Dear Participant,

Numerous clinical, neuroimaging and experimental features confirm that epilepsy is a complex network disorder with striking similarities to other brain diseases and disorders. We propose to specifically consider autism, depression, dementia and schizophrenia in order to learn more about these network disorders and develop new ways to approach epilepsy.

In this context, we believe there is a huge (and often missed) opportunity to increase our understanding of neurological and psychiatric disorders (epilepsy specifically) by broadening our perspectives about their potential underlying mechanisms and looking “next door”.

We will mix illustrative case presentations, basic science lectures and clinical talks. A major focus will be on new methodologies including imaging data and genetics to identify shared mechanisms. This is a brainstorm/think tank meeting with world leading faculty and an excellent learning and “network” opportunity.

Hope to see you in beautiful Nova Scotia in September 2016!

Bernd Pohlmann-Eden MD, PhD (Halifax)
Alon Friedman MD, PhD (Halifax)
Candice Crocker PhD (Halifax)
Helen Scharfman PhD (New York)

The Scientific Steering Committee
Welcome & Introduction
Bernd Pohlmann-Eden, Halifax, CA

Keynote Presentation
Nathalie Jetté, Calgary, CA
The Epidemiology of Epilepsy and Important Comorbidities: Autism, Dementia, Depression and Psychosis

Autism & Epilepsy
Isabel Smith, Halifax, CA - Chair
Illustrative Case (Peter Camfield)
Carol Camfield, Halifax, CA
The childhood perspective on autism-epilepsy spectrum disorder

Bernd Pohlmann-Eden, Halifax, CA
Autism as Comorbidity in New-onset Epilepsy: The Perspective from an Adult First Seizure Clinic

Ilan Dinstein, Be’er Sheva, IL
Using Overnight Sleep EEG in 1-4 Year Old Toddlers with Autism to Identify Early Pathophysiology

Evdokia Anagnostou, Toronto, CA
Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Disorder of Aberrant Connectivity

Depression, Anxiety & Epilepsy
Andres Kanner, Miami, US - Chair
Illustrative Case (Karen Legg)

Andres Kanner, Miami, US
Do Pathogenic Mechanisms Operant in Mood Disorders and Schizophrenia Explain their Higher Comorbidity in Patients with Epilepsy?

Christophe Bernard, Marseille, FR
Role of Past Stressful Events in the Development of Brain Network Pathologies

Peter Giacobbe, Toronto, CA
Deep Brain Stimulation & Depression: A Model for a Network Approach

Schizophrenia & Epilepsy

Bernd Pohlmann-Eden, Halifax, CA - Chair

Illustrative Case (Mark Sadler)
Candice Crocker, Halifax, CA
The Face of Post-ictal Psychosis: The Meeting of Epilepsy and Schizophrenia

Anthony Grace, Pittsburg, US
TLE and Schizophrenia Psychosis have Common Substrate in Hippocampal Dysregulation of the Dopamine System

André Fenton, New York, US
Excitation-inhibition Coordination and Discoordination in the Judicious and Pathological use of Information

Jason Morrison, Halifax, CA
Schizophrenia as a Network Disorder: The Clinical Perspective

Astrid Nehlig, Strasbourg, FR
Basic Science: Temporal Lobe Epilepsy and Schizophrenia - Where is the Link?