

RADIOLOGY RESEARCH UPDATE *July 2025, Issue 33*

Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine

SIGN 2025

The Society of Image-Guided Neurointerventions (SIGN) held its 5th annual conference this past January in Basel, Switzerland. Three keynote addresses were given by: Andreas Raabe from the University Hospital, Bern, Switzerland: “From Standard to Innovation to Progress: Lessons from ICG for Bringing New Technologies into the OR;” Roger Stupp from Northwestern University, Chicago, IL: “Overcoming the Blood-Brain Barrier—New Concepts for the Treatment of Brain Tumors;” and Pascal Jabbour from Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA: “Intra Arterial Therapies: The Retinoblastoma Experience: a 15 Year Journey.” Five up and coming scientists received the Gullapalli Young Investigator Awards: Manina Etter (University Hospital of Basel) for “Identification of Plasma-Derived Diagnostic and Prognostic Biomarkers for Gliomas;” Lorissa McDougall (UMB) for “Developing HIV Broadly Neutralizing Antibody-producing Glial Progenitors

to Eradicate HIV from the Brain;” Xing-Jun Chen (Chinese Institute for Brain Research) for “rAAV-miniBEND: a Target Vector for Brain Endothelial Cell Gene Delivery and Cerebrovascular Malformation Modeling;” Shriya Madan (UMB) for “Combination of 25% Mannitol and 4% NaCl Safely Boost Blood Brain Barrier Opening in Mouse Model of Glioblastoma,” and Sydney Sneed (University of Georgia, Athens) for “Human Neural Stem Cell Therapy Ameliorates Neuroinflammation, Neuron Death, and Lesion Severity after Severe Traumatic Brain Injury in a Pediatric Swine Model.”

View highlights: [SIGN 2025 video](#) Please see pp. 2-3 for photos from the event.

The 2026 SIGN conference will be held in Africa.

Content contributed by SIGN Co-directors Miroslaw Janowski, MD, PhD and Piotr Walczak, MD, PhD

SAVE the DATE

The 4th Annual Alavi-Bradley Symposium on Molecular Imaging and Theranostics will be held on October 7, 2025.

A call for abstracts has been

issued. [Visit the Website](#) for more information.

HSHSL OPEN ACCESS AGREEMENTS

The Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HSHSL) has two new agreements to facilitate open access (OA) publishing at UMB.

Known as “Read and Publish Agreements,” these contracts provide UMB authors with the opportunity to make their articles OA in certain journals without paying the article processing fee that would typically be charged. The agreements are with Elsevier and Wiley, two large academic publishers. When a UMB affiliate is the corresponding author for a paper that is accepted by an eligible journal, they will see the option to select this free OA publishing format when completing their copyright and licensing agreements in the journal publisher’s portal. If this option does not appear, the journal is either not eligible for the agreement or the allotment of free publishing credits for

that calendar year has been used. More information about these agreements is available in the [Open Access](#) guide. Contact Steve Douglas (sdouglas@hshsl.umaryland.edu) with questions related to the OA agreements.

Source: HSHSL

FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

Patel M, Panja S, Zaman LA, Yeapuri P, Bhattarai S,

Gorantla S, Chang L, Heredia A, Walczak P, Hanson B, Cohen SM, Kevadiya BD, Gendelman HE. CCR5-ligand decorated rilpivirine lipid-based nanoparticles for sustained antiretroviral responses. *Nat Commun.* 2025 Jan 8;16(1):513.

Qiao G, Chu C, Gulisashvili, D, Sharma S, Kalkowski, L, Fadon-Padilla L, Ostovitz J, Lesniak W, Deredge Daniel, Walczak M, Zhang L, Jablonska A, Liang Y,

Gandhi D, Walczak P, Janowski M. A Safe, MR and PET Image-Guided Method for Increasing Osmotic Blood–Brain Barrier Permeability. *Radiology.* 2025 in press.

Submit your publications to bpocta@som.umaryland.edu.

Preferences: Articles published in high impact journals with a focus on research led by departmental faculty serving as first and/or last authors.

SIGN PHOTO GALLERY

Below left to right: opening remarks by Dr. Raphael Guzman; Guanda Qia (right) receiving the invited talk award from Dr. Franklin West



Continued on next page



Above left to right: Gala Dinner; Shiry Madan receiving the Gullapalli Young Investigator Award from Dr. West



Above left to right: Lorissa McDougall receiving the Gullapalli Award from Dr. West; Organizing Committee (left to right: Pia Bustos, Piotr Walczak, Marie Schimanski, Mirosław Janowski, Nicole Wyttenbach, Raphael Guzman)

All photos are courtesy of Dr. Janowski.