

Race to Erase MS Presents
Center Without Walls
MS FORUM
Saturday, May 4, 2013, 10:00 am
Hyatt Century Plaza Hotel

Doctors and Researchers:

Dennis Bourdette, MD

Dr. Dennis Bourdette, MD, is Chair and Roy & Eulalia Swank Family Research Professor in the Department of Neurology at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), and Executive Director of the OHSU Multiple Sclerosis Center. Dr. Bourdette is also the Co-Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs Multiple Sclerosis Center of Excellence-West. Dr. Bourdette received his medical degree at the University of California at Davis and joined OHSU after completing his residency in the Department of Neurology. In 1985 he completed a Neuroimmunology Fellowship at the Portland VA Medical Center. Dr. Bourdette has become nationally recognized for his important discoveries in the field of multiple sclerosis. As a medical leader he directs a team dedicated to curing and treating MS. Also a visionary, he is part of a strong and important mission to improve health through neurological research. Dr. Bourdette is a Fellow of the American Neurological Association and a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology.

Peter Calabresi, M.D.

Peter A. Calabresi, MD is a Professor of Neurology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Director of the Johns Hopkins Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Center and the Division of Neuroimmunology and Neuroinfectious. He attended Yale College and Brown Medical School, and trained in Neurology at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, NY and Neuroimmunology at the NIH in Bethesda, Md. As director of the MS Center Diseases at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Calabresi is the principal investigator on several clinical trials. He has designed and directed several clinical trials investigating combination drug therapies in MS and is on the advisory board for three national multi-center clinical trials. Dr. Calabresi also mentors trainees and also oversees translational laboratory research projects within the Division. His specific laboratory research interest lies in understanding how to more specifically target the disease causing effector memory T cells in MS without compromising healthy immune responses. Dr. Calabresi is also the recipient of a new five-year National MS Society collaborative center grant to study mechanisms to promote remyelination.

Adam Kaplin, M.D, Ph.D

Dr. Adam Kaplin graduated magna cum laude from Yale University before receiving his medical degree and Ph.D. from The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where he was a Medical Science Training Program awardee. He went on to complete an internship in internal medicine at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and a residency in psychiatry at Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he served as the chief resident of psychiatry. Now an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Kaplin focuses on the psychiatric complications of neurological diseases. He researches the immune-mediated mechanisms of depression and cognitive impairment in transverse myelitis, multiple sclerosis and related autoimmune neurologic disorders, and the role of cytokines in these processes. He is on the board of medical advisors to the Transverse Myelitis Association (TMA) and the Montel Williams MS Foundation. Dr. Kaplin is the inventor and co-developer of www.mood247.com, an automated Web and SMS coordinated mood tracker and mobile electronic health diary."

David Hafler, M.D

Physician-scientist David A. Hafler, MD, a leader in the effort to better understand the molecular basis of multiple sclerosis, is the chief and chair of neurology at Yale-New Haven Hospital and Yale School of Medicine. An expert on the mechanisms of autoimmunity and inflammatory diseases of the central nervous system, Hafler was previously director of molecular immunology in the department of neurology at the Harvard Medical School. He was the Jack, Sadie, and David Breakstone Professor of Neurology (Neuroscience) at Harvard, and a neurologist at the Brigham and Women's Hospital. Hafler graduated magna cum laude in 1974 from Emory University with combined BS and MS degrees in biochemistry, and from the University of Miami School of Medicine in 1978. He completed his internship in internal medicine at Johns Hopkins and a neurology residency at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Institute, where he was chief resident. He was a fellow in neurology and immunology at Harvard, where he joined the faculty in 1984. Hafler has been a major force in defining the cause of multiple sclerosis. He was among the first to apply human T cell cloning to human disease, defining the targets of the activated immune cells in patients with MS. More recently, Hafler became an associate member of the Broad Institute at Harvard and MIT and founded an international collaboration with scientists from the University of Cambridge and the University of California, San Francisco. The group led an initiative to solve the genetic basis of multiple sclerosis, culminating in the first whole genome scan identifying the genes associated with MS.

Emmanuelle L. Waubant, M.D., Ph.D

Dr. Emmanuelle Waubant is a Professor of Neurology at UCSF. She is a specialist in the treatment of patients with multiple sclerosis (MS). A native of France, she earned her medical degree at the University of Medicine in Lille, France, and completed her residency and chief residency at Toulouse University Hospital. Waubant completed fellowships in neuroimmunology at UCSF Medical Center and in clinical neuroimmunology at UCSF's Multiple Sclerosis Center. She then returned to France to head a clinical research center at the Pitie-Salpetriere University Hospital. She has joined the faculty at UCSF MS Center in 2001. Dr. Waubant is also one of the leading Neurologist in Pediatric MS and serves as the Medical Director for the Race to Erase MS Center Without Walls program. She is the recipient of a large multi-center NIH project on environmental and genetic risk factors in pediatric MS and the recipient of a grant from the National MS Society to study microbiomes in pediatric patients. She has designed several clinical trials of promising agents for MS and is on the advisory board of an international multi-center clinical trial.

