

Creating international and interdisciplinary collaboration for health

AONM Newsletter February 2019



November saw another hugely inspiring and very well-attended AONM conference focusing for the first time on neuropsychiatric manifestations of infections, with leaders in the field from all over the world. The webinar series that AONM has now started will bring these and other speakers “into our livingrooms” with greater regularity.

The first was just last week, with Professor Katharina Pachmann from Maintrac on testing circulating cancer cells, chemosensitivity and natural agents. Please see upcoming events for some of the further webinars planned. Dr. Armin Schwarzbach is the next, on March 14th, on identifying stealth infections that may underlie ME, Fibromyalgia and other syndromes.

Dr. Byron Hyde’s seminal reference work on conditions of this kind and their possible drivers called “The Clinical and Scientific Basis of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome” remains unparalleled, and our article on enteroviruses particularly highlights a newly discovered branch of the enteroviral tree called the ECHO-21 Like Enterovirus (ECV 21). This newsletter concludes with an overview of multiple fascinating events taking place this year.

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1. Summary of the AONM 2018 Annual Conference on Pathogen-triggered Neuropsychiatric Disorders



Dr. Judy Mikovits

AONM held its Annual Conference on 18th November 2018 on the neuropsychiatric manifestations of stealth infections, featuring eminent and inspirational scientists/doctors.

The event was chaired by Dr. Judy Mikovits, highly renowned for her work in the field of neuroimmune and retroviral disease, who gave an overview of each speaker's topic at the outset.

Dr. Mikovits' introduction was followed by a keynote speech by Jenna Luché-Thayer, former Senior Advisor to the US Government and the United Nations. She and a dedicated team have



Jenna Luche-Thayer

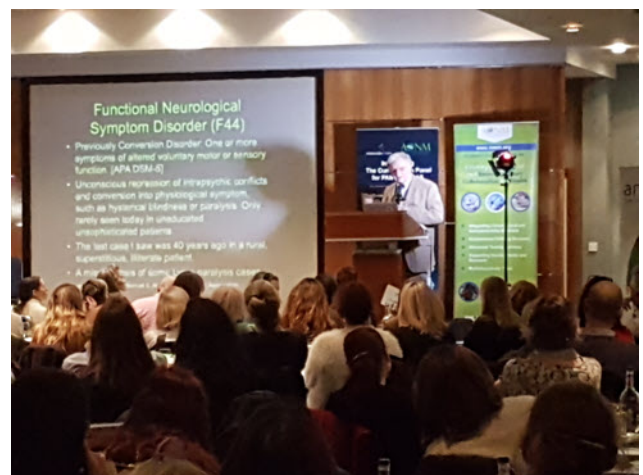
achieved the unthinkable by driving through a revised WHO code for Lyme Disease – ICD11: the first in 25 years. The new codification describes previously neglected specifics and complications, and acknowledges the unreliability of the serological diagnostics currently still recommended by the CDC/the UK and many other countries. Her presentation (available from the AONM website) contains full details.

The next speaker was Dr. Sarah Myhill, author of *The Infection Game: Life is an Arms Race*, who has bravely fought countless battles for maligned ME patients over the decades. She explained that most if not all inflammation is infection-driven. The title of her talk was "*The Somatisation of ME Patients in the UK: How Many are Actually Suffering from Infections?*". Her resounding cry was "It's parasitisation not somatisation." She described her



Dr. Sara Myhill

foundational strategies for patients, "Groundhog Basic", followed by tailored, infection-specific approaches. Dr. Myhill also gave an update on MAIMES, her campaign against Medical Abuse in ME patients.



Dr. Robert Bransfield

Dr. Robert C. Bransfield, perhaps the world's best-known psychiatrist worldwide in this arena, described how 400+ peer reviewed scientific articles demonstrate the causal association between tick-borne disease and mental illness. His talk, "Psychosomatic or Multisystem Illness?", detailed how the DSM criteria in the US and

around the globe tragically leave patients un- and misdiagnosed.

