It is my great privilege and honor to assume the leadership of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors this year. Our Section has grown in stature and visibility thanks to the outstanding efforts of the previous Executive Committee of the Section on Tumors and Past Chairman, Joe Piepmeier, MD.

To help us with our clinical and academic goals over the next two years, I have assembled a new Executive Committee. The guiding principle for forming the committee was to expand several of the portfolios to keep pace with changes in electronic communication and education. I will be ably assisted in our goals by Ray Sawaya, MD, Secretary-Treasurer. Ray has had a long and abiding interest in neuro-oncology and is considered one of the nation’s leaders in the field. I will also call upon immediate Past-Chairman Dr. Piepmeier and our very strong and influential Advisory Board to help in Tumor Section matters as they arise.

Over the next two years, we will rewrite our Bylaws to incorporate changes that have transpired since the Bylaws were last amended in 1997. Andrew Sloan, MD, has been made Chairman of the Bylaws Committee. Gene Barnett, MD, has taken over the editorship of the Tumor Section’s newsletter from Ron Warnick, MD, to continue to make it the envy of all AANS/CNS Joint Section newsletters.

The Tumor Section continues to provide a number of prestigious awards biannually to residents and neurosurgeons. Michael McDermott, MD, has been appointed to the position of Chair of the Awards Committee to help process these awards to deserving award winners. Issues relating to Membership will now be addressed by Dr. Warnick. Research opportunities for Tumor Section members will be brought to our attention by Linda Liau, MD.

A new Program Committee has been organized. The program for the CNS Annual Meeting in San Diego will include exciting sessions on acoustic neuroma and pituitary adenomas. This program was organized by Bill Couldwell, MD. The Education Committee has been expanded to provide Tumor Section members with new communications from Neurosurgical Focus, The Journal of Neuro-Oncology, Select Review and other neurosurgical periodicals.

A Tumor Satellite Symposium is being planned at the conclusion of the AANS Annual Meeting in Chicago, April 11-12, 2002. Nalin Gupta, MD, is organizing an exciting and novel program. Fred Lang, MD, is the Chair of the Membership Services Committee, and he will ensure that the Tumor Section’s contribution to the NEUROSURGERY://ON-CALL® Web site is frequently updated and current.

All new Tumor Section Executive Committee members are listed by name in this newsletter (see back page). As time moves forward, you will be hearing from them in their various capacities. In closing, please know that we would also like to hear from you. If you have any suggestions as to how we can better serve you, please do not hesitate to let me know.

James T. Rutka, MD, PhD, is Chairman, AANS/CNS Section on Tumors.

Abstract Deadline is Oct. 19
The abstract submission deadline is Friday, Oct. 19, for the 2002 AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Satellite Symposium April 11-12, 2002, in Chicago. The abstract submission form is available at www.neurosurgery.org. Go to the Professional Pages Section to find the Abstract Center. For information, contact the Meeting Services Department at (888) 566-AANS or (847) 378-0500.
Oncolytic Viruses and Malignant Glioma

By E.A. Chiocca, MD, PhD

There have been a number of preclinical studies that have showed promising anticancer effects by oncolytic viruses (OV). These are attenuated viruses that have been genetically mutated so that they will grow, destroy and spread only in glioma cells, sparing normal cells in the brain.

At least three Phase I clinical trials of such viruses have or are in the process of being completed for recurrent malignant glioma. One such trial, initially performed at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and Georgetown University, stereotactically injected an OV (based on herpes simplex virus) into the brain tumor. Doses were escalated in serial cohorts of patients until the final group received a tumor dose of $3 \times 10^9$ infectious viruses. There were no serious adverse events attributable to the OV injection. Another type of herpes OV was injected into the brain tumors of patients in Glasgow, Scotland. In this trial, much lower doses of OV were used ($10^5$ infectious viruses) due to regulatory mandates. Again, no evidence of viral toxicity was reported.

