

The Newspaper

**University of Kentucky
Department of Neurology
May - June 2021**

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Publications



Das S, Postman W, Haboubi MA, Akca O, Rimmel K, Carter AR, Zazulia A. A case of aphemia following non-dominant subinsular stroke: unveiling the Foix-Chavany-Marie phenomenon. *Neurocase*. Published online June 2021.



Goldstein LB, Despa F. Amylin Dyshomeostasis Hypothesis, small vessel-type Ischemic stroke in the setting of Type-2 Diabetes. *Stroke*. 2021 E244-E249.

Invited Panelist

International Think-Tank - WHAT NOW



Dong "Dan" Han, PsyD, discussed the future of neuroscience, health, and research and development for food technology of chocolate.

Invited Speaker

UK Department of Family Medicine Annual Family Medicine Review



Jessica D. Lee, MD, presented, Perils of the Pandemic, Part 2. "Stroke and COVID 19: What we've learned and where we are going."

Grants



Larry Goldstein, MD. UK received a three year CDC Coverdell award to optimize stroke prevention and care and outcomes in Kentucky. Lead partners are the Kentucky Department of Public Health and University of Louisville.



Ann Stowe, PhD
Neilson Foundation Award
NIH R01 renewed

Faculty Achievements



Jessica D. Lee, MD, completed the six month Health-Care Executive Leadership Program in May. She was one of 4 individuals selected as winners of the graduation project. They were required to develop a process improvement and simplified failure modes effect analysis map. Dr. Lee's project was on scheduling stroke patients for follow-up in the KNI post-acute care discharge.

Dr. Lee was also invited to serve on the K-CATS (Kentucky Centralized Access and Transfer System)

Physician Advisory Group, which will meet quarterly to review and improve transfer workflows and protocols.

She was selected as one of the new Clinical Documentation Integrity physician specialists, to start in July. This will initially involve mortality case reviews for UK HealthCare but the hope is to expand into more real time chart documentation review.



Jordan Harp, PhD, received the Outstanding Community Supervisor award from the UK Department of Psychology. Dr. Harp received this award for his contributions to clinical training of students in the Clinical Psychology PhD program for the neuropsychology graduate students.

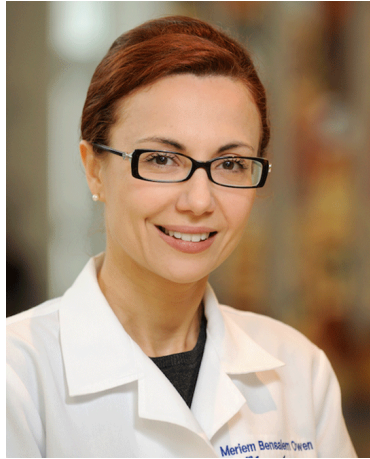


Padmaja Sudhakar, MD, has been selected to serve as a representative on the KMSF Board of Directors.

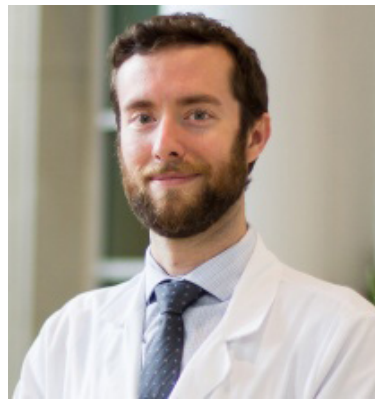


Jay Avasarala, MD, PhD, was appointed to the MS International Federation Essential Medicine project representing the American Academy of Neurology.

Faculty Achievements Cont.



Meriem Bensalem-Owen, MD, was invited to join the Review Committee of the *African & Middle East Epilepsy Journal*, the official journal of the East Mediterranean Regional Committee of the International Bureau of Epilepsy (IBE).

