Hydrocephalus Research Workshops

In 2009, the Hydrocephalus Association participated in several research workshops in Baltimore, MD. The plenary sessions of these conferences were designed to be complementary, with little or no overlap. Researchers were encouraged to obtain a unique, comprehensive and unparalleled overview and update of hydrocephalus research by attending all 3 conferences. Please read more about them below.

1. **“Improving Outcomes in Hydrocephalus: Bridging the Gap between Basic Science and Clinical Management”** was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Baltimore September 14-15, 2009. This workshop was made possible by a generous grant from the National Institutes of Neurological Disorders and Stroke at the NIH and supporting grants from the Hydrocephalus Association and STARS-kids. The major goal of the “Improving Outcomes in Hydrocephalus” workshop was to understand the pathophysiology of hydrocephalus in order to advance clinical applications. The workshop featured some of the most important emerging topics in hydrocephalus research. It was designed to be very interactive and thought-provoking and to build on the momentum and knowledge generated by the NIH-sponsored “Hydrocephalus: Myths, New Facts and Clear Directions” held in 2005.

2. The **Hydrocephalus 2009** conference was held on September 17-19, 2009, also at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Baltimore. Hydrocephalus 2009 helped to further the International Society for Hydrocephalus and CSF Disorders (ISHCSF) mission of advancing the art and science of clinical care and research and promoting the best possible care for patients with hydrocephalus and CSF disorders. This conference was designed to bring together a diverse assembly of neurosurgeons, neurologists, neuroscientists, physiatrists, neuropsychologists, medical physicists, engineers, trainees, and advocacy group leaders to share their advances, insight, and wisdom in the basic and clinical research, diagnosis, treatment, outcomes, and patient advocacy of hydrocephalus and CSF disorders.

3. The **Hydrocephalus 2009 Neuropsychology Pre-Conference** was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Baltimore on September 16, 2009. Geared to neuropsychologists, neurologists, and others with interest and expertise in the neuropsychology of hydrocephalus in children and adults, the Neuropsychology Pre-conference included lectures to address our existing knowledge and identify key areas for further development. In the afternoon, in a consensus conference format, participants began to explore the key concepts, questions and process steps that will be necessary to develop standards for neuropsychological testing for clinical care and research in hydrocephalus. The resulting preliminary recommendations were presented during the ISHCSF Business meeting the next day.

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