As part of the NABTT (New Approaches to Brain Tumor Therapy) consortium, a trial of injection of a third type of OV (based on adenovirus) is being conducted at MGH, Emory University (Atlanta), Henry Ford Hospital (Detroit), UAB, Johns Hopkins, University of Texas (San Antonio) and Moffitt Cancer Center (Tampa). Twelve patients have been treated so far without serious adverse events attributable to the OV and additional patients are being enrolled to determine a safe dose for this particular OV.

The future of OV therapy seems promising because they could provide the oncologist with another weapon against these tumors that is completely different in its anticancer action than that displayed by current standard treatments. Clearly, the possibility of toxicities with these types of agents (brain inflammation, edema, meningitis or encephalitis) mandates careful analysis of results and characterization of non-toxic doses.

The future of OV therapy also includes: a) combining with standard radiation/chemotherapy, b) using intravascular routes (supeselective catheterization) to administer the OV to multiple sites within the brain, and/or c) using increasingly more tumor-selective OVs. Since OVs have also been shown to possess the capacity of delivering anticancer genes, this strategy can also be used to augment their efficacy, at least in animal models. It is likely that further trials of OV in combination with drugs and/or radiation will determine if this mode of therapy will prove useful.

E.A. Chiocca, MD, PhD, practices neurosurgery at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Editor’s Corner

It is an honor to be named the new editor of this newsletter, and it will be a challenge to maintain, let alone exceed, the quality of this publication under previous Editor Dr. Ron Warnick’s supervision.

This is an exciting time in neuro-oncology where we genuinely appear to be on the cusp of new, effective methods of managing human brain tumors. I hope to be able to convey this information to you, as well as the important past, present and future activities of the Joint Section on Tumors.

In this issue, James Rutka, MD, the new Chairman of the Section, articulates his vision for the section. Also, Nino Chiocca, MD, updates us on developments concerning oncolytic viruses. Activities of section committees, minutes of previous meetings and information on upcoming section meetings are included.

Let me know what you would like to see in this newsletter or contribute a letter or article for publication. Contact me at:

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International Corner

By Shin Jung, MD

We had a great meeting to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Korean Brain Tumor Society. The society’s 2001 annual meeting was held June 8-10 in Seoul. The congress theme was “Prospects of Brain Tumor Management in the 21st Century.” Six foreign speakers from the United States, Japan and China were invited and each speaker had excellent lectures. More than 200 neurosurgeons attended and heard about the latest efforts in brain tumor research and treatment.

—Shin Jung, MD, is Associate Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, Chonnam National University Hospital & Medical School, Kwangju, South Korea.

Section Membership Rises

Membership in the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors is up 35 percent from a year ago. The number of members as of August was 711, compared to 525 in August 2000.

The current breakdown of Section membership is (last year’s figures are in parentheses):

- Active: 450 (308)
- International: 51 (50)
- Associate: 38 (26)
- Honorary: 3 (0)
- Adjunct: 42 (39)
- Resident: 127 (102)
Tumor Section Highlights at the 2001 CNS Annual Meeting in San Diego

Saturday, September 29

PC04 Transsphenoidal Surgery: Microsurgical and Endoscopic
Course Directors: Hae-Dong Jho, Ali F. Krisht
Faculty: William F. Chandler, Yong Ko, Ho-Gyun Ha, Myung-Hyun Kim, Woo-Kyung Kim, Melvin Field, Alan M. Scarrow

Sunday, September 30

PC26 Functional Cerebral Mapping
Course Directors: Nicholas M. Barbaro, Mitchel S. Berger
Faculty: Michael M. Haglund, Carl Sartorius

PC27 Anterolateral Skull Base Approaches
Course Directors: Harry R. Van Loveren, Jeffrey T. Keller
Faculty: Khaled Aziz, Ashraf Samy Yousef, Walter Jean, Adam I. Lewis, Michael J. Link, Troy D. Payner, Daniel J. Scodary, George Bovis, Michael R. Chicoine, Munali Gathikonda, Glenn L. Keiper

