



G20

SOUTH AFRICA 2025



**12th ANNUAL N20 SUMMIT
NEUROSCIENCE 20**

: SOUTH : AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG

November 21, 2025

BRAIN, SPINE, AND MENTAL HEALTH

**GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR FAST-TRACKING
THERAPEUTICS AND DIAGNOSTICS FOR
NEUROLOGICAL NEURO-PSYCHIATRIC AND
SPINAL MS DISORDER**



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Agenda
Speakers





Neuroscience20 | 2025| SOUTH AFRICA

Goals of Neuroscience-20 (N20) Brain, Spine, and Mental Health20

N20 aims to contribute to President Obama's BRAIN Initiative and to expand action on the current and upcoming Initiatives across the G20 nations, bringing the finest Scientists, Engineers, Physicians and Surgeons across the globe to rapidly introduce clinical solutions for neurological disorders, which cost the world economy hundreds of billions of dollars annually.





WHAT IS G20?

The Group of Twenty, or G20, is the leading global forum for international economic cooperation. It brings together leaders from major developed and developing economies across every continent. Collectively, G20 members represent around 90% of global GDP, 80% of international trade, two-thirds of the world's population, and nearly half of the world's land area. Throughout the year, representatives from G20 countries meet to address key financial, economic, and social issues shaping the global agenda.

The G20 was originally established in 1999 as a meeting platform for finance ministers and central bank governors to discuss macroeconomic and financial challenges. Following the 2008 global financial crisis, the G20 was elevated to include heads of state and government, marking a significant expansion of its role. The first G20 Leaders' Summit was held in Washington, D.C., in November 2008. Since then, the G20's agenda has broadened beyond macro-financial topics to include development, social policy, climate issues, and global governance.

The G20 Presidency rotates among member countries each year. The Presidency sets the annual agenda and hosts the Leaders' Summit, where heads of state and government issue a joint declaration based on the policy discussions held throughout the year. In preparation for the Summit, the Presidency convenes a series of meetings involving ministers, senior officials, and representatives from civil society. Within governments, G20 work is divided into two main tracks—the Finance Track and the Sherpa Track—while civil society contributes through dedicated Engagement Groups.

G20 members include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.

Ten official Engagement Groups—Business 20 (B20), Youth 20 (Y20), Labor 20 (L20), Think 20 (T20), Civil 20 (C20), Women 20 (W20), Science 20 (S20), Urban 20 (U20), Parliamentary 20 (P20), and the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI20)—along with several unofficial groups, carry out year-round activities. Their goal is to provide the G20 Leaders with informed recommendations that reflect the priorities and concerns of their respective sectors.



VISION N20

Neuroscience20, through its Annual Scientific Summit, aims to contribute to President Biden's Cancer Moonshot, Mental Health, Suicide prevention initiatives and President Obama's Brain Initiative as well as creating a global think tank and consortium on Neurotech Innovation in order to fast-track diagnostics and therapeutics for neurological psychiatric and spinal disorders.

N20 KEY OBJECTIVES

1. Build a global alliance for brain, spine, and mental health/illness.
2. N20 encourages a consortium approach to research and development.
3. N20 advocates for global harmonization of policies and data standardization.
4. N20 encourages a neuro-economic assessment of the future impact of disease, diagnostics, and prevention.
5. N20 supports the translation and commercialization of technologies across scientific disciplines to rapidly introduce new therapeutics.
6. N20 advocates unifying global regulations and guidelines for clinical trials and drug/device-combination discovery.
7. N20 supports advancing innovation through global partnerships and funding initiatives.
8. N20 facilitates integration of advanced technologies to accelerate innovation and improve healthcare efficiency.
9. N20 brings together global initiatives to identify best practices and promote new therapeutics.
10. Establish unified training, prevention, care, and therapeutic standards across disciplines.
11. Provide capabilities at all levels to advance clinical neuroscience through advocacy.
12. Advocate for global research and innovation funding.
13. Facilitate investment and commercialization of neuro-technologies.
14. Educate professionals, patients, and families on the latest science and policy.
15. Provide up-to-date resources and data to governments for policy development.
16. Spread awareness to address mental and psychological issues such as PTSD.



12th ANNUAL SUMMIT

Neuroscience20 of Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics works towards building a global consortium of Brain Initiatives to constitute a united front that aims to tackle diverse devastation Neuropsychiatric disorders worldwide.

