NANZ
Neurological Association of New Zealand
Manaaki roro me ngā io



Annual Scientific Meeting 2026
4-6 November 2026 • Napier War Memorial Centre

Wednesday 4 November 2026

TIME	PROGRAMME DETAILS
14.00	Special Interest Group Meeting • **Case based approaches to the treatment of Functional neurological disorder**
18.00	**Welcome Function**
20.00	Welcome Function Ends

Thursday 5 November 2026

TIME		
0815	**Opening Session**	
0830	**Functional neurological disorders - Where have we come from and where are we going?**	**FND: Past, Present and Future** Prof. Jon Stone
		Busting some myths about Functional/Dissociative Seizures Prof. Markus Reuber
1030	**Morning Tea**	*Kindly sponsored by **Eisai***
1100	**How to treat FND**	**What can psychotherapy and psychiatric care offer?** Dr. Chris Kenedi
		The neurologist's role in the management of FND Dr. David Palmer
	FND treatment panel discussion Prof Markus Reuber, Prof Jon Stone, Dr Chris Kenedi and Dr David Palmer	

1230	**Lunch** *Kindly sponsored by* ***Teva Pharma*** 	
1330	**Two views across the borderlands of epilepsy**	**Epilepsy Chameleons and Mimics** Dr Rod Duncan
		Epilepsy Mimics and Chameleons Prof. Markus Reuber
1500	**Afternoon Tea**	
Registrar Talks and Poster Presentations		
15.30	**Longitudinal quantitative muscle ultrasound assessment in adults with spinal muscular atrophy** Dr Shuyu Guo	
15.38	**LGI1 Encephalitis Presenting with a Neurocardiac Prodrome** Dr Chuen Siang Low	
15.46	**Disc-ernment Required: When IIH Isn't IIH** Dr Krishna Rajan	
15.54	**A Stroke of Genius** Dr Zhi-Miin Ong	
16.02	**T-cell Lymphoma Presenting as Encephalopathy with CNS Haemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis Mimicking PRES** Dr Daniel Wellington	
16.10	**Anti-GAD65 Autoimmune Encephalitis with unusual features** Dr Daniel Wellington	
16.18	**Auricles to Amnesia** Dr Maria McDowel-Hook	
16.26	**Refractory Seizures and a Disappearing Glioma** Dr Harrison Kay	
16.34	**The NZ Clinical Genetic Testing for Motor Neuron Disease Guideline, and experience treating genetic MND in Aotearoa** Dr Sarah Buchanan	
17.00	**AGM**	
17.35	Ends	
18.30	Transfers depart from the entrance of Napier Memorial Centre	
18.45	**Conference Dinner at Church Road Winery**	
22.00/22.30	Transfers return to Napier Memorial Centre	

Friday 6 November 2026

TIME	PROGRAMME DETAILS
Treatment advances in neuromuscular disease across the lifespan:	
08.30	**Tracking transition in Pūnaha Io the NZ registry and Biobank. Implications for adult neurology service**s Ms. Miriam Rodrigues
08.55	**Exploring health and service use of people with monogenic neurogenetic disorders in New Zealand using the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI)** Mrs Sarah Nagar
09.20	**Epigenetic silencing in FSHD: preliminary clinical safety and efficacy of the novel gene therapy EPI-321** Prof Richard Roxburgh
09.45	**SMA Care in a New Era: From Childhood to Adulthood** Prof. Gina O'Grady
10.20	**Panel discussion** Dr Miriam Rodrigues, Mrs Sarah Nagar, Prof Richard Roxburgh, Prof. Gina O'Grady
10.30	**Morning Tea** *Kindly sponsored by **CSL***
11.00	**Conversation Analysis as a diagnostic method in neurology** Prof. Markus Reuber
11.45	**Nutraceuticals in Neurology: Separating the Evidence from the Enthusiasm** Dr Ray Bose
12.05	**20 mins in the head of a dermatologist** Dr Sabine Sommer
12.30	**Lunch** *Kindly sponsored by **Ipsen***
13.30	**CPC –Clinico-pathological conference** Dr Cathy Zhong

Trainee Audits and case series	
14.20	**The timeliness of medical interventions for spontaneous intracerebral haemorrhage in Wellington Hospital 2022-2025** Dr Jamie Mitchell
14.28	**Low prevalence of cardiac thrombi detected on acute CT in patients with transient ischaemic attack** Dr Shuyu Guo
14.34	**Retrospective Audit of Status Epilepticus Management at Waitemata (2019 - 2024)** Ms Jessica Pausch
14.45	**Afternoon Tea**
Member Presentations	
15.15	**Management of systolic blood pressure during endovascular thrombectomy under general anaesthesia for acute ischaemic stroke (MASTERSTROKE)** Professor Alan Barber
15.25	**Beyond Ataxia: Vestibular and Oculomotor Characteristics in Autosomal Dominant Spinocerebellar Ataxia** Dr Rachel Taylor
15.35	**Ocrelizumab and non-viral liver injury, report characteristics; a case report and case series** Dr Nicole McGrath
15.45	**Rapid and sustained improvement of Functional Neurological Disorder with a novel treatment strategy: interim results from the STEP-FMD study.** Mr Benjamin Scrivener
15.55	**Awards and Conference Close** Presentation for Best case and Best Trainee project
16.05	**Ends**