PC31 Stereotactic Radiosurgery
Course Director: Bruce E. Pollock
Faculty: David W. Andrews, Steven D. Chang, Antonio A.F. De Salles, Mark E. Linskey, Ajay Niranjan

Monday, October 1

Luncheon Seminars

M07 Point/Counterpoint: Controversies in Brain Tumor Management
Moderator: Joseph M. Piepmeier
Faculty: Walter A. Hall, Mark L. Rosenblum, David G.T. Thomas, Lieg F. Salford

M08 Brain Tumor Irradiation: Techniques, Strategies and Controversies
Moderator: Bruce E. Pollock
Faculty: Eben Alexander, III, Chrisre E.H. Lindquist, David W. Andrews, Dherrentra Prasad, Peter C. Warnke

M09 Controversies in Pituitary Surgery
Moderator: Martin H. Weiss
Faculty: Kalamon D. Post, Armando Basso, Rudolph Fahlbush, Ivan S. Ciric

M10 Surgical Approaches to the Anterior and Central Skull Base
Moderator: Chandranath Sen
Faculty: Andrew H. Kaye, William T. Monaci, Vinko Dolenc, Derek A. Bruce, Iver A. Langmoen

M11 Optimizing Outcomes in Acoustic Tumor Surgery: Practical and Technical Considerations
Moderator: Laligam N. Sekhar
Faculty: Madijd Samii, John Dizay Day, Carl B. Heilman, Leonard I. Malis, Georg Noren

Section on Tumors I

Acoustic Neuroma
2–3:30
Open Papers 720–729, Moderators: Michael W. McDermott, E. Antonio Chiocca; Preuss Award; Young Tumor Investigator Award
3:30–4
Refreshments with Exhibitors
4–4:40
Oral Posters 66–78, Moderators: Ronald E. Warnick, Frederick F. Lang, Jr.
4:40–5:30
Special Symposium, Moderator: William Couldwell
4:40–4:57
National History of Acoustic Neuromas, Charles Tator
4:57–5:14
When to Operate and Surgical Approaches, William Hitselberger
5:14–5:30
Role of Radiosurgery, Bruce Pollock

Tuesday, October 2

Luncheon Seminars

T30 Management of Difficult Spine Lesions with Novel Spine Approaches
Moderator: Edward C. Benzel
Faculty: Paul C. McCormick, Charles J. Riedel, Daniel Rosenthal, Dean G. Karahalios, Anthony Freempong-Boadu

T35 Novel Therapies for Malignant Brain Tumors
Moderator: Henry Brem
Faculty: Timothy C. Ryken, E. Antonio Chiocca, Michael A. Vogelbaum, James M. Markert, Jr., Takamasa Kayama

T36 Case Management: Strategies for Removal of Intracranial Meningiomas
Moderator: Peter McL. Black
Faculty: Donald C. Wright, Ossama Al-Mefty, Albino Bricolo, Jacques Phillipon

T38 Third Ventricular Tumors: Open, Stereotactic, and Endoscopic Approaches
Moderator: Michael B. Sisti
Faculty: William T. Couldwell, Kevin O. Lillhei, Charles Teo, Gerhard Pendl

T45 Posterior Fossa and Brainstem Tumors in Children: Approaches and Complication Avoidance
Moderator: James T. Rutka
Faculty: Liliana C. Goumnerova, Tadanori Tomita, J. Gordon McComb, Jeff H. Wisoff

T48 Functional Brain Mapping and Image Mapping: Techniques to Preserve Function
Moderator: Daniel L. Silbergeld
Faculty: Michael M. Haglund, Jeffrey G. Ojemann, Robert E. Maxwell, Neil D. Kitchen

T49 Intracranial Navigation: Innovations and Techniques
Moderator: Gene H. Barnett
Faculty: Thomas M. Moriarity, Robert J. Macnunis, Patrick J. Kelly, David W. Roberts, Richard D. Bucholz

