

JOINT SECTION ON DISORDERS OF THE  
SPINE AND PERIPHERAL NERVES

**SPINE SECTION NEWSLETTER**

*The American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
and the  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons*

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**Objectives of the Spine Section**

The objective of the Spine Section is to foster the use of spinal neurosurgical methods for the treatment of diseases of the spinal neural elements, the spine and peripheral nerves, and to advance spinal neurosurgery and related sciences, to improve patient care, to support meaningful basic and clinical research, to provide leadership in undergraduate and graduate continuing education, and to promote administrative facilities necessary to achieve these goals.

**Website News**

The Spine Section website, [www.spinesection.org](http://www.spinesection.org), has made many advances to become more interactive for its members. By signing in with your membership login, members gain access to areas of the website.

- A new "Topic of the Week" Section was started in June that provides weekly reviews of spine and peripheral nerve topics, covering anatomy, neurology, neurosurgery, biology, critical care and pathology. These short question-answer reviews help keep members up to date on current topics, and are a great review for oral or written boards.
- The Spine Section website also keeps you informed on current practice topics, with position statements on recent topics, including video-assisted thoracic surgery, and the use of hypothermia in spinal cord injury. In addition, users can view recent updates from the Washington Committee on the current health care debate, and also practice related content, such as the Spine Section's Lumbar Fusion Guidelines.

**Video History**

For the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves, a video history was compiled of interviews with all of the past chairmen of the Spine Section. This wonderful compilation gives a unique perspective on the issues which confronted each of these chairmen, and shows a chronology of how the field of spine and peripheral nerve surgery has changed over the years, directly from leaders in the field. These interviews give the viewer an insight into the problems each chairman handled in both the recent and remote past. Take a few moments to view the video history on the Spine Section website, [www.spinesection.org](http://www.spinesection.org).

**Awards and Fellowships**

The Spine Section supports fellowship and research funding through a number of awards. These awards range from \$500 to \$50,000 each, and can help support individual research projects up to fellowships. Four fellowship awards are available, including two international fellowship awards. In addition, three research grants are available each year, the Apfelbaum Award, the Kline Award, and the Larson Award. These awards range from \$15,000 to \$20,000 to support grant proposals and

These awards range from \$15,000 to \$30,000 to support grant proposals and collection of pilot data. Also, the Spine Section has created new Clinical Trial Proposal and Fellowship awards, to support the creation of clinical trials related to spine and peripheral nerve surgery. The deadline for these awards is December 1, 2009. Please go to [www.spinesection.org](http://www.spinesection.org) to obtain applications, and to see previous award recipients.

### **Spine Section Annual Meeting**

The Silver Anniversary Meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves was held this past March in Phoenix, AZ at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa. The meeting was a huge success, with the largest registered attendance in Spine Section history. We look forward to an even more dynamic meeting next year, which will be held at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, Florida, on February 17-20, 2010. Register early, and join us for a great scientific program!

### **Coming Up at the CNS Meeting in New Orleans**

At the Congress of Neurological Surgeons Meeting in New Orleans, on Monday, October 26 join us for the Spine Section Forum, and the Top Ten Abstracts sponsored by the Spine Section.

On Tuesday, October, 27, the Spine Section will be sponsoring the Integrated Medical Learning Session from 2:30 to 4:00 pm. The topic of this interactive session will be "What is the Best Management Strategy for Single Level Medically Refractory Cervical Radiculopathy?" Participants will be able to submit questions to the panel electronically, and interactive electronic audience polls will allow participants to see how their peers manage these patients.

Wednesday's Spine Section Session will be centered on new developments in the management of spinal trauma. Participants will hear about everything from occipitocervical fixation, to sacropelvic injuries, military spine trauma, and spinal cord injury trials outside the United States.

### **Save the Date: February 17 - 20, 2010**

2010 Annual Meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the  
Spine and Peripheral Nerves  
Rosen Shingle Creek Resort  
Orlando, Florida

<http://www.spinesection.org/meetings.php>



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