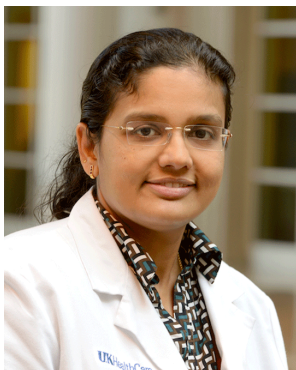


Kevin O'Connor, MD, was accepted for the American Academy of Neurology's 2021 Palatucci Advocacy Leadership Forum in October.

Faculty Awards



Zabeen Mahuwala, MD, and the UK Neurology Wellness Committee won the Booster Award for Women in Medicine and Science. The award was for a project to compare burnout among women in College of Medicine by department and assess the impact of a wellness program within Neurology.



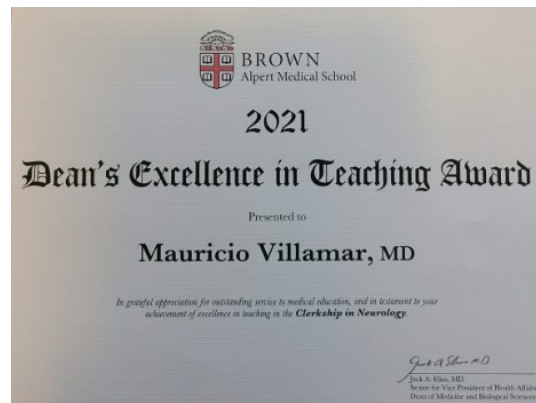
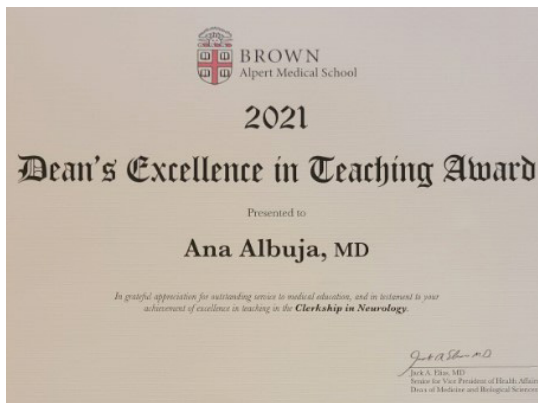
Padmaja Sudhakar, MD, was a finalist for the University of Kentucky 2021 Outstanding Teaching Award.

Staff Awards



Rachel Ward-Mitchell, RN, BSN, received the Saha Patient-Center Care Award.

Alumni Awards

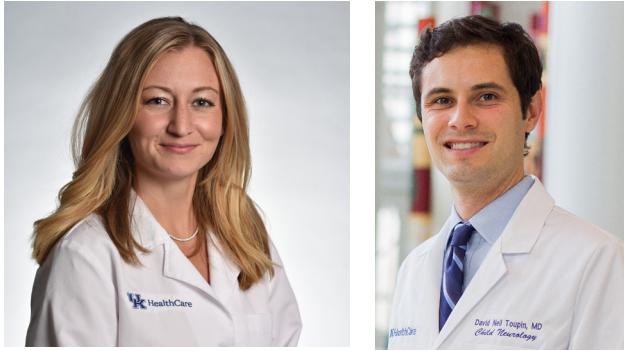


Alumni Welcome

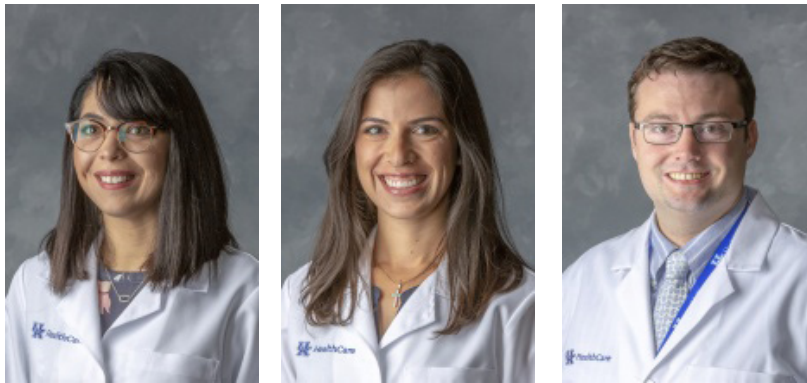


Emily Justusson, MD, and her husband, are the proud parents of Elizabeth May Riddle, born June 17 at 9lbs 3 oz. Congratulations