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T54 Management of Gliomas: Surgery and Adjuvant Therapies
Moderator: Mitchell S. Berger
Faculty: Philip H. Gutin, Roberta P. Glick, Keith L. Black, Ronald E. Warnick

Section on Tumors II 2–5:30 PM
Advances in Pituitary Tumors
2–3:30 Open Papers 761–770, Moderators: Linda M. Liu, Gene H. Barnett, Mahaley Clinical Research Award–Hae-Dong Jho
3:30–4 Refreshments with Exhibitors
4–4:40 Oral Posters 79–91, Moderators: Donald M. O’Rourke, Anthony L. Asher
4:40–5:30 Special Symposium, Moderator: Raymond Sawaya
4:40–4:57 Prolactinoma: Recent Advances in Biology and Treatment, Schlomo Melmed
5:14 – 5:30 Endoscopic Pituitary Surgery, Hae-Dong Jho

Wednesday, October 3

Luncheon Seminars 12:30–2 PM
W61 Approaches to Spinal Neoplasms
Moderator: Noel I. Perin
Faculty: T. Glenn Pait, Charles L. Branch, Jr., Abhijit Guha, Ziya L. Gokaslan

W63 Brain Metastases
Moderator: Raymond Sawaya
Faculty: Andrew E. Sloan, Stephen B. Tatter, Griffith R. Harsh, IV, Thomas C. Witt, Anthony L. Asher

W64 Craniopharyngiomas
Moderator: Robert A. Sanford
Faculty: John A. Duncan, III, Phillip H. Cogen, Alexander N. Konatalov, Alain Pierre-Kahn, Mark M. Souweidane

W65 Pineal Region Tumors: Current Recommendations
Moderator: Michael L. Levy
Faculty: Ian F. Pollack, Jeffrey N. Bruce, Christian Matula, Kintomo Takakura, Jacques Brotchi

W66 Skull Base Meningiomas
Moderator: Thomas C. Origitano
Faculty: Johnny B. Delaibah, Jr., Jon H. Robertson, Mark E. Linskey, Takeshi Kawase, Felix Umanovsky

W73 Pediatric Brain Tumors: A Practical Perspective and Complication Avoidance
Moderator: Theodore S. Roberts
Faculty: John Ragheb, Patricia A. Aronin, Mark D. Krieger, Herbert E. Fuchs

Photo courtesy of the San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau.
Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting

Monday April 23, 2001
Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto

In attendance were Drs. Piepmeier (Chairman), Rutka (Secretary-Treasurer), Bernstein, Berger, Bruce, Black, Rosenblum, Liao, McDermott, Chandler, Van Louveren, Pollock, Glick, Chin, Westphal, Yoshida, Raffel, Chiocca and, by invitation, Dr. Hassenbusch, and Mr. Ron Engelbreit of the AANS.

Committee Reports
Secretary-Treasurer
Minutes from the September 25, 2000 meeting, at the CNS Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, were reviewed and accepted.

James Rutka, MD, reported on the financial statements of the Section. Total assets are $301,248. This is up by approximately $15,000 from the CNS in San Francisco. Dr. Rutka had reviewed the financial statements from April 10, 2001, with Mr. John McConvill of the AANS. Collection of dues has been favorable, and office expenses have been less than expected. Unfortunately, the marketplace is not currently favorable, and there have been losses on the long-term pool investments. These losses have also been experienced by the other Joint Sections of the AANS/CNS. New expenses include a $7,000 payment for the support of the Select Review program. In addition, the promise of $5,000 was made to support an Immunotherapy Task Force meeting in Toronto at the AANS meeting as organized by Roberta Glick, MD.

