



# SIGN

Student Interest  
Group in Neurology

Please utilize this list of ready-to-use SIGN activity materials and suggest virtual options as you continue to offer SIGN chapter events at your institution.

## Advising/Mentorship

- Hold virtual M4 Match Panels - Connect recently matched M4s with M3s about to start the application process. May also be beneficial for M1s and M2s.
- Organize a virtual Meet & Greet with Neurologists
  - Virtual talks with various neurologists: can discuss normal topics of what the specialty typically sees in clinic, various procedures they do, general advising, adult vs. pediatric neurology.
  - Could also pursue Coronavirus specific topics of how shelter-in-place has affected practice, the forced transition to virtual visits, virtual neurologic exams, etc.
- Host a virtual resident panel to discuss why they went into neurology and what their daily life looks like
- Reach out to a local undergraduate pre-med department advisor (or within your own institution) to help with medical school advising. Introduce those students to the field of neurology.

## Educational Tools & Resources

- Hold recurring (weekly/biweekly) virtual journal clubs with your SIGN Advisor or neurology residents - there are some very interesting studies coming out around COVID-19 and infiltration into nervous tissue (i.e. loss of smell)
- Check out the [AAN NeuroBytes](#) YouTube channel playlist and encourage members to use these great resources to learn about neurologic medicine
- Plan a virtual discussion group for a movie with either good (or poor) representations of neurologic disease - reference pages 20-21 of the AAN's [SIGN Reference Manual](#) for a list of movies

## Philanthropy & Community Outreach

- Volunteer in a charity walk/run - Local advocacy/support groups are still looking for fundraising opportunities and some are even hosting virtual walks and events to be done in your own neighborhood
- Check out age-appropriate resources on the [Brain Awareness Week](#) Website and promote brain science for local virtual classrooms
  - They have fun activities that kids can print out at home!
- Promote fundraising for a good cause to members and through social media outlets
- Attend a Career Day at a local college/high school
- Reach out to local high schools or Pre-med programs in your state to provide advising sessions and Q&As about medicine and neurology - you can do this virtually!
- Create distributable educational materials for local communities
  - For example, materials on how to recognize a stroke and the importance of receiving timely medical intervention

## Member Engagement

- Sessions to learn more about various neurology sub-specialties
  - More information to come via email
- Plan virtual presentations and guest lectures
  - Sexuality, Autonomy, and Consent in Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities – topic for how pediatric neurologists deals with kids of various ages with sensitive topics
  - Online teaching session about doing a neurologic exam in Spanish (ie. NIH Stroke Scale) - Could also provide this to current residents at the institution (get either a medical student/resident or attending who is conversational at Spanish)
  - Day in the Life of a Neurologist
- Check out the [Core Lecture Series](#)
- Online zoom with screen sharing that shows how medical students can take advantage of the resources at AAN.com
- Reach out to Neurology faculty for potential research projects and pair them with students – ones that have moved up in priority as in person visits have been impacted by COVID

## Special Events:

- Discussion group on books and movies with Neurology in pop culture, such as “The Diving Bell and the Butterfly” or “Awakenings”.
  - Check out the [SIGN Reference Manual](#) for more examples of neurology in literature
- Hold a [World Brain Day Webinar](#) watch party on July 22, 2020
- Have a “mixer” when we can have in person events again. Would be awesome to have the chair or program director of the residency attend as well as neurology residents and fellows if available.
- Check out the free access to the complete [2019 AAN Annual Meeting](#) on the AAN website

## COVID-Specific

- Check out the [COVID-19 NEUROLOGY RESOURCE CENTER: EDUCATION & RESEARCH](#)
- Create a journal club with emerging literature around COVID-19 and neurology
  - Cases on pathophysiology of virus entering nervous tissue and neurologic manifestations of COVID-19 (i.e. loss of smell, acute cerebrovascular diseases, impaired consciousness, Guillain-Barre syndrome, acute hemorrhagic necrotizing encephalopathy, etc.)
- Come up with distributable educational materials for communities through YouTube (i.e. Stroke education – emergencies still happen in a pandemic)
- Support M1/M2 curriculum with online learning during the neurology curriculum
  - Drawing tracts workshop
- Discuss topics of teleneurology and how people are adapting their practices to the current times.
  - [AAN Neurobytes](#) about doing a remote neuro exam in the time of COVID-19 and What Neurologists Should Know About COVID-19
  - Discuss virtual neurologic exam maneuvers

Thank you to Blake Beehler, MS4, Rush Medical College and Alvin Singh, MS3, Chicago Medical School for their contributions and work on this document as well as Madhu Soni, MD, FAAN, SIGN Faculty Advisor, Rush Medical College and Chair of the AAN Undergraduate Education Subcommittee.  
Created 4/27/2020.