her extensive expertise to the underserved region of the Rio Grande Valley. Her specific skills and interest in the proper diagnosis of different types of headache help to establish an effective treatment plan to optimize quality of life. Dr. Simms earned her medical degree from the Universidad del Valle, located in Cali, Colombia. She completed her neurology residency at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia, before relocating to Birmingham, AL. She attended the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she was a fellow observer in vascular critical care in neurology and decided to pursue a neuroimaging fellowship at Alabama Neurological Institute. Dr. Simms then moved to Mobile, AL, where she attended the University of South Alabama to complete an internship in internal medicine and a residency in neurology. In addition to her education and medical career, she is also involved in research, education, and physician leadership and professional societies such as the American Academy of Neurology, American Headache Society, and American Society of Neuroimaging. Dr. Simms dedicated her career to the service of underserved communities in the midwest, rural Maine, and now in the Rio Grande Valley with further formal and non-formal training in the practice of headache medicine.

Margaret Slavin, PhD, RD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at the University of Maryland, College Park. Trained both in food science and clinical nutrition, her research broadly investigates the impact of foods on human health, and most specifically for food phytochemicals. The relationship between diet and migraine disease is one of Dr. Slavin's major research interests, including both the short-term and long-term impacts of foods on disease outcomes. She has utilized techniques ranging from bench science, population-level data analysis, and clinical assessments in this pursuit. The long-term goal of her research is to establish sustainable dietary recommendations which mitigate migraine symptoms and progression, by first growing our understanding of how migraine symptoms influence food choices and overall nutritional health.

Lauren Strauss, DO, FAHS, is an associate professor in pediatric neurology and one of the few in the country who is a UCNS certified headache specialist and a Fellow of the American Headache Society. She received her medical degree from New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her child neurology residency at Boston Children's Hospital and her headache medicine fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital, both of which are affiliated with Harvard Medical School. Dr. Strauss' clinical work centers on improving the lives of children with headache disorders through educating patients, parents, and other healthcare professionals. She is a national leader in healthcare process improvement and has collaborated with Migraine Action Plan and the PedMAP. For the American Headache Society, she is co-chair of the Electronic Media Committee and she serves on the First Contact program committee that develops educational content for primary care professional societies and neurology training programs. She is vice chair of clinical operations at the VCU's Children's Hospital of Richmond and the section chair of headache.

Stephanie Vertrees, MD, FAHS, is the medical director of the Vertrees Headache Center. She has over a decade of experience and has helped thousands of patients overcome their headaches. She sees adults and teenagers with all types of headache conditions. As a fellow migraine sufferer, she empathizes with the challenges of living with headaches and helps patients find the right ways to champion their condition. Ivy League and Texas trained, she has treated patients from all walks of life, both urban and rural. She lives in Austin, TX, with her husband and daughter.

Rebecca Erwin Wells, MD, MPH, FAHS, FAAN, is a Professor in Neurology and Social Sciences Health Policy at Wake Forest University School of Medicine and Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist in Winston-Salem, NC. She founded and directs their Comprehensive Headache Program. Dr. Wells graduated with highest honors from UNC-Chapel Hill while on full academic scholarship, completed her MD from East Carolina School of Medicine, her Master of Public Health from Harvard, and her Internship and Neurology residency from University of Virginia. She completed two fellowships from Harvard—an Integrative Medicine research fellowship and Headache Medicine Fellowship. Dr. Wells is a diplomat of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, has United Council Neurologic Subspecialties Certification in Headache Medicine, and is a Fellow of the American Headache Society

(AHS) and the American Academy of Neurology (AAN). Dr. Wells has served on the Board of the Southern Headache Society as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President, and most recently as President. She is on the American Headache Society (AHS) Board of Directors and received the AHS Above and Beyond Award in 2023 for her work serving as Co-Chair of the AHS Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Taskforce. Dr. Wells has received the AHS Early Career Lecture Award and the AAN Wolff-Graham award for her outstanding achievements in headache research. Her NIH RO1-funded research investigates the mechanisms and efficacy of mindfulness for migraine. Her National Headache Foundation research examines gender differences and genetics of cluster headache.

Kristen Zeller, MD, FACS, is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics at Wake Forest University School of Medicine and Brenner Children's Hospital in Winston-Salem, NC. She earned a BA in English from Augustana College (now University) in Sioux Falls, SD, before earning her medical degree from the University of South Carolina. She completed her general surgery residency at Wake Forest and went on to complete fellowships in Surgical Critical Care at Children's Hospital Boston, Acute Care Surgery at Wake Forest, and ultimately pediatric surgery at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, IN. After many years of focusing on her surgical practice, Dr. Zeller is starting a new chapter in her career by weaving together her passions for medicine and the humanities. She recently completed the Certificate in Professional Achievement in Narrative Medicine from Columbia University and has implemented a narrative medicine curriculum for the Wake Forest surgery residents. She and her husband spend their free time driving their three children to and from school, music lessons, and sporting events.

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