Awards
The Award winners announced at the AANS Annual Meeting were: Preuss Award, Jeffery Leonard, MD; Mahaley Clinical Investigator Award (sponsored by the National Brain Tumor Foundation), Yutaka Sawamura, MD; Young Investigator Award (sponsored by the American Brain Tumor Association), Turker Kilic, MD; and Farber Foundation Award, Robert Martuza, MD.

Raymond Sawaya, MD, was unable to attend the Executive Council Meeting but had sent his report, which was reviewed by members at the table.

Joe Piepmeier, MD, and Dr. Rutka will be meeting with Naomi Berkowitz, Executive Director of the American Brain Tumor Association, and Janice Brewer, Executive Director of the National Brain Tumor Foundation, and colleagues at a luncheon in Toronto to show our appreciation of their generous sponsorship of awards.

The Farber Award was briefly discussed. James Farber, President of the Ann and Jason Farber Foundation, has requested that the Farber Award be alternated between the Section on Tumors and the Society of Neuro-Oncology. An e-mail message to Dr. Rutka, copied to Skip Grossman, MD, stated that the Award Selection Committee be comprised of Drs. Rutka, Grossman and Mitch Berger.

Membership Services
Anthony Asher, MD, reported that the Select Review project in neuro-oncology has expanded. A proposal was entertained to investigate the process for making Select Review CME-accredited. The proposal was carried.

Nominating Committee
Dr. Bernstein conducted a vote of the membership for the new slate of Executive Members and reported that Dr. Rutka was

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Tumor Section Highlights (continued from page 4)

2:09-2:18 PM
762 Overexpression of EGFRvIII Potentiates the Development and Aggressiveness of Astrocytomas in a Activated Ras Transgenic Mouse Astrocytoma Model
Abhijit Guha, Hao Ding, Nelson Lau, Luba Roncari, Xiaoli Wu, Patrick Shannon, David Gutmann, Andras Nagy

2:18-2:27 PM
763 Safety, Tolerability and Tumor Response of IL4-toxin (NBI-3001) in Patients with Recurrent Malignant Glioma

2:27-2:36 PM
764 Sex Steroid Hormone Exposures and Risk for Meningiomas
Balraj S. Jhawar, Graham Colditz, Charlie Fuchs, Meir Stampfer

2:36-2:45 PM
765 A Phase I Study of an IL-4-HSV-tk Gene-Modified Autologous Glioma Vaccine: Technical Challenges and Promising Initial Results

2:45-2:54 PM
766 Nuclear Factor Kappa B Blockade by Mutant IkBa Potentiates Chemotherapeutic Efficacy in an In Vivo Human Glioma Model
Kyle D. Weaver, Wesley Fowler, III, Susan Yeyeodu, Matthew Evend

2:54-3:03 PM
767 Changes in the Rat Subventricular Zone Prior to the Development of CNS Tumors: A Link Between Neural Progenitor Stem Cells and Glioma Oncogenesis?
N. Scott Litofsky, Taichang Jang, Alonzo H. Ross, Lawrence D. Recht

3:03-3:12 PM
768 Gamma Knife Radiosurgery Boost in High Grade Gliomas
Rufus J. Mark, Ronald Young, Deane Jacques, Brian Copcutt, Sandra Vermeulen, Steve Lee

3:12-3:21 PM
769 Optimization of Adenoviral Transduction in Malignant Gliomas
Thomas C. Chen, Wei-Jun Wang, Barbara Sosnowski

3:21-3:30 PM
770 Prognosis of Glioblastoma in the 70’s and Today
Joachim Oertel, Ekatarina Kroustilina, Henry W.S. Schroeder, Michael Robert Gaab

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Meeting Highlights (continued from page 5)

appointed to the position of Chairman, Dr. Piepmeier to the position of Past Chairman and Chairman of the Nominating Committee, and Dr. Sawaya to the position of Secretary-Treasurer. These positions are for a period of two years.

Education
Bill Couldwell, MD, reported on the need for an ABNS-formatted exam questions from the Section.