Trainee Achievements



Paige Sutton, MD, and Neil Toupin, MD, were both finalists for the Saha Award in the resident and fellow section. Sally Mathias, MD, Associate Program Director, wrote, "it is truly an honor to have 2 neurology residents among 4 finalists for the resident and fellow award among nearly 950 residents plus several more fellows within UK."



Dana Ionel, DO, PGY 4, Gabriella Keeton, MD, PGY 4, and Eric Miller, MD, PGY 4, were all selected for the UK GME Emerging Leaders Program.

Staff Achievements



Dawn Baker, Clinical Research Coordinator, was elected to serve as a Staff Senator. Congratulations!

Graduation Awards

Faculty, Trainee, and Staff

Program Directors' Award: Dr. Paige Sutton

Resident of the year: Dr. Kyle Darpel

Best Resident Teacher award of Medical Students. Dr. Eric Miller

Highest RITE score 2021: Dr. Julie Zhou

Best resident research day presentation award:

Best platform presentation: Dr. Tarek Ali

Best resident research day presentation award: Best poster presentation:
Dr. Wenyang Li and Dr. Fawad Yousuf

Resident liaison for medical students. Jason Chisholm

Excellence in clinical care: Dr. Neil Toupin

Outstanding faculty teaching award: Dr. Padmaja Sudhakar

Outstanding faculty mentor award: Dr. Padmaja Sudhakar

Outstanding staff award: Ms. Margie Campbell

PROSE award (Peer Recognition of Outstanding Service to Education):
Dr. Zain Guduru

Departmental Trainee of the Month - May



Omar Al Janabi, MBChB, PhD

Collective Responsibility/Teamwork:

“Dr. Al-Janabi actively communicates with consulting teams throughout the day, creating an open line of communication to promote interactive and dynamic decision-making plans for these patients. I was very impressed and thankful for this, as I am sure the consulting teams were as well.”

“When his co-resident received stroke alert pages on several patients back-to-back, he offered to stay to support his co-resident.”

“Dr. Al-Janabi has always been very thorough with his patient care and always incorporates feedback and constructive criticism. He is a role model for his peers.”

Caring/Excellence:

“I am very impressed by his work ethic, his excellent communication with families and consulting providers, his clinical judgement, and the responsibility he takes to ensure the best care for his patients.”

“I noticed many times when he was seeing ED consult patients, he made a point to go to the waiting room to inform families of their patients’ status.”

“He is very detail-oriented in managing the patients. He is proactive in their treatment plan and invested in their care.”

“The feedback for his performance on stroke service was nothing but glowing. He has volunteered to be part of an Enterprise QI project surrounding timely completion of MRIs, particularly as it affects our stroke population.”

“He definitely goes above and beyond in many different aspects. He is doing an excellent job. I am looking forward to seeing his continued development over the next two years. I have not a doubt he will be an exceptional neurologist.”

Staff Kudos



Gary Cornell, Associate Administrator, Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery, received 2 GOLD awards from The Star Program. Dr. Ibraheem nominated him for Compassion. Dr. Ibraheem's kind words were printed in the April edition of the Neurology Newspaper.

Gary also received a GOLD Star from Renee Wagner, Research Protocol Manager for KNI, nominated him for Teamwork.

Renee wrote this about Gary:

"Gary is always here and ready to assist whenever needed. He wears many hats for the department and takes on a variety of different tasks to accomplish the mission. If an office needs to be moved and no one else is available to do so, Gary moves them. Need a report, Gary will provide it. Need to hire staff, Gary's there to accomplish the hiring. No job is too big or too small. Need to vent, Gary will listen. While others worked remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic, Gary was here everyday keeping the department going. It's well known in the department, if you need something, go see Gary. He will get it done or find the correct person to assist to solve the issue. Gary is the GO TO GUY!"