The 12th Annual Neuroscience20 Summit will include topics on brainmapping and therapeutics, neurotechnology innovation, investments, promote policies in neuropsychiatric disorders, PTSD, artificial intelligence, mental health disorders, neurosurgery (vascular), neuro-imaging, neurooncology, opioid addiction (pandemic), suicide prevention, epilepsy, spine, neuro-related infections, regulatory issues, neurodegenerative (MS, ALS, Parkinson's), TBI and spinal cord injuries.

SBMT has been at the forefront of establishing Global Brain Initiatives in the last 15 years.



Location: Johannesburg
Date: 21 november, 2025

**N20 #12
JOHANNESBURG**





Antony Thomas G20

President of N20 Africa – South Africa

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Colleagues, Professors, Friends, Ladies, and Gentlemen:

It is my profound pleasure to welcome all of you to the Neuroscience20 (N20) Summit here in the vibrant city of Johannesburg, South Africa, on November 21st, 2025, at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Sandton.

After a period of global challenges, it is inspiring to see so many leaders, experts, and enthusiasts gathered in one place to advance our shared mission in brain, spine, and mental health care.

The past years have reminded us of the fragility of health systems and the profound impact of neurological and mental health disorders on societies worldwide. Conditions affecting the brain and spine, alongside mental health challenges, continue to place immense burdens on individuals, families, and economies alike.

N20 Africa has demonstrated remarkable dedication to addressing these challenges by supporting research, policy-making, and innovation in neuroscience. Our initiative strives to provide evidence-based recommendations to governments, promote advanced clinical practices, foster innovation in brain and spine care, and enhance mental health services for populations globally.

As we come together at this Summit, let us embrace the opportunity to exchange knowledge, form collaborative networks, and strengthen partnerships that will shape the future of neuroscience and mental health care in Africa and beyond. Whether through research, clinical innovation, or policy advocacy, our collective commitment can transform the lives of millions.

I invite all of us to engage deeply in the discussions, share our experiences, and work together to build a healthier, safer, and more equitable future for generations to come. Let this Summit be a moment of renewed optimism, bold ideas, and transformative action.

Welcome to N20 Africa 2025 – let us recover together and advance stronger, smarter, and healthier!

Antony Thomas, MBBS, MMED

Science Chair of N20 Africa, President of N20, Neurosurgery Consultant, Head of Clinical Unit and Department of Neurosurgery, Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital, Kimberley, Northern Cape, South Africa Affiliated Lecturer, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, Free State, South Africa



AGENDA



Radisson Blu Gautrain Hotel Sandton, Johannesburg

07:00 AM - 08:00 AM (SAST)

Breakfast and Registration
(in-person attendees)



AGENDA

08:00 AM - 09:00 AM (SAST)

Opening Ceremony

Monique Thomas



First Lady of N20 South Africa 2025

Antony Thomas, MBBS, MMED



Science Chair, N20 South Africa; President, N20; Consultant Neurosurgeon and Head of Neurosurgery, Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital (Northern Cape, South Africa); Affiliated Lecturer, University of the Free State

Babak Kateb, MD, PhD



Foundation Chairman of the Board and CEO, SBMT, President of N20 USA, Global Founding chairman of N20, Co Founder, President and CeO of Aramis Therapeutics, Director of National Center of NanobioElectronics (NCNBE), Director of Brain Technology and Innovation Park (BTIP). Chief science officer of SBMT and WBMF

HRH Princess Azola Mabinza



Guest of Honour, Royal Family, South Africa

Hon. Dr Aaron Motsoaledi



Minister of Health, South Africa; Member of the National Assembly; Member of the ANC National Executive Committee

Vicky Yamamoto, PhD



Chief Scientist, Aramis Therapeutics; President of N20 Japan, Research Professor, USC Biomedical Engineering; Recipient of the 2024 U.S. Congressional Medal for Women's Leadership; 20th President & Executive Director, SBMT

09:00 AM - 10:00 AM (SAST)