Dr. Madeleine Cunningham, Professor at the University of Oklahoma and co-founder/CSO of Moleculera Labs, USA, outlined the mechanism by which autoimmune antibodies can trigger neurological symptoms. She described a unique test



Dr. Madeleine Cunningham

that her laboratory has developed for identifying five markers for these antibodies, focusing particularly on PANS/PANDAS (two autoimmune encephalopathies with neuropsychiatric presentations). Further details can be found in her talk.



Dr. Jodi Dashore

The next talk was by Dr. Jodie Dashore, who runs Bionexus Health in the US, entitled “Biotoxin illness: Neuropsychiatric impact, brain imaging and integrative approach to treatment”. Dr. Dashore detailed the biotoxin illness pathway and appropriate differential diagnosis. She described the CIRS (chronic inflammatory response syndrome) and PANS connection, and her unique all-natural plant-based approach to therapy.



Dr. Joseph Jemsek

Dr. Joseph Jemsek, an infectious diseases specialist and internist who has over 17 years’ experience in the treatment of tick-borne disease and has seen over 13,000 Lyme patients, talked about “Discoveries and Evaluation in the Treatment of Lyme Borreliosis Complex”. He focused especially on weight change and associated metabolic effects.

This was followed by Dr. Armin Schwarzbach, founder and Medical Director of ArminLabs, Germany, who outlined tailored testing protocols for pathogens in neuropsychiatric conditions. He marshalled an impressive array of evidence, covering conditions such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, ASD/Autism, Anxiety/Panic Attacks, OCD/Tourette’s, and PANS/PANDAS.

The day closed with a lively panel discussion at which the speakers were joined by Professor Malcolm Hooper (ME and organophosphate toxicity expert for many decades), Dr. Tim Ubhi from the Children’s e-Hospital for PANS/PANDAS, Professor Leona Gilbert, who developed the Tickplex Lyme and coinfections test, and Ms. Joan Crawford from the NHS Chronic Pain Management service at St Helens Hospital.

This was an extraordinary day, full to capacity with over 260 attendees, with much that was new to the UK landscape. The presentations are available at this link: <https://aonm.org/aonm-2018-annual-conference/>, and download videos of all the talks are available from the conference recordings link <https://aonm.org/aonm-conference-recordings/>.



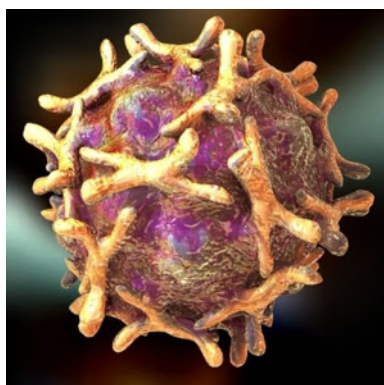
Dr. Armin Schwarzbach

Recordings of all of AONM’s previous conferences are now available for purchase and download at <https://aonm.org/aonm-conference-recordings/>

2. How Pernicious are Enteroviruses?:Echovirus

Poliovirus, Echovirus, Coxsackievirus, and other related viruses that are now classified numerically make up the genus Enterovirus, which belongs to the family Picornaviridae.⁽¹⁾ Enteroviruses affect the gastrointestinal tract, as the name implies: dyspepsia and chronic gastritis are particularly characteristic.⁽²⁾

The Echovirus – full name “Enteric cytopathic human orphan (ECHO) virus” – can also lead to infections in different parts of the body, including skin rashes. Its symptoms depend on the site of infection and may involve breathing difficulties and a harsh cough, mouth sores, a sore throat, chest pain, severe headaches, light sensitivity, nausea and vomiting.⁽³⁾ Exposure to the virus, which is highly infectious, can cause other opportunistic infections and diseases, notably aseptic meningitis.⁽⁴⁾



3D image of an Echovirus

Professor John Chia MD, an infectious diseases specialist with a practice in Torrance, California, has been investigating the association of enteroviruses with ME-type symptoms for many years. “An estimated 80 - 90% of our 1,400 CFS patients have recurring gastrointestinal symptoms of varying severity, and epigastric and/or lower quadrant tenderness by examination, compared to only 3/100 control subjects”.⁽⁵⁾ In a 2008 study Professor Chia and his team’s conclusions were: “Finding enterovirus [viral capsid protein 1] protein in 82% of stomach biopsy samples seems to correlate with the high percentage of CFS patients with GI complaints”.⁽⁶⁾

