



Boston Children's Hospital
Until every child is well



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL

2019 International Neural Tube Defects Conference

Monday, September 16–Wednesday, September 18, 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Joseph B. Martin Center at Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

Learn more | bostonchildrens.cloud-cme.com/default.aspx?P=1&EID=1223

OVERVIEW | The overarching goal of the **11TH International Conference on Neural Tube Defects** is to foster collaborations that will lead to rapid developments in understanding the causes of neural tube defects and to facilitate the translation of these findings into effective prevention and treatment strategies.

CONFERENCE GOALS | The goals of the conference are the following:

1. To bring together established and new investigators from a variety of research fields with a shared interest in the causes, consequences, and prevention of neural tube defects
2. To provide a forum for investigators to present their latest research findings
3. To foster the development of new, multidisciplinary and multinational collaborations
4. To offer trainees opportunities to learn about neural tube defect research and establish relationships with the early career and senior investigators who currently shape the field

CONFERENCE THEMES |

Theme 1: Modeling and analyses of polygenic inheritance

Theme 2: The role of epigenetics in gene-environment interactions

Theme 3: Innovative strategies for prevention and treatment of neural tube defects

Theme 4: Surveillance and care in low- and middle-income settings

TARGET AUDIENCE | This conference is meant for new and established researchers studying neural tube defects. It is also meant to be a forum for trainees to create new connections within the research community.

ABSTRACTS | Abstract submission is closed. If you have any questions, please contact: NTD2019@childrens.harvard.edu

MEETING FORMAT | The meeting format is for individuals to present 15–20 minute talks followed by time for discussion. The pre- and post-doctoral students that attend are encouraged to be active participants and have the opportunity to present their research at a special student session. Students, as well as established scientists have the opportunity to interact, with new research endeavors and international collaborations will develop as a result. Some of the topics that will be covered include embryology, suspected teratogenic factors (e.g., maternal diabetes, obesity), candidate genes, mouse models, epidemiology, and folate, both in terms of NTD reduction with supplementation and mechanisms by which folate exerts its protective effect. It is becoming clear that such a format can be a great forum for exchanging ideas and developing ideas for research projects. There will be no concurrent sessions and the presentations are arranged in such a manner that no significant blocks of time were dedicated to epidemiology talks or to developmental biology talks, with the goal in mind that the entire audience would remain and that most every participant would attend almost every lecture.

CONFERENCE BACKGROUND | The International Conference on Neural Tube Defects (NTDs) has an interesting history that speaks to the ground-up nature of the scientific and clinical involvement that has driven the meeting from day one. The origin of this meeting was

based on informal discussions following a workshop conducted at the American Society of Human Genetics annual meeting in 1994, with the workshop topic being current research on NTDs. The consensus following the workshop was that the individuals involved in NTD research could benefit from a stand-alone conference dedicated to this topic, so that collaborations and a free exchange of ideas could expedite the progress of research.

REGISTRATION | (June 1–September 1)

Registration fees:

- Trainees: **\$400**
- Non-trainees: **\$550**

Registration required. Please note that there will be no on-site registration available.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES REGISTRATION PAYMENT

International attendees will have to pay their registration fees through a different process. Please email: ntd2019@childrens.harvard.edu for specific instructions on how to wire or do an ACH transfer.

FAMILY CARE | Boston Children's Hospital uses Care.com to provide several care options, including child, senior, and pet care. Please contact, if interested: NTD2019@childrens.harvard.edu

SHUTTLE TRANSPORTATION | The Inn at Longwood Medical is located 0.2 miles (0.3 km) from the Martin Conference Center. The Residence Inn Boston Back Bay/Fenway is located 0.6 miles (1 km) away. We can provide a shuttle service to and from the conference in the mornings and afternoons. If you are interested in a shuttle service please contact: NTD2019@childrens.harvard.edu

REFUND POLICY | Registration by credit card can be made by clicking the register button above. Registration by check (draft on a United States bank): please make payable to Boston Children's Hospital and contact CME Department at cmepartment@childrens.harvard.edu to discuss payment.

Telephone or fax registration is not accepted. Registration with cash payment is not permitted. Upon receipt of your paid registration, an email confirmation from the Boston Children's office will be sent to you. Be sure to include an email address that you check frequently. Your email address is used for critical information, including registration confirmation, evaluation and certificate. Refunds will not be issued for cancellations.

ACCREDITATION | In support of improving patient care, Boston Children's Hospital is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.



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