Break + Media Interview

AGENDA

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (SAST) 12:00 AM - 01:00 AM (PST) 05:00 AM - 06:00 AM (GMT -3) 02:00 AM - 03:00 AM (CST)		Latin America Neurotech Initiative	
Session Chair Marcos Wagner de Souza Porto ,MD		SBMT Fellows/Interns Giridhar Solasa, MD; Mayra R; Huitzilitztl Negast	
Marcos Wagner de Souza Porto ,MD		Neurosurgeon, SBMT Board Member and President N20-Brazil	
Maria Emilia Andraus, MD, MSc, PhD		Professor of the Department of Internal Medicine/Neurology, Faculty of Medicine, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	
Cesar Andraus, MD, MSc, DSc		Neurosurgeon; Former General Director, Deolindo Couto Institute of Neurology, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (2020–2024); Collaborator Researcher, Centre for Global Epilepsy, University of Oxford	
Danubia da Cunha de Sá Caputo, PhD		Professor at State University of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ), Brazil	
Li Li Min, MD PhD BBA		Professor of Neurology School of Medical Sciences at University of Campinas Unicamp. Coordinator of Innovation at CPDI Ibrachina Ibrawork	
Daniel Americo Coelho Lopes, MD		Psychiatrist, Governador Valadares, Brazil	
Duda Franklin, MSc		Biomedical engineer and neuroscientist; CEO and Co-Founder, Orby.co (San Francisco Bay Area, USA)	
Francis Moreira da Silveira, MD, MSc, PhD		Psychiatrist; Minas Gerais, Brazil	
Heloisa Viscaino, MD, PhD		Neurologist and neuro pediatrician, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, UERJ	



AGENDA

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (SAST)
12:00 AM - 01:00 AM (PST)
05:00 AM - 06:00 AM (GMT⁻³)
02:00 AM - 03:00 AM (CST)

Latin America Neurotech Initiative

Nestor Ezequiel de Oliveira, Ph.D



Electronic Engineer and Technical Service Director,
University of Campinas (Unicamp)

Renata Esteves



Lawyer and President of the Autistic Rights
Committee, President Special Committee on the Law
of Autistic People and their Families of OAB Niterói,
Brazil

Veviane Spergue de Oliveira· Ph.D, M.S



Psychologist, Neuropsychologist and Cognitive
Behavioral Therapist

Luan Messias Magalhães, MD



Neurosurgeon Instituto De Neurocirurgia and
Neurologia Da Amazonia Ocidental Inao, Brazil

Ana Cristina Veiga, MD, MSc, Ph.D



Neurosurgeon, VP ANPALOP - Neurosurgeons
Association of Portuguese-speaking African Countries,
Republic of Cabo Verde

**Gabriel Coimbra Carvalho
Schuwarden, MD, Psychiatrist**



Psychiatrist, Communications Director, Brazilian Red
Cross MG–GV, Founder, Academic Mental Health
League of Governador Valadares

Anthony Medina



CEO of Avjet Rio Serviços Aéreos Ltda

Daniel Almeida Filho, MD, PhD



Secretary for Technological Development and
Innovation, MCTI; Professor and Coordinator of
GPDOC at SENAI–CIMATEC

Pablo Coimbra· MD, FAANM



Surgeon-in-Chief and Director of the RUHS
Comparative Effectiveness and Clinical
Outcomes Research Center at Riverside
University Health System Medical Center in
Moreno Valley, California



AGENDA

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (SAST)
12:00 AM - 01:00 AM (PST)
05:00 AM - 06:00 AM (GMT-3)
02:00 AM - 03:00 AM (CST)

Latin America Neurotech Initiative

**Wilson Asfora, MD, FAANS,
FRCSC, FACS**



Director General, Neurologia Segura Hospital
Angeles Morelia

Esteban Salatino, MD, MPH, MBA



Professor Research Department, Faculty of
Medical Sciences, Universidad de San Carlos de
Guatemala

Mauro Segura, MD



Neurosurgeon; Clinical Professor; Specialist in
Functional, Spine, and Tumor Surgery

Carlos Castillo, MD



Neurosurgeon, Professor, President of the
Colegio Nacional de Neurocirugía

Shiva Rampersad, MD



Brain & Spine Surgeon, Vice President of
Membership and Partnership, SBMT

11:00 AM - 11:05 AM (SAST)

Coffee Break



AGENDA

11:05 AM - 12:55 PM (SAST)

Africa Neurotech Initiative (Working Luncheon)