Enteroviruses (EVs) can prove very pernicious: “The paradox remains that, despite an ongoing immune response, these viral RNA infected cells are not eradicated. It is possible that viruses hide in long living, immunologically privileged cells, including

but not limited to, macrophages, muscles, myocardial cells, and neurones.”⁽⁷⁾ EVs can also invade the central nervous system, resulting in neurological symptoms: “In recent years, large outbreaks of enteroviruses have occurred worldwide. Therefore these neurotropic enteroviruses have been deemed as re-emerging pathogens.”⁽⁸⁾

Other branches of the enteroviral tree of course include the paralytic polio-causing picornavirus. Of note is that it has long been known that polio causes a huge decrease in cellular respiration in vitro. “Chronic infection of muscle tissue with an enterovirus is likely to be associated with low oxygen consumption in muscle tissue, decreased cellular respiration and post-exertional malaise (specifically, “muscle fatigability”)”.⁽⁹⁾

Of note is also the following: “We have studied this important risk factor for paralytic polio in an animal system for poliomyelitis and have determined the pathogenic mechanism linking intramuscular injections and provocation poliomyelitis. Skeletal muscle injury induces retrograde axonal transport of poliovirus and thereby facilitates viral invasion of the central nervous system and the progression of spinal cord damage.”⁽¹⁰⁾ In “[Mechanism of Injury- Provoked Poliomyelitis](#)”, Gromeier and Wimmer document cases of polio vaccination followed by skeletal muscle injury, where these repercussions have been recorded.

Dr. Hyde of the Nightingale Research Foundation (who wrote a seminal 725-page reference work on ME/CFS called “The Clinical and Scientific Basis of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, downloadable here:

<http://wames.org.uk/cms-english/2017/03/the-clinical-scientific-basis-of-mecfs-is-now-free-to-download/>) has always claimed that the condition termed ME is frequently caused by an enteroviral infection – he pinpoints a newly discovered branch of the enteroviral tree called the **ECHO-21 Like Enterovirus (ECV 21)** (https://liberationislife.files.wordpress.com/2017/03/definitionofme_nrf_print.pdf).

This is not a finding restricted to Dr. Byron Hyde, incidentally. A study in northern India “over a period of two years in children with acute encephalitis identified ECV 21 as the main causative agent of encephalitis in about 51.8% isolates”⁽¹¹⁾, further deepened by a study of 204

children in 2012: “This study suggests that enterovirus is an important cause of encephalitis in

with ME, the most common being enteroviruses, with herpes viruses (glandular fever, etc.) coming second.” (14)

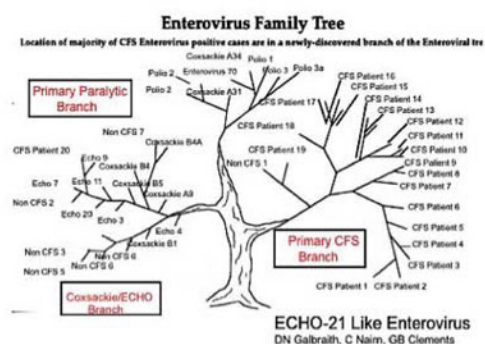


Image: Enterovirus Family Tree courtesy of Dr. Byron Hyde
<https://hrzone-healthrising.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Enterovirus-Family-Tree-Byron-Hyde.jpg>

children from India. To our knowledge, this is the first report of echovirus 21 in encephalitis cases worldwide The clinical manifestations of ECV 21 range from asymptomatic infection to respiratory infection, acute flaccid paralysis, and aseptic meningitis”.(12)

The post by Cort Johnson “Amy Brown’s Story” is well worth reading for further insight into EV-driven ME:

<https://www.healthrising.org/blog/2017/05/23/doctors-hyde-amy-browns-m-e-enterovirus-story/>