Maryam Mosharraf, APRN, received a nice compliment from a patient's mother, "Maryam is awesome. She addressed right away K---'s medication issues. She was very professional, and super sweet. She really cares about patients".

Staff Kudos Cont.



Jennifer Vice, PA-C, received a very nice compliment from Dr. Mam Ibraheem who wrote:

"I would like to express my sincerest appreciation and gratitude to my colleague, Ms. Jennifer E. Vice for her "Exceptional Performance" on the General Neurology Service.

I have been working closely with Jen over the last few months. I critically value her competence and caring style.

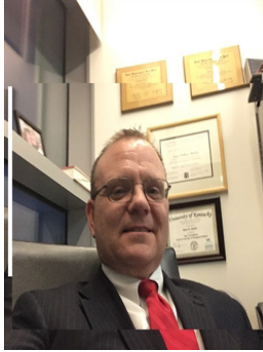
On last Thursday and Friday, the General Neurology Service experienced critical coverages lapse at Good Sam hospital. I was the attending on service at UK-Chandler. Our GSH PA was on well-deserved vacation days and we were not able to mobilize any resident to help out at Good Sam secondary residency turnover, logistics, and residents' understaffing per the residency leadership. Jen has been still rotating at UK Chandler with my team. I reached out to Jen directly and she immediately stepped out. Not only she continued to see 3 consults at UK-Chandler; but, she went to Good Sam and ended seeing additional total 7 consults at Good Sam independently with my supervision on a single day on last Friday, May 21, 2021 (So Total 10 Consults on a Single Day)! I am very impressed with Jen's ability to manage practical neurology presentations competently. She knows her limitations and when to seek further help. She is always in "Thriving Mode" to learn more while interacting with me, as the attending. I highly value her attentiveness, reliability, and collaborative relaxed teamwork. She is dependable. I highly value her focused brief relevant verbal presentation and I critically appreciate her amazing thoughtful detailed chart documentations and excellent communication skills."

Neurology Team Kudos

A patient submitted a compliment regarding his father's care: "My father has senile dementia. My mother has to call Neurology from time to time for advice and assistance. Dr. King's nurse, Becca, has always gone beyond the call of duty to help my mother whenever she calls. While everyone in Neurology has been very helpful and kind, Becca has been that one stand out employee that shows why UK is the best hospital in Kentucky and why we transferred my father from another local hospital to UK for healthcare."

KNI Kudos

Ambulatory Leadership



From Daniel Lee, MD:

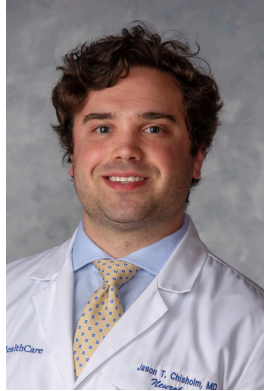
"I would like to take this opportunity to thank KNI leadership, Dean Hanlon, Stefanie Stephens, and Rebekkah Cohelia, for taking time away from their families on a beautiful weekend working on Epic at KNI on our behalf. They spent 8 hours yesterday and another 8 hours today manually entering all of our clinic appointments into the Epic system for the next 3 months. Please take a moment to thank them when you see them this week. There are plenty of times that they are working quietly behind the scene helping all of us to facilitate our patient's care. They have families to take care of like all of us. This will mean a lot to them when acknowledging how grateful we are for them going the extra mile. I am grateful to have such a wonderful team."

Faculty and Staff Kudos



Kim Jones, MD, and Amanda Castro, RN, BSN, received a nice compliment from a patient's mother through the grateful patient program. She wrote, "I would like to express my gratitude and overwhelming appreciation for the care that my daughter has received at UKHC over the past 2 months. She was admitted to KCH-4N on the Child Neurology service where her team of nurses and doctors, (special appreciation to Dr. Jones and Amanda Castro, child nurse coordinator), who did an amazing job explaining the reasons behind tests and her diagnosis on a level she understood. They never made her feel judged or dismissed her."