**Session Chair
Antony Thomas, MBBS, MMED**

**SBMT Fellows/Interns
Ehanga Idi Marcel,MD; Kayla Echeverria; Catherine Bloom**

Antony Thomas, MBBS, MMED



Science Chair, N20 South Africa; President, N20; Consultant Neurosurgeon and Head of Neurosurgery, Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital (Northern Cape, South Africa); Affiliated Lecturer, University of the Free State (Free State, South Africa)

Kalangu Kazadi,MD



South African Chair, N20 Science Committee; Former Vice President, World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies; Professor and Head of Neurosurgery, University of Zimbabwe; Honorary President, CAANS

David Musyimi NDETEI MD



Professor of Psychiatry, University of Nairobi; Founding Director, Africa Mental Health Research and Training Foundation (AMHRTF)

Aminath Kelani, MD



Head of the Department of Neurosurgery and Director of the Postgraduate Training Program, University of Abdou Moumouni of Niamey

Jeff Ntalaja, MD



Head of department of neurosurgery. President elect of CAANS, President of the Congolese Association of Neurosurgeons. University of Kinshasa -DRC

Glennie Ntsambi, MD



Chair of Neurosurgery and Dean of the Medical Faculty, University of Kinshasa



AGENDA

11:05 AM - 12:55 PM (SAST)

Africa Neurotech Initiative (Working Luncheon)

Paterne Safari, MD



Head of Neurosurgery, Bukavu (DRC);
Secretary, Congolese Association of
Neurosurgeons

Nyararai Togarepi, MD



Head of the Craniofacial Unit and Pediatric
Neurosurgeon, University of Zimbabwe, Harare

**Aminata Yandeh
Sallah-Tjirongo, MD**



Director Benguela Neuroscience Institute.
University of Namibia. Mediclinic and Rhino Park
Hospitals

Andre Mochan, MD



Academic Head of Neurology, Department of
Neurosciences, University of the Witwatersrand
and Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital

Christos Profyris, MD



Adjunct Professor of Neurosurgery, University of
the Witwatersrand and Netcare Milpark Hospital,
Johannesburg

Anna (Ann) Kleynhans, MBA



Group CEO, CEOS Technologies; Director,
CEOS Holdings; Co-Founder, CEOS
Africa/Doctors360 Academy

AGENDA

11:05 AM - 12:55 PM (SAST)

Africa Neurotech Initiative (Working Luncheon)

**Aneesa Khan MBBCH (Wits),
DGM (SA)**



General Physician, Netcare Rehabilitation
hospital

Archie Defillo, MD



Chief Medical Officer at Medibio Limited,



AGENDA

12:55 PM - 02:15 PM (SAST)
02:55 AM - 04:15 AM (PST)
09:25 PM - 10:45 PM (ACDT)
07:55 PM - 09:15 PM (JST)
04:25 PM - 05:45 PM (IST)
05:55 PM - 07:15 PM (WIB)
04:55 PM - 06:15 PM (GMT +6)

Australasia & Pacific Brain Initiative

Session Chair
Vicky Yamamoto, PhD

SBMT Fellows / Interns
Shova Sapkota MBBS
Sushil Poudel MBBS

Kuldip Sidhu, PhD, GdipBA



11th President, SBMT; Vice Chairman, N20 Global; Co-Founder of N20; and President of N20 Australia. Founding President, CK Cell Technologies; Professor of Stem Cell, UNSW Medicine and Health, Center for Healthy Brain Aging, University of New South Wales, Australia

Vicky Yamamoto, PhD



Chief Scientist, Aramis Therapeutics; President of N20 Japan, Research Professor, USC Biomedical Engineering; Recipient of the 2024 U.S. Congressional Medal for Women's Leadership; 20th President & Executive Director, SBMT

Sarat Chandra, MCh



President of N20 India
Professor and Head of Department of Neurosurgery, AIIMS, New Delhi

Shinichiro Akiyama, MD



CEO, Natural Medica Japan, Co., Ltd.
Visiting Professor, Clinical Oncology, McGill U.