Young Neurosurgeons
Fred Lang reported on his role in the Section as the young neurosurgeon’s liaison to the larger group of young neurosurgeons at the CNS. CNS appoints its own member to be a liaison with the Section, but communication between the two groups has been poor. It was suggested that we continue to appoint a young neurosurgeon liaison from the Section and to have the lines of communication open at all times.

Research
Roberta Glick, MD, reported on guidelines for investigators conducting gene therapy trials. It is getting more difficult to use gene therapy in the clinic. A discussion was held regarding the use of stem cells and fetal cells for research. It was suggested that the Section at this point not provide a position statement on the use of fetal cells for tumor research. The NCI Cancer Genome Project was discussed briefly. Dr. Glick described in some detail the Immunotherapy Task Force meeting that was held the previous day. She was congratulated for her efforts in bringing together an outstanding cadre of individuals from across the continent to participate in this project. A final report will be forthcoming.

Other Business
Dr. Rutka reported on the AANS Board of Directors Meeting held Nov. 18 in Chicago. Julian Hoff, MD, has asked that members of the Section participate in Study Sections of the NIH. Dr. Rutka will be forwarding the CVs of many of the Section members who hold independent, peer-reviewed funding in this regard. It was mentioned that the PAC might be requesting funds shortly from the sections to support itself.

New Award Offer
Stewart Dunsker, MD, informed the Section of a new award in neuro-oncology for both resident and faculty members. Dr. Rutka will work with Bob Maciunas, MD, in the identification of suitable candidates and abstracts submitted for best clinical papers. This new award will not detract from current awards offered by the Section such as the Mahaley Award.

Brain Tumor Progress Review Group Document
Members were encouraged to go to the Web site at http://planning.cancer.gov/ for the purposes of downloading the report.

Cell Phone Statement Response Letter
Dr. Rutka mentioned that Stan Pelofsky, MD, was pleased with the response of the Section to his question regarding the use of cell phones and their association with brain tumors.

CNS Meeting of January 2001
This was attended by Dr. Warnick, who gave his report on the CNS Executive Board meeting. The 2002 CNS Meeting will be in Philadelphia and the 2003 meeting in Denver.

CNS Certification Committee
Dr. Rutka reported that Vince Traynelas, MD, was seeking nominations from the Section for individuals who are Board Certified to help conduct mock oral exams for those aspiring members who have failed the exam previously. Dr. Rutka will appoint some members with interest in this matter.

NREF Research Proposal
Dr. Piepmeier reported that Dr. Hoff has requested the Joint Section on Tumors fund a grant proposal by William T. Curry for his research proposal, which was favorably reviewed. Unfortunately, no funding was available for this from the NREF. Much discussion was held on this matter. The requested amount of support was approximately $40,000 per year for two years. It was felt that this was beyond the fiscal capabilities of the Section. A motion was passed that Dr. Rutka will write to Dr. Hoff to explore other ways of supporting the NREF so that these future proposals can reach a critical funding level.

American Brain Tumor Association
The research awards granted by the American Brain Tumor Association (ABTA) cover the spectrum of brain tumor research being done by young investigators. Its two-year, $60,000 fellowships are awarded to promising researchers who demonstrate the potential for pursuing a productive, neuro-oncology career.

The new recipients of ABTA fellowships are William Curry Jr., MD, Massachusetts General Hospital; John Hill, MD, PhD, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center; Timothy Seabrook, PhD, Brigham & Women’s Hospital; I-Mei Siu, PhD, Duke University; and Qing Zhao, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Continuing ABTA fellows are Christine Fuller, MD, Washington University; Arlene Hwang, PhD, Case Western Reserve University; Maciej Lesniak, MD, Johns Hopkins Hospital; Patrick Senatus, MD, PhD, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center; and Gelareh Zadeh, MD, Hospital for Sick Children.