More is hopefully ahead on interactions between enteroviruses and ME-type symptoms from scientists from around the world – Professor Malcolm Hooper is among a large group of researchers hoping to drive further research into this topic.(13)

A fascinating overview of the enterovirus connection is given on Dr. Sarah Myhill’s webpage at the URL:

http://www.drmyhill.co.uk/wiki/Oxymatrine_in_the_treatment_of_post_viral_fatigue.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, Professor Malcolm Hooper and the think-tank of doctors he has worked with have also determined that enteroviruses commonly underlie symptomatology termed ME: “Over many years it has been demonstrated that numerous viruses are associated

Professor Hooper will be facilitating AONM’s next conference on May 12th, 2019, during “Invisible Illness” week, entitled “**Multi-system diseases: Improving patients’ lives with proper diagnosis and appropriate treatment interventions.**” Please see the events section of this newsletter for further details.

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13. <https://www.nih.gov/sites/default/files/research-training/initiatives/mecfs/rfi-healthcare-professionals-researchers.pdf>
14. <https://maartens.home.xs4all.nl/log/2010/NL100518a.htm>

N.B. Echovirus is now included in the spectrum of tests available from Arminlab: IgA (evidence of infection along the mucosal membranes) as well as IgG, similarly to Coxsackie A and B.

3. Upcoming AONM Events

**WEBINAR SERIES**



JOIN US FOR A FREE WEBINAR WITH
DR. ARMIN SCHWARZBACH MD
Identifying Stealth Infections That May Underlie ME, Fibromyalgia and Other Syndromes
Tips on test selection and live Q&A

Thursday, 14 March 2019
18:30 - 19:30 GMT

SIGN UP NOW!
aonm.org/webinars

**WEBINAR SERIES**



JOIN US FOR A FREE WEBINAR WITH
DR. CRAIG SHIMASAKI PhD
Neuro-Autoimmune Conditions and How to Test for Them
Tips on test selection and live Q&A

Tuesday, 26 March 2019
18:30 - 19:30 GMT

SIGN UP NOW!
aonm.org/webinars



EARLY-BIRD TICKETS
multisystemdiseases.eventbrite.co.uk

SUNDAY 12 MAY 2019 | 10:00 - 17:00

**Multi-System Diseases:
Improving Patients' Lives with
Proper Diagnosis and
Appropriate Treatment
Interventions**

Chaired by Professor Malcolm Hooper PhD, B.Pharm, C.Chem, MRIC, Professor Emeritus of Medicine Chemistry at the University of Sunderland and advocate for people living with myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME).



Speakers to be announced

 **LOCATION:** Holiday Inn London Regent's Park

PROFESSIONAL TICKETS FROM £72.25
Early-Bird Sales End 1 March 2019
CPD awarded

Full AONM Members, also BANT, NNA, & GCRN members are entitled to a 20% discount.
Please contact us for a code at info@aonm.org



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SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2019 | 09:00 - 18:00

**AONM ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE 2019**

Confirmed Speakers



Dr. Lawrence B. Afrin MD
Professor of Medicine, Division of Haematology, Oncology & Transplantation, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN



Dr. Jodie A. Dashore MD OTD HHP C.Hom
Founder and Medical Director at BioNexus Health Clinic, USA



Dr. Dietrich Klinghardt MD PhD
Founder and Medical Director of the Sophia Health Institute, Seattle, and the Klinghardt Institute



Dr. Armin Schwarzbach MD PhD
Medical Doctor and Founder of ArminLabs, Augsburg, Germany

PROFESSIONAL TICKETS FROM £106.25
Early-Bird Sales End 1 August 2019 | CPD awarded

Full AONM Members, also BANT, NNA, & GCRN members are entitled to a 20% discount.
Please contact us for a code at info@aonm.org

EARLY-BIRD TICKETS
aonminternationalconf.eventbrite.co.uk

Other events



Klinghardt Institute

www.klinghardtinstitute.com

**ART Based Biofeedback Counselling and the
Practical Use of Light in Psychology**

13 - 14 April

10am-6pm

Location TBD

Family Constellation Work

20 April

10am-6pm

Location TBD

Autonomic Response Testing (ART) III – Advanced Level

Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd June 2019

Location TBD

Family Constellation Work

Sunday 16 June 2019

10am-6pm

Location TBD

Annual Healing Retreat 2019

9 July - 14 July 2019

Emerson College

WEBINAR

"TICKPLEX: If you test, you can treat!"