Asra A-Fauzi, MD



Associate Professor, Airlangga University;
President, N20 Indonesia



AGENDA

12:55 PM - 02:15 PM (SAST)
02:55 AM - 04:15 AM (PST)
09:25 PM - 10:45 PM (ACDT)
07:55 PM - 09:15 PM (JST)
04:25 PM - 05:45 PM (IST)
05:55 PM - 07:15 PM (WIB)
04:55 PM - 06:15 PM (GMT +6)

Australasia & Pacific Brain Initiative

Md. Al Amin Salek, FCPS, IFAANS



Senior Neurosurgeon, Department of
Neurosurgery, Combined Military Hospital,
Dhaka Cantonment, Bangladesh

Manjari Tripathi, MD



VP of N20 India, Professor, Department of
Neurology, AIIMS, Delhi

Iype Cherian, MCh



Director of Neurosciences, Parul Institute of
Medical Sciences and Research, Vadodara,
India; Visiting Faculty, COMS Bharatpur,
Chitwan, Nepal

Kevin Morris, MD



Consultant Physician; Director, Aklun Biotech
LLC; CEO, Morris Lifesciences

AGENDA

12:55 PM - 02:15 PM (SAST)
02:55 AM - 04:15 AM (PST)
09:25 PM - 10:45 PM (ACDT)
07:55 PM - 09:15 PM (JST)
04:25 PM - 05:45 PM (IST)
05:55 PM - 07:15 PM (WIB)
04:55 PM - 06:15 PM (GMT +6)

Australasia & Pacific Brain Initiative

Albert Sufianov, MD



Professor and Chairman, Department of Neurosurgery, I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University; Chief Physician and Medical Director, Federal Center of Neurosurgery, Tyumen

Yao Lu, MD



President of N20 China

Yonghong Wang, MD



Neurosurgeon, Professor, Shanxi Bethune Hospital

2:15 PM - 2:20 PM (SAST)

Coffee Break



AGENDA

02:20 PM - 03:20 PM (SAST)
04:20 AM - 05:20 AM (PST)
03:20 PM - 04:20 PM (GMT +3)
03:50 PM - 04:50 PM (GMT +3.5)

Middle East Brain Initiative

Session Chair
Nevzat Tarhan, MD, PhD

SBMT Fellows/Interns
Arman Sourani MD; Thameen Jaradat MD; Melika Javani MD; Narjes Amiri

Nevzat Tarhan, MD, PhD



President of Uskudar University, President and Chairman of Middle East Brain Initiative, President of N20 Turkiye

Firat Tarhan



CEO of Istanbul Brain Hospital, USKUDAR University, Istanbul, Turkiye

Turker Tekin Ergüzel, PhD



Professor of Software Engineering, Üsküdar University

Nasser El-Ghandour, MD



Professor of Neurosurgery, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University, Egypt

Nabeel S. Alshafai, MD, FRCSC, FEANS, FAANS



Founder and chairman of the Nabeel Alshafai Neurospine Centre in the Kingdom of Bahrain



AGENDA

02:20 PM - 03:20 PM (SAST)
04:20 AM - 05:20 AM (PST)
03:20 PM - 04:20 PM (GMT +3)
03:50 PM - 04:50 PM (GMT +3.5)

Middle East Brain Initiative

Alireza Zali, MD



Chancellor of Shahid Beheshti, University of Medical Sciences (SBMU), Tehran, Iran.

Faridodine Naraghi, MBA



Business Consultant

Sajad Sahab, PhD



Associate professor at the Multiple Sclerosis Research Center, Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Maryam Norouzian, MD



Professor of Neurology, Fellowship in Cognitive Neurology and Neuropsychiatry, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran. Iranian Board member of SBMT-Irán

Mojtaba Barzegar, MSc



Medical Physicist, National Cancer Center Care and Research, Doha, Qatar, Iranian Board member of SBMT-Iran, Middle East Brain Initiative Coordinator

3:20 PM - 3:25 PM (SAST)

Coffee Break

AGENDA

03:25 PM - 04:25 PM (SAST, EET)
01:25 PM - 02:25 PM (GMT)
02:25 PM - 3:25 PM (CET)

European Neurotech Initiative

Session Chair
Giuseppe E. Umana, MD

SBMT Fellows/Interns
Farha Anjum, MD, Madalena Hughes

Giuseppe E. Umana, MD



President of N20 Italy, Senior Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and Spine Surgery, Kore University of Enna

