



# Neurocritical Care Society Pharmacy Section

New Member Packet

2024-2025

Neurocritical Care Society  
330 N Wabash Ave. Suite 2000  
Chicago, IL 60611  
[Neurocriticalcare.org](http://Neurocriticalcare.org)

New Neurocritical Care Society (NCS) Pharmacy Section Member,

Welcome to the NCS Pharmacy Section! The NCS Pharmacy Section is the premier place for neurocritical care pharmacists to network, collaborate and work together to better patient care for neurologically injured patients. In addition, the Pharmacy Section works to expand the profession of neurocritical care pharmacy and is the pharmacy voice within NCS.

Many opportunities are available for involvement in the Pharmacy Section and you are encouraged to engage with the section as much as possible. In addition, the Pharmacy Section provides educational and networking opportunities to better your professional career.

Packet Contents:

- Overview of the Neurocritical Care Society
- Overview of the Pharmacy Section structure and leadership
- Benefits of Pharmacy Section involvement and opportunities for involvement
- NCS Pharmacy Section leadership information (Appendix 1)
- NCS committee involvement information (Appendix 2)

## **Overview of the Neurocritical Care Society**

- **Background**
  - The Neurocritical Care Society is the only professional society representing multi-disciplinary teams of providers who care for patients with life threatening neurologic injuries. The society is comprised of physicians, nurses, pharmacists, advanced practice providers, researchers and scientists. NCS promotes and fosters research through the Neurocritical Care Research Network (NCRN) and serves the needs of the profession through practice guidelines, certification courses, an international annual meeting, and online education materials and publications
  
- **Brief History/Milestones:**
  - The Neurocritical Care Society was founded in 2002 and became a multidisciplinary society in 2004. The society has grown steadily since its founding and now has over 2,700 members internationally with annual meeting attendance exceeding 1,000 members
    - Key milestones:
      - Neurocritical Care (NCC) journal published its first issue in 2004 and exceed usage of > 170,000 annually in 2012
      - First NCS guidelines published in 2012 (Status Epilepticus)
      - The NCRN was founded in 2010 (currently has 163 sites in 47 countries)
      - The Emergency Neurological Life Support (ENLS) was launched in 2012 and reached 10,000 certifiants in 2017
  
- **NCS Leadership/Structure:**
  - NCS has 5 executive officers and a 8 member executive committee
  - NCS has 13 committees that are comprised of volunteer members of NCS
  - NCS has 20+ sections for member involvement; each section has a resource/discussion page on the NCS website
  
- **Involvement in NCS**
  - Pharmacy Section members are highly encouraged to become involved in NCS through committee involvement, annual meeting attendance and various other opportunities. NCS provides a yearly “Get Involved” campaign where NCS members can volunteer for service on NCS committees and other opportunities
  - More information about involvement in NCS can be found at:  
<https://www.neurocriticalcare.org/>

- NCS Educational Resources:
  - NCS is committed to providing educational products for its members. Further information can be found at [this link](#)
  - Specific examples of educational products provided by NCS:
    - [PONS](#) (Pharmacotherapy of Neurocritical Care)
      - Web based learning modules that can be viewed for free if not used for CE
    - [ENLS](#) (Emergency Neurological Life Support)
      - A course to educate healthcare professionals about managing and treating patients during the first hours of a neurological emergency:
    - [Neurocritical Care ON CALL](#)
      - Subscription based online resource with content dedicated to neurocritical care practice
    - NCS [podcast series](#)
      - Podcast series with interviews of authors of impactful articles from *Neurocritical Care*. Podcasts are released in conjunction with the NCS twitter journal club
    - NCS [Twitter Journal Club](#)
      - Monthly NCS wide online discussion based on a chosen article from *Neurocritical Care* that is hosted on twitter – anyone’s thoughts, ideas and questions are welcome

## **Overview of the Pharmacy Section and Leadership**

- **Overview:**
  - The Pharmacy Section is comprised of neurocritical care pharmacists who collaborate and work together to further neurocritical care pharmacy, patient care, research and the neurocritical care pharmacy profession
  
- **Pharmacy Section Leadership:**
  - The Pharmacy Section Leadership Committee is comprised of 12-16 appointed members of the Pharmacy Section; the Pharmacy Section Leadership Committee Chair appoints members of the committee. Members of the Pharmacy Section Leadership Committee serve for a maximum of four years. The charge of the committee is to be responsible for growing, strengthening and diversifying the pharmacy voice within NCS. The committee oversees the functioning of the Pharmacy Section and the Pharmacotherapy of Neurocritical Care Series (PONS) committee in collaboration with other NCS entities
    - See Appendix 1 for current and past NCS Pharmacy Section Leadership information
  
- **Benefits of Pharmacy Section Membership and Opportunities for Involvement:**
  - *Networking and Collaboration*
    - The Pharmacy Section and its members are very engaged within NCS and networking and collaboration are the hallmark benefits of the Pharmacy Section
      - NCS Annual Meeting:
        - At each annual meeting, a Pharmacy Section networking event is held and a Pharmacy Section business meeting is held to facilitate networking and collaboration
      - Pharmacy Section Website:
        - As a section of NCS, the Pharmacy Section has a website that contains a discussion board/email list-serve, library of resources and listing of members
        - The website can be used to collaborate with other Pharmacy Section members, share resources and post questions for input from colleagues
        - [Pharmacy Section website](#)
  