Leslie Weiner, MD

Dr. Leslie Weiner joined USC as Professor of Neurology and Microbiology in 1975 and was appointed as of Chair of Neurology in 1979. In this position, he not only built a successful team of clinician and basic scientists to focus on the study and treatment of patients with multiple sclerosis, but also established a strong clinical department with expertise in Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and other movement and neuromuscular disorders, stroke, epilepsy and general Neurology. In addition, he established a nationally recognized Child Neurology Service at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. He retired from his position as Chair of Neurology in 2003 to focus on patient care and research. He has had a long-standing interest in the pathogenesis of MS and models of MS, which spans autoimmunity, opportunistic infections, neural stem cells, neurodegeneration and the immune response. His current research interests focus on the effect of inflammation on neural stem cells and regeneration and repair in the central nervous system. Dr. Weiner's clinical interests involve the care of patients with chronic and complex neurological diseases, with special expertise in MS. Dr. Weiner earned his medical degree from the University Of Cincinnati College Of Medicine and completed his neurology residency at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he also pursued a fellowship in neurology and epidemiology, focusing on virus infections of the nervous system. He then completed a fellowship at the National Institutes of Health Laboratory of Slow Virus Infections, working with D. Carlton Gadjusek, M.D., who subsequently won the Nobel Prize for his work.

Panellists with MS:

Nancy Davis

Nancy Davis, one of five children, was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. In 1987 she moved to California and now resides in Los Angeles. Nancy is an active individual with an incredible zest for life. She skis, plays tennis, has a black belt in karate, exercises, and travels – living her life to the fullest. She is an extremely dedicated philanthropist, author of *Lean On Me* and most importantly, she is a full-time mother who is devoted to her five children. Nancy was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis at the young age of 33. She decided that she was too young and too busy to let the disease slow her down. After being told by doctors that she was “lucky” that she could afford live-in assistance when the disease progressed and she became homebound – she was determined to devote her time, relationships and resources to finding a cure. Nancy’s hope, courage and strength continue to inspire her to maintain a vibrant quality of life despite this chronic disease, but most of all, she remains positive, continues to live her life to the fullest and is tireless in her efforts to finding the cure for MS.

Claudia Curry Hill (Moderator)

Claudia Curry Hill was diagnosed with progressive MS 30 years ago. An activist for women’s health and the disabled, she is very active in founding and serving on non- profit boards, including the Nancy Davis Foundation for MS and the Colorado, Wyoming Chapter of the MS Society and is a spokesperson for Breast Cancer, Multiple Sclerosis. Claudia is married, the mother of three and the owner of CCH Connections, a non profit and event consulting group in Colorado. She believes that exercise, a positive attitude and empowering yourself with all the information you can find will improve your quality of life until a cure is found.

Jack Osbourne

Jack Osbourne is currently a senior contributing correspondent for *Fuse News*. A seasoned host and TV presenter, Osbourne is also the host of the SyFy channel’s *Haunted Highway* where he investigates claims of paranormal activity along America’s remote back roads. Prior to that, he traveled the world conquering the most challenging sports on his hit TV show *Adrenaline Junkie*. In February 2008, Ozzy, Sharon, Kelly and Jack Osbourne hosted the 2008 BRIT Awards. Additional TV presenting appearances include; co-hosting *Celebrity Wrestling*, CD; UK and Ministry Of Mayhem and the MTV EMA’S in Rome. Other television credits include *Dawson’s Creek* and *That 70’s Show*. In addition, he had a cameo in the motion picture *Austin Powers: Goldmember* and a featured role in the film *New York Minute*. He is also the founder of Schweet Entertainment, a full-service production company that specializes in creating dynamic content for TV, Film, Marketing and Live Events.

William Dean Singleton

William Dean Singleton, 62, is Chairman of the Board of The Denver Post. He is the co-founder of MediaNews Group, publisher of 64 daily newspapers and more than a hundred non-daily publications in twelve states. He founded the company in 1983 and in its 31st year, MediaNews is the Nation’s 2nd largest newspaper company as measured by circulation. He was previously Chairman and CEO of the company and retired from MNG in October, 2013. Singleton began his newspaper career at the age of 15 as a part-time reporter in his hometown of Graham, Texas, and bought his first newspaper at age 21. He served on the board of the Newspaper Association of America from 1993 until 2004 and as Chairman of NAA in 2002 and 2003. He was Chairman of the Associated Press Board of Directors from 2007 until 2012. In addition, he is on the boards of the Rocky Mountain Multiple Sclerosis Center, the National Sports Center for the Disabled, the Helen G. Bonfils Foundation, the Denver Center for the Performing Arts and the Winter Park Recreational Association Board. In addition, he has served on the board of trustees for the University of Denver. Mr. Singleton is married and has 3 children and two grandchildren.