Amir Samii, MD



President of N20 Germany
Vice President and Deputy Medical Director, International Neuroscience Institute (Hannover); Professor of Neurosurgery, Hannover Medical School; Head, Intraoperative Mapping Program, Leibniz Institute for Neurobiology

Antonio F. Corno, MD (UK) FRCS, FETCS, FACC



Professor and Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK

Jaime Adan, PhD



Scientific Coordinator, Laboratory of Surgical NeuroAnatomy (LSNA), IDIBAPS, Barcelona, Spain

Nikolay Peev, MD PhD (NS), FRCS(Eng)



Consultant Neurosurgeon and Spinal Surgeon, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland

Arjune Sen, MD



Professor of Global Epilepsy, University of Oxford; Consultant Neurologist, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust; Head, Oxford Epilepsy Research Group; Founding Director, Centre for Global Epilepsy; Director, Oxford Martin Programme on Global Epilepsy



AGENDA

03:25 PM - 04:25 PM (SAST, EET)
01:25 PM - 02:25 PM (GMT)
02:25 PM - 3:25 PM (CET)

European Neurotech Initiative

Mirza Pojskic, MD



Associate Professor, Department of
Neurosurgery, University Hospital Marburg

Theodoros Koutsomitros, MD



Psychiatrist, Psychotherapist; Founder and
Director, Greek rTMS Clinic, Medical
Psychotherapeutic Centre

Óscar L. Alves, MD



Neurosurgeon, Hospital Lusíadas Porto

Marc-Eric Halatsch, MD, PhD



Professor of Neurosurgery; Chief Neurosurgeon,
Kantonsspital Winterthur

04:25 PM - 04:30 PM (SAST)

Coffee Break



AGENDA

04:30 PM - 05:30 PM (SAST)

American Brain Initiative

Session Chair - Babak Kateb, MD, PhD

SBMT Fellows/Interns - Antonina Weiwior, Kellan Hastings

Babak Kateb, MD, PhD



Foundation Chairman of the Board and CEO, SBMT, President of N20 USA, Global Founding chairman of N20, Co Founder, President and CeO of Aramis Therapeutics, Director of National Center of NanobioElectronics (NCNBE), Director of Brain Technology and Innovation Park (BTIP). Chief science officer of SBMT and WBMF

Vicky Yamamoto, PhD



Chief Scientist, Aramis Therapeutics; Research Professor, USC Biomedical Engineering; Recipient of the 2024 U.S. Congressional Medal for Women's Leadership; 20th President and Executive Director, SBMT

Abilash Haridas, MD



22nd President of SBMT, Member of the Executive Board of SBMT, attending Neurosurgeon at Los Robles Hospital/HCA Hospital chain, CA, USA

Aaron Cohen Gadol, MD



Professor of Clinical Neurological Surgery, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Founder of the Neurosurgical Atlas

05:30 PM - 05:40 PM (SAST)

Coffee Break

05:40 PM - 06:40 PM (SAST)

**Global Policy & Resolution
Recommendations of the G20
Communiqué Draft**

08:00 PM - 12:00 AM⁺¹ (SAST)

VIP Dinner + Cocktails



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

SPEAKER	AFFILIATION	INITIATIVE
 Marcos Wagner de Souza Porto ,MD 	Neurosurgeon, SBMT Board Member and President N20-Brazil	Neuroscience20 (N20) Latin America Neurotech Initiative
 Antony Thomas, MBBS, MMED 	Science Chair, N20 South Africa; President, N20; Consultant Neurosurgeon and Head of Neurosurgery, Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital (Northern Cape, South Africa); Affiliated Lecturer, University of the Free State (Free State, South Africa)	Neuroscience20 (N20) Africa Neurotech Initiative
 Kuldip Sidhu, PhD, GdipBA 	11th President, SBMT; Vice Chairman, N20 Global; Founding President, CK Cell Technologies; Professor of Stem Cell, UNSW Medicine and Health, Center for Healthy Brain Aging, University of New South Wales, Australia	Neuroscience20 (N20) Australasia & Pacific Brain Initiative
 Vicky Yamamoto, PhD 	Chief Scientist, Aramis Therapeutics; Research Professor, USC Biomedical Engineering; Recipient of the 2024 U.S. Congressional Medal for Women's Leadership; 20th President and Executive Director SBMT	Neuroscience20 (N20) Australasia & Pacific Brain Initiative
 Sarat Chandra, MCh 	President of N20 India Professor and Head of Department of Neurosurgery, AIIMS, New Delhi	Neuroscience20 (N20) Australasia & Pacific Brain Initiative



