

Announcement for June 02, 2025 Pediatric Neuroscience Grand Rounds.

The University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson



**Phoenix  
Children's**



**Barrow**  
Neurological Institute

## **Barrow at Phoenix Children's Neuroscience Grand Rounds**

### ***Mimics of Autoimmune Encephalitis***

**Vaishnavi Vaidyanathan, MD**

Clinical Assistant Professor of Neurology

Co-Director, Pediatric Neuroimmunology and Demyelinating Disease Program

University of California Davis

#### **Learning Objectives**

At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- Recognize classic features of patients with a diagnosis of autoimmune encephalitis.
- Identify red flag features suggesting an alternative diagnosis.
- Apply a structured approach to evaluating patients with neuropsychiatric symptoms.



**Vaishnavi Vaidyanathan** is currently a clinical assistant professor of neurology at the University of California Davis. Dr. Vaidyanathan completed her undergraduate and medical degrees at the combined 6-year BA/MD program at the University of Missouri Kansas City School of Medicine. After completing her pediatric neurology residency at Phoenix Children's Hospital, she did further subspecialty fellowship training in neuroimmunology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. As the Co-Director of the Pediatric Neuroimmunology and Demyelinating Disease Program at UC Davis, which is only one of three programs in the Northern California area, Dr. Vaidyanathan is working to grow the presence of pediatric neuroimmunology in the Sacramento area. Her research interests include identifying and addressing health disparities and inequities in patients with neuroinflammatory conditions. She also has a passion for

medical education and training the next generation of neurologists, which she attributes to the many inspirational mentors she worked with while at Barrow at Phoenix Children's as well as her role as Education Chief during her 5th year of residency.

**Barrow at Phoenix Children's**  
**Virtual Live Streaming Neuroscience Grand Rounds**  
**Monday's from 7:00 – 8:00 a.m.**

Zoom Information: CNI Grand Rounds  
Meeting ID: 993 7837 3233

Join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android:

<https://PhoenixChildrensHospital.zoom.us/j/99378373233?pwd=UXBudHZLemRYK056ZWZvMm8yUzNkUT09>

Or join by phone: (408) 638-0968 (US Toll) or (646) 558-8656 (US Toll)

**The Attendance code will be listed in the chat at the beginning of the presentation and every 20 minutes thereafter until the conclusion.**

Please text the attendance code to the Grand Rounds Attendance number: (866) 327-3062 or log into the CloudCME website: <http://CME.arizona.edu> and enter the attendance code.

- Please make sure to enter your cell phone number in your profile
- Please note that the attendance code is different each week

Attendance codes are only valid 15 minutes before the activity start time and for 24 hours after the activity end time.

**Overall Activity Objectives:**

1. Incorporate new abilities and strategies to diagnose, manage and treat the complex neurological pediatric patient using the most relevant, up-to-date clinical information.
2. Analyze and apply the latest research, clinical data and American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) and American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) guidelines regarding various pediatric neuroscience disorders
3. Implement improvements in pediatric healthcare and safety issues for various pediatric neurological conditions so as to facilitate practice-based learning and systems-based practice.
4. Counsel patients and families on short-term and long-term prognoses and treatment options for a variety of neurological conditions in the pediatric population.
5. Translate knowledge into practice improvement with the goal of improving outcomes of patients with pediatric neurological and psychiatric disorders.
6. Improve patient care outcomes for children with complex neurological conditions by integrating up-to-date information and research to determine the best course of action.

**Session Objectives:**

1. Identify the clinical differences in pediatric neuroimmunological conditions.
2. Describe the breadth of diagnostic studies and treatment options in pediatric neuroimmunological conditions.

**Accreditation Statement:**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of The University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson and Phoenix Children's Hospital. The University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson designates this Live Activity for a maximum of 1.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Relevant Financial Relationships Statement(s):**

University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson Office of Continuing Medical Education adheres to the ACCME's Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. Any individuals in a position to control the content of a CME activity, including faculty, planners, reviewers or others are required to disclose all financial relationships with ineligible entities (commercial interests). The CME office reviewers have nothing to disclose. All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.

Name of individual	Individual's role in activity	Nature of Relationship(s) / Name of Ineligible Company(s)
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Kara Stuart Lewis, MD, FAAN, FAHS	Activity Director	Nothing to disclose - 11/07/2024
Vaishnavi Vaidyanathan, MD	Faculty	Nothing to disclose - 02/26/2025