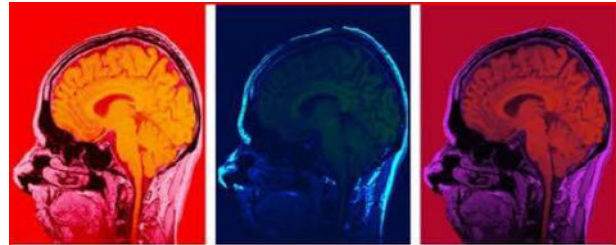
Thursday, 7 March 2019

06:00 - 07:00 PM



Dr. Leona Gilbert with
Dr. Armin Schwarzbach

<https://tickplex.clickmeeting.com/tickplex-if-you-test-you-can-treat/register>



NEUROPSYCHIATRY MEETING

"Paediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS)"

Speakers:

Dr Ming Lim (GSTT)

Dr Marinos Kyriakopoulos (SLaM)

Tuesday 26th February 2019

Time: 13.00-14.00

Seminar Room 4, IoPPN Main Building

***** Non pharma lunch provided at 12:45 hrs *****

The IoPPN Neuropsychiatry Meetings are a fortnightly forum to discuss exciting research and interesting cases relevant to any aspect of neuropsychiatry and to promote cross-talk between psychiatry, neurology and psychology. Talks are organised by the Section of Cognitive Neuropsychiatry.

Students and staff from within any discipline are most welcome.

We look forward to seeing you at our meetings!

Dr Tom Pollak, Dr Graham Blackman and Dr Tim Nicholson



Exploring Practical Solutions for Complex Conditions

March 7 - 9, 2019

The Westin Bellevue

600 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA 98004

<https://forumforintegrativemedicine.org/>

Conference schedule:

<https://forumforintegrativemedicine.org/conference-schedule/?nocache=1>

BSEM Conference 2019

Friday, 27th September 8.30 - 17.15

Details to be announced

An Introduction to Practitioners to the World of Viruses, (& how they may be affecting your patients' health)

Saturday April 13th Dublin

Antony Haynes (Nutri-Link)
together with Gilian Crowther (AONM)/
<https://www.ntoi.ie/>



BSEM Spotlight on Neuroinflammatory Diseases

Friday, 10 May 2019

Hallam Conference Centre

<https://www.bsem.org.uk/events/3-spotlight-on-neuroinflammatory-diseases>



Lyme Disease UK

LDUK Seminar Series:

A Morning with Dr Joseph Jemsek MD

Lyme Disease: Insights into Diagnosis, Treatment and Recovery

Saturday 29 June

9.30 am - 1.30 pm

Central London venue TBD

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-morning-with-dr-jemsek-md-tickets-56562639377>



Lifetime Achievement Award sponsored by SW Domiciliary Care

Clare Palmer nominated Alice Reeve for this Lifetime Achievement Award. Alice works tirelessly for patients and we're sure (as is the same for many patient advocates) her efforts and sacrifices are not always realised. This is a great opportunity for us to say thank you to her for all her hard work and support to AONM through the years!

Clare has known Alice for many years. She has always worked very hard raising awareness of fibromyalgia and ME. Alice has been educating patients and the medical profession for well over a decade!

She now fights very hard for the Lyme community, but never forgetting those diagnosed with fibro and ME and other chronic illness.

Please do take the time to vote for Alice (link below), not just for awareness of these conditions, but because we feel she really does deserve the recognition!

Thank you!!

https://www.thebreeze.com/features/the-breeze-local-heroes-cheltenham-2019/awards-categories/lifetime-achievement-award-sponsored-by-sw-domiciliary-care/?fbclid=IwAR3ohoJyzkciEnKvKZXSIEyNRb9Jb0UBnv_xiUhYI1mWp_xSnb7019RUsgA