ABTA’s one-year, $50,000 translational grants target young investigators studying promising pre-clinical research that has the potential for bringing new, effective treatments to the patients. The new ABTA translational grant recipients are Laurence Cooper, MD, PhD, City of Hope; Linda Liu, MD, PhD, UCLA School of
In Brief... (continued from page 6)

Medicine; and Joon Uhm, MD, Mayo Clinic.

The Young Clinician Investigator Award is a one-year, $40,000 award administered by the AANS. The award recognizes the work of a young physician doing clinical brain tumor research. The recipient is Kent New, MD, PhD, Duke University Medical Center.

ABTA’s Medical Student Summer Fellowships are $2,500 awards intended to plant the seeds of neuro-oncology interest in bright, talented students. Mentors are invited to select those appropriate students. The Summer 2001 Medical Student Mentors are Mitchel Berger, MD, University of California San Francisco; Peter Black, MD, PhD, Brigham & Women’s Hospital; Steven Brem, MD, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center; Jeffrey Bruce, MD, Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center; Herbert Engelhard, MD, PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago; Amar Gajjar MD, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital; David Rowitch, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; John Silber, PhD, University of Washington; Joon Uhm, MD, Mayo Clinic; and Paul Zeltzer, MD, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Applications for ABTA fellowships and translational grants are now available from the ABTA office. You may request an application by calling (847) 827-9910 or by e-mailing info@abta.org. Completed applications are due January 7, 2002.

The Brain Tumor Society

The Brain Tumor Society (TBTS) is proud to announce its 2001 research grant recipients. This year marked TBTS’s first nationwide search for innovative basic scientific brain tumor research. Scientists were invited to submit one- to two-year projects for $50,000 per year. More than $500,000 in research grants were awarded.

Charles G. Eberhart, MD, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md., will investigate a new medulloblastoma model by expressing a mutant form of the cancer gene beta-catien in the brains of transgenic mice.

Ajay Niranjian, MD, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa., will study neural stem cells genetically altered to express a radiation-sensitizing agent for radiotherapy.

George Perides, MD, Beth Israel Deaoness Medical Center, Boston, Mass., is researching enzymes involved in the metastatic process.

Ulrike Gaul, MD, Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y., is using the Drosophila fly to investigate the signals and pathways that identify glial cells and control their growth.

Carol Wikstrand, MD, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C., is exploring immunotherapeutic targeting of the angiostatin receptor to antibodies and antibody derivatives that slow tumor growth.

Arturo Alvarez-Byulla, MD, University of California, San Francisco, Calif., will study the role of the SVZ (subventricular zone of the brain) in the formation and development of adult brain tumors.

Evan M. Hersh, MD, University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz., is researching dendritic cells and dexosomes to find the optimal techniques and conditions to stimulate effective brain tumor immunotherapy.

Erwin G. Van Meir, MD, Winship Cancer Institute, Atlanta, Ga., will explore a unique virus to target cell populations (hypoxia brain tumor cells and tumor blood vessel cells) within brain tumors.

Ming-Jian You, MD, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass., will conduct a controlled study to assess the PTEN genes role in the growth and development of malignant gliomas.

Bob S. Carter, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass., will genetically engineer “designer” T cells attracted to EGFRvIII, a mutant protein expressed by glioma cells.

Hui-Kuo Shu, MD, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., will explore the influence of the Met growth receptor on radiation reception.

Benjamin Matthew Segal, MD, University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y., will expand research on how white blood cells (natural killer cells and CD4+ T cells) work together to trigger remission.

TBTS seeks to attract the best and brightest scientists to the field of brain tumor research. Please visit the TBTS Web site (www.tbts.org) for more information about our research grants.

National Brain Tumor Foundation

Research Grants

The National Brain Tumor Foundation (NBTF) will begin accepting grant applications for research funding in November 2001. The deadline for applying is February 2002 and grants are awarded in June 2002. For more information or an application, check the research section of the NBTF Web site at www.brain tumor.org.

If you would like to be added to the NBTF e-mail list so as to be notified of research funding opportunities, send your name, address, phone number and e-mail to research@braintumor.org.

