



February 16, 2006

Dear Colleagues:

The Foundation for Education and Research in Neurological Emergencies (FERNE) is pleased to participate again in the American Academy of Emergency Medicine's Annual Scientific Assembly. We would like to thank Joe Lex, Helen Kopec and the AAEM staff for this opportunity. During this meeting, FERNE will present three unique learning opportunities.

Today, we will have a **lunch session from 12 to 1 p.m. in Salon D where we will examine "Ischemic Stroke Care: A Systems Approach for the Emergency Physician"**. This information will discuss a systematic approach to the treatment of stroke patients – included will be an evaluation of the role of tertiary and stroke centers, prehospital triage, and ED patient transfer in the management of acute stroke patients. Then the role of stroke scales in the ED evaluation of stroke patients will be discussed, including the role of the NIHSS in the ED and making sense of the Modified Rankin Scale and Barthel Index as they relate to stroke clinical trials.

Later today we will present a **Neurological Case Conference in Track A from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.** during which will present specific cases, ask clinically relevant questions and discuss optimal ED diagnosis and treatment options.

Tomorrow, **February 17<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 8 a.m. we will have a breakfast session examining "New Frontiers in ischemic Stroke Therapy", which will be held in Salon D.** This discussion will include the most recent literature on thrombolysis and the newest therapeutic modalities being tested. In addition, the latest radiological technologies - both diagnostic and interventional - will be discussed.

CME credit is available to physicians for both the breakfast and lunch programs through the University of Illinois at Chicago. **You must complete both an evaluation form and a request for CME form** for each separate program (both are included in your packet) and turn them in to the FERNE staff in order to receive up to a maximum of 2 hours of category I CME credit. .

We believe you will find this material educational and relevant to your clinical practice. FERNE's intention is for you to take these materials back to your programs and to present it to those who could not attend today. Included in the materials you have received today is a CD-ROM that contains links to all of the PowerPoint presentations that will be given here today. We encourage you to use these learning tools at your own institutions to teach others.

FERNE has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to EM physicians and their educational needs. In doing so, we have consistently offered educational materials free of charge while expanding the scope of how practitioners are reached. If you are interested in the materials used during this meeting, please explore our website, [www.ferne.org](http://www.ferne.org), where over 320 lectures by over 165 physicians are available for viewing and downloading.

We would like to thank AAEM for the opportunity to participate in this meeting. Lastly, we would like to thank AstraZeneca LP for their generous support of these programs, funded via an unrestricted educational grant.

Thank you for joining us today. Enjoy the meeting.

Sincerely,

Edward P. Sloan, MD, MPH

E. Bradshaw Bunney, MD

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