

Minutes of the SEEG Research Consortium Meeting

ACNS Annual Meeting, Las Vegas

Feb 08, 2019

Present: Giri Kalamangalam, Stephan Schuele, Saurabh Sinha, Tammy Tsuchida, Mohammad Zafar

Call in: Manoj Raghavan, Ekrem Kutluay, Birgit Frauscher

Absent: Stephen Thompson

The Consortium met for the first time for one hour in a productive discussion.

Discussion items

Broad mandate

The mission of the Consortium in appraising the state of the art and developing consensus and guidelines for the evolving North American practice was agreed on. Research applications were briefly discussed, but any concrete action plan (data sharing for collaborative efforts) were deferred to later discussion.

Membership requirements

It was agreed that the majority of the members would be ACNS members and affiliated to the Consortium through their institutions (and not as private individuals). However, given the breadth of the field and the significant expertise of individuals not directly connected to ANCS (e.g. neurosurgeons, those based outside the US), it was agreed that ANCS membership would not be a qualifying criterion for membership to the Consortium.

Projects

- A survey of existing SEEG centers in the country to identify patterns of practice. This would provide some background information and determine which particular multicenter efforts would be useful, in addition to being of general (and publishable) interest.
- Guidelines development – several topics were identified, but one effort that has already been discussed (with the AES) is recording standards for intra-operative and extra-operative monitoring. The suggestion is to expand the latter into a recording guideline for SEEG.
- Nomenclature guideline briefly discussed, and a scheme used by Dr Scellig Stone at Boston Children's Hospital was circulated. Members are invited to study this as a suggested template for the development of a practical ACNS-endorsed nomenclature.
- Several other guideline projects were briefly mentioned but not discussed further: indications, placement, data interpretation, stimulation mapping.

Data sharing

Deferred to later. It was agreed that data sharing needed to be built around specific requirements and research projects. The effort and expense to create a common database is considerable and not worthwhile without a clear research direction. The existing MNI-coordinated normal ECoG database is available, and may be used as a partner website for the ACNS effort.

Administrative support

The need for admin support at this stage was raised. The admin would take over maintaining the membership database and be the central resource for organization of conference calls, keeping of minutes etc.

Annual courses

It was suggested that the Consortium also get involved in designing the annual invasive EEG and epilepsy surgery course.

Action items

- Membership invitations – everyone is invited to submit suggestions for members. Membership invitations will be sent if there are no vetoes (Lead: Giri Kalamangalam)
- Survey of centers (Lead: Jay Gavvala, Saurabh Sinha)
- Volunteers needed for authorship of recording standards guideline (Lead: Stephan Schuele, Bill Tatum, Jonathan Edwards)
- Leads needed for following: Nomenclature, Indications, Mapping, Data Interpretation
- Central coordination and arrangement for admin support (Lead: Giri Kalamangalam)

Next meetings

- Conference call summer 2019
- In-person meeting at ACNS Annual Courses, September 2019, Atlanta GA
- Conference call winter 2019
- In-person meeting at ACNS meeting Feb 2020, New Orleans LA

Giri Kalamangalam

Chair, SEEG Research Consortium