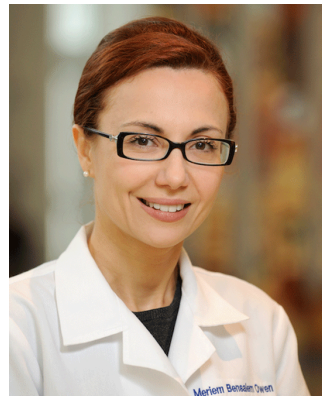
Seen and Heard



Recent graduate, Jason Chisholm, MD, and Ima Ebong, MD, were featured in an article titled, "Neurology Training Steps Up to Focus on Racism and Social Injustice," in *Neurology Today*. [Click here](#) to read the story.



Zain Guduru, MD, was featured in UKNow in an article entitled, "Kentucky Native Battles Rare Neurological Disorder After Cancer." [Click here](#) to read.



Meriem Bensalem-Owen, MD, was featured alongside her FINDERS Alliance co-chair, Brian Gold, in the "From the Dean's Desk" weekly newsletter. [Click here](#) to read the article.



Dong (Dan) Han, PsyD, was interviewed for a full feature on Blueprint, by ABC Radio National (Australian Broadcasting Corporation), discussing the neuroscience of food. [Click here](#) to read the article.

Dr. Han was the invited feature writer for the June UKNow health column and for KY Living on the topic of COVID-19: Smell, Taste, and Recovery of Flavor. [Click here](#) to read.

Philanthropy

Robert J. Baumann, MD Resident Endowment Fund

The endowment was established in honor of Dr. Baumann's skills as a clinician and educator. It provides much needed funding for resident learning opportunities and research-related needs that are not otherwise supported.

Education is one of the core missions of our department - we are always looking for ways to improve the curriculum and educational opportunities we provide. Our goal is to continue to attract the highest caliber trainees to our programs, provide comprehensive neurological education, and increase the number of neurologists available in the commonwealth capable of providing cutting edge patient care and who are dedicated to life-long learning. In 2015, the Robert J. Baumann, MD Fund for Neurology Residents was established to help us support our goals for the neurology resident program. Dr. Baumann has been a familiar face among neurology residents at the University of Kentucky for four decades. Dr. Baumann truly embodies the teaching mission of our department. His devotion to the field of medicine and training the next generation of providers is truly second to none.



In keeping with Dr. Baumann's passion for providing a strong medical education, the endowment will bolster the continued expansion of the Residency Program and ensure that our trainees have a well-rounded experience, positioning us to be among the best, and most sought out programs in the United States. Please consider contributing to the continued growth of our program and making an impact on future neurology residents by making a gift to the Robert J. Baumann MD Fund for Neurology Residents. All donations will be acknowledged and are tax deductible.

Donations can be made by contacting our Director of Philanthropy, Lisa Deaton Greer. (859-323-5374 or lisa.greer@uky.edu) or by clicking here <https://neurology.med.uky.edu/neurology-alumni>.

Wellness and Support Resources



Wellness



Support

The Department of Neurology provides access to various services designed specifically for faculty and trainees to receive support in dealing with the unique needs of individuals. Counseling services can help identify and resolve problems related to work, personal, career or relationships.

- [Physician Support Line](#)
- [Lexington Medical Society Physician Wellness Program](#)
- [UK Work-Life Counseling](#)
- [UK REFER Program](#)
- [Emergent Psychiatry Services](#)
- [The Ridge Behavioral System](#)

Diversity & Inclusion



Statement for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

As healthcare providers, we have an obligation to do no harm. But our obligations go further to prevent harm from befalling others because of our inaction or silence. We can no longer be idle while vestigial institutions and implements of racism that perpetuate inequity remain intact. Silence for the sake of avoiding an uncomfortable truth is not acceptable and it was never acceptable. Indifference to racism makes us complicit in systems that have oppressed, marginalized, and scapegoated people for generations. In a country long heralded as the land of the free, being Black or a member of an underrepresented minority group cannot be a disqualification for enjoying the rights and privileges afforded to others.

