

Carolina DBS & Focused Ultrasound Symposium

March 21st 2026 • Chapel Hill, NC

Advancing Neuromodulation Through Regional Collaboration and Innovation in North Carolina & South Carolina

8:30 – 9:00 AM - Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Remarks:

Dr. Danny Roque and Dr. Vibhor Krishna

Theme: Achieving Excellence in Patient Care Through Collaboration

9:00 – 10:00 AM - Interactive Panel I

Shared Experience, Shared Progress: The DBS Landscape Across NC & SC

- Introduction to the Wake Forest Atrium Health Program (10 min) – Dr. Deepal Shah-Zamora
- Introduction to the Duke University Program (10 min) – Dr. Jeffrey Cooney
- Introduction to the Medical University of South Carolina Program (10 min) – Dr. Nathan Rowland

Shared learning discussion of DBS program optimization efforts with review of benefits & limitations.

Panelists – Dr. Daniel Roque, Dr. Danielle Englert, Dr. Steve Takacs

Moderators – Dr. John Younce and Dr. Vibhor Krishna

10:00 – 10:40 AM - Invited Keynote I: Dr. Gunther Deuschl

Interdisciplinary Care and Collaborative Research in DBS and Focused Ultrasound

10:40 – 11:00 AM - Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:00 PM - Interactive Panel II

Focused Ultrasound in Clinical Practice: Scaling Excellence Through Shared Learning

- Introduction to the Duke University Program (10 min) – Dr. Nandan Lad
- Introduction to the Wake Forest University program (10 min) – Dr. Adrian Laxton
- Introduction to the Prisma Health program (10 min) – Dr. Bertram Richter

Shared learning discussion of clinical pathways, imaging strategies, technique optimization, and post-treatment care.



The University
of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill

School of Medicine

Department of Neurosurgery

Department of Neurology

Panelists – Dr. Nandan Lad, Dr. Adrian Laxton, Dr. Bertram Richter, Dr. Daniel Roque

Moderators– Dr. Vibhor Krishna

12:00 – 1:30 PM Networking Lunch & Poster Viewing.

1:30 – 2:10 PM Invited Keynote II: Dr. Kullervo Hynynen

Focused Ultrasound: From Foundational Science to Future Innovation

History, clinical translation, and emerging directions in focused ultrasound neurosurgery

2:10 – 3:10 PM - Interactive Panel III

Building Regional collaboration across NC and SC

- Challenges and Opportunities (10 min) – Dr. Vibhor Krishna
- Clinical Assessments (Scales and Time points) (10 min) – Dr. Daniel Roque
- Imaging optimization (Sequences and Time points) (10 min) – Dr. Cameron McIntyre.

Shared learning discussion towards charting a Carolina Neuromodulation Network: What's Next?: Regional Priorities, Advocacy, and Research efforts

Panelists: Dr. Cameron McIntyre, Dr. Adrian Laxton, Dr John Younce,
Dr. Danielle Englert

Moderators – Dr. Daniel Roque and Dr. Vibhor Krishna

3:10 – 3:30 PM - Coffee Break

3:30 – 4:30 PM - New Voices, New Directions

- DBS for stroke recovery (10 min): Dr. Nathan Rowland
- AI and DBS therapy (10 min): Dr. Samarjit Chakraborty

Resident, Fellow Platform Presentation & Junior Faculty Lightning Session

- Oral Presentation #1 (10 min) – Dr. Nicole Silva
- Oral Presentation #2 (10 min) – Dr. Hossein Salahshoor
- Oral Presentation #3 (10 min) – Dr. Anneke Frankemolle-Gilbert
- Oral Presentation #4 (10 min) – Mr. Haden Ray

4:30 – 5:00 PM - Wrap-Up & Adjourn