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

SPEAKER		AFFILIATION	INITIATIVE
Nevzat Tarhan, MD, PhD		President of Uskudar University, President and Chairman of Middle East Brain Initiative, President of N20 Turkiye	Neuroscience20 (N20) Middle East Brain Initiative
Giuseppe E. Umana, MD		Senior Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and Spine Surgery, Kore University of Enna, N20 Italy President	Neuroscience20 (N20) European Neurotech Initiative
Amir Samii, MD		President of N20 Germany Vice President and Deputy Medical Director, International Neuroscience Institute (Hannover); Professor of Neurosurgery, Hannover Medical School; Head, Intraoperative Mapping Program, Leibniz Institute for Neurobiology	Neuroscience20 (N20) European Neurotech Initiative
Babak Kateb, MD, PhD		Foundation Chairman of the Board and CEO, SBMT, President of N20 USA, Global Founding chairman of N20, Co Founder, President and CeO of Aramis Therapeutics, Director of National Center of NanobioElectronics (NCNBE), Director of Brain Technology and Innovation Park (BTIP). Chief science officer of SBMT and WBMF	Neuroscience20 (N20) American Brain Initiative
Aaron Cohen Gadol, MD		Professor of Clinical Neurological Surgery, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Founder of the Neurosurgical Atlas	Neuroscience20 (N20) American Brain Initiative





Women In Neurotech Group (SBMT) USA | Initiative By SBMT

*Bridging the gap between brain and tech:
Women powering the future of NeuroTech.*



Monique Thomas

First Lady of N20 South Africa, Founder & Director of Mzanzi Spine

Monique Thomas is a seasoned healthcare and business professional with a unique blend of psychological insight, medical administration expertise, and entrepreneurial leadership. She holds both a Bachelor of Arts and an Honours degree in Applied Psychology from the University of South Africa (UNISA), alongside a Diploma in Human Resources Management from the University of Cape Town (UCT). Her qualifications are further supported by multiple certifications in medical coding, debt collection, practice management, and medical reception, reflecting her commitment to operational excellence in healthcare.

Monique is a purpose-driven leader guided by empathy, resilience, and a philanthropic spirit. She believes strongly in "paying it forward," using her platform to mentor, uplift, and create pathways for others, especially women, to thrive in business and healthcare alike.



Vicky Yamamoto, PhD

Cancer Scientist, 20th President SBMT
USC Keck School of Medicine, Norris Cancer Center, Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Yamamoto's pioneering work on mammalian Ryk was conducted at the laboratory of Professor David Baltimore, a Nobel laureate-1975, at California Institute of Technology. In this project, Drs. Baltimore, Yamamoto and the team have demonstrated that a Wnt co-receptor is required for stimulation of neurite outgrowth.



Dr. Deborah Zelinsky, OD

Cancer Scientist, 21st President SBMT
Mindeye Institute, Northbrook, Illinois

The Sunder Foundation Awards 2023
Her global reputation is due, in part, to her discovery of the use of eyeglasses to alter sound location and subsequent development of the Z-Bell Test™. The patented test allows Dr. Zelinsky and her team to prescribe lenses and use other optometric interventions that balance processing of central and peripheral eyesight, while synchronizing the integration between auditory and retinal sensory systems.



12th Annual Congressional International Women's Day Celebration 2024

US Congress - Washington D.C.
March 6th, 2024

HONORING TOP 20 GLOBAL WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE:
Dr. Vicky Yamamoto, PhD; Cancer Scientist at Norris Cancer Center, USC and 20th president of SBMT, was awarded in the 12th annual MEATF & AMEC International Women's Day for her inspiring leadership and outstanding achievements to excel.





G20

SOUTH AFRICA 2025



**12th ANNUAL N20 SUMMIT
NEUROSCIENCE 20**

: SOUTH : AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG

November 21, 2025

BRAIN, SPINE, AND MENTAL HEALTH

**GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR FAST-TRACKING
THERAPEUTICS AND DIAGNOSTICS FOR
NEUROLOGICAL NEURO-PSYCHIATRIC AND
SPINAL MS DISORDER**