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Contact: Jessica Smith
Phone: 856-308-5377
Email: jessica@asent.org

SCIENTIFIC LEADERS IN NEUROLOGICAL INFECTIONS ADDRESS SHORT AND LONG TERM COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS AT ASENT 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

Speakers from NINDS, Yale and University of Gothenburg discuss research in acute and chronic neurological implications of COVID-19

February 3, 2021-- The Kathleen Clarence-Smith and Thomas Chase Keynote Lecture and Presidential Symposium will kick off the ASENT 2021 Annual Meeting and will bring together three leading clinician-scientists from the United States and Sweden to discuss the neurologic implications of COVID-19. The American Society for Experimental Neurotherapeutics (ASENT) virtual annual meeting opens on February 22, 2021 and runs through February 25, 2021. The Presidential Symposium will cover neurological consequences of viral pandemics, including COVID-19; neurological impact during acute COVID-19; and neurologic symptoms post-acute COVID-19.

“We are grateful to have this extraordinary faculty contribute to what promises to be an outstanding session at the ASENT 2021 virtual annual meeting. The pandemic numbers are staggering and opening the ASENT meeting with a session on COVID-19 is extremely timely. We are honored to have the opportunity to share the new and evolving research targeting how COVID-19 is impacting the nervous system,” noted Tom Sutula, MD, PhD, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and President of the ASENT.

The faculty will answer questions from attendees during a live panel discussion following their scientific presentations. They will discuss leading-edge research relevant to the neurology and neuroscience communities as well as the critical care, emergency medicine, family medicine, nursing, and extended care practitioners. The faculty are:

- **Avindra Nath, MD**, Chief of the Section of Infections of the Nervous System, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, will discuss COVID-19 in the context of prior pandemics; mechanisms of infection and disease—specifically CNS infection versus peripheral infection; and what NIH and researchers are learning from post-mortem evidence.

Kathleen Clarence-Smith and Thomas Chase Keynote Lecture

PRESENTATION: Neurological Consequences of Viral Pandemics including COVID-19

- **Arvid Edén, MD, PhD**, Senior consultant, Department of Infectious Diseases, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Gothenburg, Sweden, will discuss the mechanisms of

COVID-19 infection and provide an overview of acute CNS presentations, including anosmia, encephalopathy, and stroke.

PRESENTATION: Neurological impact during acute COVID-19 – marked CNS immune activation but no clear evidence of viral invasion

- **Serena S. Spudich, MD**, Gilbert H. Glaser Professor of Neurology and Chief, Division of Neurological Infections and Global Neurology at Yale University, will discuss the long term complications of COVID-19 including post-COVID clinical syndromes that are appearing, including cognitive and autonomic, as well as small fiber neuropathies, headache, and mood disorders. Dr. Spudich will also present future directions--diagnosis; predictive markers; treatment—as well as predictors of efficacy.

PRESENTATION: The Long Goodbye: Understanding Neurologic Symptoms Post-Acute COVID-19

“ASENT is honored to feature these three international medical experts from whom we will learn about the short and long-term causes and neurological complications of COVID-19”, remarked C. Anthony Altar, PhD, Co-Chair of the ASENT program committee.

History of Keynote

The ASENT Annual Meeting keynote lecture is named in honor of two of ASENT’s founders: Kathleen (“Kitty”) Clarence-Smith, MD, PhD, and husband, Thomas Chase, SB, MD, internationally-recognized neurologists each with 40 years of experience in the discovery and clinical development of new drugs for central nervous system diseases.

ASENT 2021 Annual Meeting

Registration to attend the full ASENT 2021 Annual Meeting is free and takes place in a virtual format February 22-25, 2021. It features scientific symposia, poster sessions, pipeline sessions, and online networking. Topics also include: Obstacles and Opportunities in Alzheimer's Disease Neurotherapeutics; RNA editing and CRISPR: basic approaches and treatment implications for neurologic disease; New and Emerging Therapeutics for Epilepsy; Dystonia: Genetics, pathophysiology, new targets and treatment; Epigenetics in Neurodegenerative Disorders; Emerging therapeutics in NeuroOncology; Brain Organoids as Models of Neurological Disorders and Treatment; and Parkinson's Disease: New Approaches.. For more information on the ASENT 2021 Annual Meeting visit: <http://bit.ly/ASENTAM2021>

About ASENT

The American Society for Experimental Neurotherapeutics (ASENT) is an independent non-profit organization established in 1997 by leaders in academia, government, advocacy and industry to facilitate the process by which new therapies are made available to patients with neurological disorders. The organization’s primary goal is to encourage and advance the development of improved therapies for diseases and disorders of the nervous system.

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