  - *Research collaboration*
    - The Pharmacy Section has a Pharmacy Research/Scholarship Committee that aims to develop research questions for contemporary neurocritical care clinical problems and to execute well-designed studies to address these clinical problems. In addition, the committee aims to develop neurocritical care pharmacists as researchers
      - Opportunities exist to pose research questions for review and feedback, gain experience and mentorship in clinical research

and participate in the design and execution of clinical research studies

- To date, large studies on practice patterns in treatment of status epilepticus, treatment and prevention of hyponatremia, intraventricular antibiotics, and coagulopathy reversal have been published from our pharmacy group

- *Pharmacy Section Journal Clubs*

- The Pharmacy Section organizes and facilitates an every-other month web-based journal club with pharmacy residents as the presenters
- Opportunities are available to participate as a moderator or organizer

## **Appendix 1: Current and Past NCS Pharmacy Section Leadership**

- **Current NCS Pharmacy Section Chair and Chair-Elect:**
  - Chair: Jeffrey Mucksavage
    - Email: JMuck@uic.edu
  - Chair-Elect: Leslie Hamilton
    - Email: lhamilt4@uthsc.edu
  - Past-Chair: Aaron Cook
    - Aaron.Cook@uky.edu
  - NCS Board Liason: Theresa Human
    - thuman@cumberlandpharma.com
  
- **Current NCS Pharmacy Section Leadership Committee members:**
  - Casey May
    - Email: Casey.May@osumc.edu
  - Leslie Hamilton
    - Email: lhamilt4@uthsc.edu
  - Coleen Barthol
    - Email: Colleen.Barthol@uhs-sa.com
  - Meghan Caylor
    - Email: mmcaylor@gmail.com
  - Jon Cokley
    - Email: jacokley@texaschildrens.org
  - Gabe Fontaine
    - Email: fontaine.gabe@gmail.com
  - Karen Berger
    - Email: karenberger7@gmail.com
  - Devin Holden
    - Email: holdend@amc.edu
  - Matt Jones
    - Email: mjones18@hfhs.org
  - Nick Panos
    - Email: Nicholas\_Panos@rush.edu
  - Salia Farrokh
    - Email: sfarrok1@jhmi.edu
  - Jason Makii
    - Email: JMakii@cumberlandpharma.com
  - Justin Delic
    - Email: delicj1@gmail.com
  - Pajoumand, Mehrnaz
    - Email: mpajoumand@umm.edu
  - Sheri Tokumar
    - Email: stoku@hawaii.edu
  - Sherif Mahmoud
    - Email: smahmoud@ualberta.ca
  - Kristin Slown

- klunghi@gmail.com
- Aaron Cook
  - Aaron.Cook@uky.edu

- **Past NCS Pharmacy Section Chairs:**

2008-2011	Theresa Human
2011-2016	Amber Castle
2016-2018	Eljim Tesoro
2018-2020	Jason Makii
2020-2022	Aaron Cook
2022-2024	Jeffrey Mucksavage



## **Appendix 2: NCS Committees with Significant Pharmacist Involvement and Contact Information**

- NCS Board of Directors
  - Theresa Human
    - Email: [thuman@cumberlandpharma.com](mailto:thuman@cumberlandpharma.com)
- Fellow of the Neurocritical Care Society (FNCS) Credentials Committee
  - Jason Makii
    - Email: [JMakii@cumberlandpharma.com](mailto:JMakii@cumberlandpharma.com)
- Membership Committee
  - Leslie Hamilton
    - Email: [lhamilt4@uthsc.edu](mailto:lhamilt4@uthsc.edu)
- Communications Committee
  - Casey May
    - Email: [Casey.May@osumc.edu](mailto:Casey.May@osumc.edu)
  - Keaton Smetana
    - Email: [Keaton.Smetana@ohiohealth.com](mailto:Keaton.Smetana@ohiohealth.com)
- PONS Taskforce:
  - Coleen Barthol
    - Email: [Colleen.Barthol@uhs-sa.com](mailto:Colleen.Barthol@uhs-sa.com)
  - Sheri Tokumar
    - Email: [stoku@hawaii.edu](mailto:stoku@hawaii.edu)
- Pharmacy Section Research/Scholarship Committee
  - Nick Panos
    - Email: [Nicholas\\_Panos@rush.edu](mailto:Nicholas_Panos@rush.edu)
- ENLS Committee
  - Chris Morrison
    - Email: [morrisoncc@outlook.com](mailto:morrisoncc@outlook.com)
- Annual Meeting Committee
  - Devin Holden
    - Email: [holdend@amc.edu](mailto:holdend@amc.edu)
- Inclusion in Neurocritical Care Committee (INCC)
  - Jon Cokley
    - Email: [jacokley@texaschildrens.org](mailto:jacokley@texaschildrens.org)