

### Word of Welcome & Scientific Programme in Brief

On behalf of the basic, clinical and translational **Neuroscience Family of Cameroon**, we warmly welcome all delegates from Canada, USA, Europe, Turkey, Australia and the rest of Africa to the beautiful country Cameroon, fondly referred to as Africa in miniature. The Scientific Committee and Secretariat has prepared a very rich and diverse programme that we hope you will find interesting as well as engaging, for the promotion of brain health in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Brain Week in Cameroon, CEMAC & CEEAC takes place from October 22<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences of The University of Yaoundé I. The programme encompasses four pre-congress events lasting two days each and three days of the joint **Brain Research Africa Initiative (BRAIN) – Society of Cameroonian Neurologists (SCAN)** congress.

The pre-congress events, which take place concomitantly on October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, are:

- **A Scientific Writing Workshop** that will focus on how to write good research articles and research projects, from the conception to the implementation, in collaboration with Harvard University, the Lancet and Science Publishing Groups (USA), and the Universities of Fribourg and Geneva (Switzerland). This programme was designed with the ultimate goal of helping young faculty members and young physician-scientists to acquire the scientific writing skills required to secure funding for their research and for graduating students to learn how and where to prepare and publish scientific articles presenting their research findings;
- **A Neuroanatomy Workshop** including a full day of advanced neuroanatomy course aimed at improving the understanding of neuroanatomy for students of the Faculties of Medicine of the CEMAC sub-region, and a non-cadaver neurosimulation course with UpSurgeOn on the second day, in collaboration with WFNS Young Neurosurgeons Forum, designed for building the capacity of neurology, neurosurgery, psychiatry, ENT, and ophthalmology residents and internes;
- **A Stereology Course** developed in collaboration with the Turkish Society for Stereology, where methods and applications of stereology in basic and clinical neuroscience will be described, with hands-on activities including how to count cells accurately throughout the brain and how to quantify volumes of 3D structures such as organs or tumours precisely;
- And the **BRAIN T.R.U.S.T. Tournament**, prepared in collaboration with the Faculties of Medicine of CEMAC-CEEAC sub-region, and where medical student teams from CEMAC will compete in basic and clinical neuroscience, with the following objectives (**T.R.U.S.T.**):

**Trace and track hidden passion for brain science amongst the young generations, Render accessible brain science information to African students, Unravel and demystify the neurosciences in the minds of future healthcare providers, Stimulate interest and create a passion amongst young medical students for the neurosciences, and Train and nurture future leaders in the fields of neurosciences who will play a major role in the development of nation building in the African continent.**

The BRAIN-SCAN Congress will take place between October 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 under the theme: “Vascular Neurology in Sub-Saharan Africa: Experiences, Challenges and Prospects”. Symposia will tackle current public health and scientific research challenges, including: the epidemiology and management of neurovascular pathologies; sleep, drug addiction, violence, and mental health; as well as neurotraumatology, vascular and tumour neurosurgery. CEMAC-CEEAC sub-region, European and American experts will discuss: physical activity, education and the brain beyond entertainment; the appropriate use of medical imaging for stroke management; and stroke management through a primary health care lens in Sub-Saharan Africa, with regard to the experience of technologically-advanced countries and for the proposal of staged national stroke recommendations. In addition, students and young faculties will deliver 30 oral presentations and several scores of poster presentations on hot topics pertinent to basic neuroscience, neurology, neurosurgery and psychiatry. Abstracts of these presentations are published in a special edition of Health Sciences and Disease, the official journal of the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences of The University of Yaounde I, the congress host institution.

Finally, the World Stroke Day (October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022) will be used for media sensitisation of the general public on brain attacks and sensitisation of students of secondary schools on brain health, particularly on life hygiene and other strategies that may be used to prevent stroke, and on what to do in front of an individual having a stroke episode.

We wish you all a happy stay in the rich and diversified land of the Indomitable Lions and great musicians and artists. Pendant votre séjour au Cameroun, même s’il est court ou raccourci, essayez de joindre l’utile à l’agréable. Soyez tous les bienvenus chez vous !

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