Brain Metastases Teleconference

The NBTF is offering a free teleconference about brain metastases for patients and family members in October 2001. Refer your patients to www.brain tumor.org or have them call (800) 934-2873 for details.

NBTF Enews

If you want the latest information about brain tumors and the programs of the NBTF, you and your patients can subscribe to NBTF ENews. It’s free and easy. Just send your name, address, telephone number and e-mail to nbtf@braintumor.org.

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation of the United States (PBTFUS)

The PBTFUS National Family Support Program helps patients and their families deal with the many needs that accompany the diagnosis of a childhood brain tumor. This program helps parents and family with emotional support and with information.

The PBTFUS employs a Family Support Program Coordinator to assist families around the world through the services offered to patient families. The PBTFUS also offers a detailed Guidebook on starting a support group for pediatric brain tumor patient families.

The PBTFUS has two Web sites: http://www.PBTFUS.org and http://ride4kids.org. These enable patient families to access the latest editions of the national newsletter The Helping Hand, which contains stories of joy and hope about children surviving.

If you wish to learn more about the PBTFUS National Family Support Program, please call (800) 253-6530 or e-mail socialworker@pbtfus.org.
Meeting highlights include:

- Conveniently held at the conclusion of the 2002 AANS Annual Meeting
- SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS on exceptional educational topics, including:
  - State-of-the-Art Management of Patients with Low Grade Gliomas
  - Treatment Algorithm for Patients with Chordoma and Chondrosarcoma
  - A Primer in Molecular Biology of Brain Tumors for the Practicing Clinician
  - Utility of Intra-Operative Navigational Systems for Brain Tumor Surgery
  - New Techniques for Imaging Human Brain Tumors
- SPECIAL LUNCHEON SEMINAR
- PRESENTATION of Scientific Papers and Scientific Posters
- SPECIAL LECTURE

Abstract submission began June 8, 2001. For your convenience, the online abstract form is available through NEUROSURGERY: ON-CALL® at www.neurosurgery.org.

**ABSTRACT DEADLINE:** October 19, 2001

Specific details of the scientific program and registration/hotel reservation forms will be included in the AANS Preliminary Program mailing in December.

Contact Nalin Gupta, MD, PhD, at nalin@itsa.ucsf.edu with questions regarding the scientific program.

For additional information, call (847) 378-0500 or visit www.neurosurgery.org.

*Jointly sponsored by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons.*
Eligibility: Members of the AANS and/or CNS who have demonstrated a special interest in tumors of the nervous system. 
Note: Adjunct Membership is available to non-neurosurgeons. Please contact the AANS office at 847-378-0500 for an Adjunct Membership application.

I. Biographical:
   (A) Name: ______________________________________________________________________________
   (B) Home Address: ________________________________________________________________________
   (C) Office Address: ________________________________________________________________________
       ______________________________________________________________________________________
       Phone: _______________________________________ Fax: __________________________________
   (D) E-Mail: ______________________________________________________________________________

II. Category of Membership Requested:
   ❏ Active      ❏ Associate       ❏ International       ❏ Resident/Fellow*       ❏ Adjunct

III. Membership, Certification and Practice:
   (A) Are you certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery? ❏ Yes      ❏ No
   (B) For Resident Applications-Expected Residency Completion Date (month/year)  __________________
   (C) Are you a member of
       1. American Association of Neurological Surgeons? ❏ Yes      ❏ No
       2. Congress of Neurological Surgeons? ❏ Yes      ❏ No
   (D) Are you currently involved in brain tumor research?
       Clinical- ❏ Yes      ❏ No                       Basic-    ❏ Yes      ❏ No

Suggestions on Section activities that would benefit you:
______________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________ ______________________________
Signature of Applicant                Date

*Membership dues are waived for applicants currently enrolled in a neurosurgical residency program.

Please return completed application and curriculum vitae to:
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