Racism and social injustice in the United States claimed the lives of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless other persons of color. Breonna Taylor, a fellow Kentuckian, UK alumna, and healthcare provider, died at the hands of people who are supposed to be keepers of the peace. Violence is but one facet of the chronic and pervasive racism that has plagued our communities. Medicine is not immune to the consequences of our nation's inequities; they affect us, our colleagues, and our patients and impair our ability to provide comfort and care. As healthcare providers, we begin addressing symptoms such as implicit bias and healthcare disparities by recognizing that they stem from hundreds of years of oppression.

We proudly stand with other members of the medical community and proclaim Black Lives Matter. We stand with the people of color and others in our community and across the United States in denouncing the abhorrent treatment that Black people, other persons of color, and other underrepresented groups have endured. We stand with others who pledge to be anti-racist and who work to tear down the pillars of institutional racism. As a Department, UK Neurology is committed to equity, diversity, and inclusivity. With only 3% of Neurologists being Black or African American and only 7% Hispanic-Latino, in an effort to counter decades of neglect, we commit to recruiting colleagues from underrepresented groups and ensuring that they thrive in an environment that is free from racism and bigotry. We commit to supporting young, underrepresented persons in our community so that we can have greater diversity among physicians in our field in the future. We must do better. We will do better.

Events

Child Neurology Graduation Party



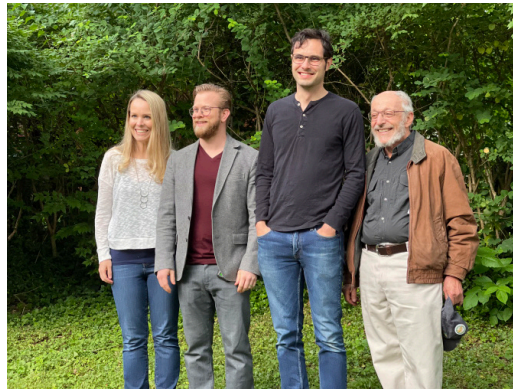
Events Cont.

Child Neurology Graduation Party Cont.



Events Cont.

Child Neurology Graduation Party Cont.



Events Cont.

Eid Celebration



Zabeen Mahuwala, MD, Mahsa Haghghat, MD, Farhan Mirza, MD, and Qutub Khan, MD, organized a wonderful luncheon for the extended epilepsy team to celebrate Eid, that was held in the EEG lab.

Events Cont.

Farewell - Dr. Hessler, Dr. Al-Salaimeh, & Watson



Events Cont.

Farewell - Dr. Hessler, Dr. Al-Salaimeh, & Watson



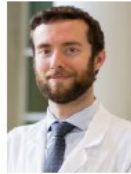
Events Cont.

Trainee Graduation

FELLOWSHIPS



Julie Yousefi, MD
Epilepsy Faculty, University of Kentucky



Kevin O'Connor, MD
Vascular Neurology Faculty, University of Kentucky



Tarek Ali, MBBS, M.Ed
Movement Disorders Faculty, University of Kentucky



Emily Watson LaDigue, PsyD
Private Practice, Colorado

NEUROLOGY RESIDENCY



Jason Chisholm, MD
Epilepsy Fellowship,
The Cleveland Clinic



Kyle Darpel, MD
Epilepsy Fellowship,
University of Michigan



Fred Odago, MD
Practicing Physician,
St. Joseph Hospital



Laura Bakare, MD
Vascular Neurology Fellowship,
Rush University



Paige Sutton, MD
Neuroimmunology Fellowship,
Duke University

CHILD NEUROLOGY RESIDENCY



Neil Toupin, MD
Child Neurology Faculty, University of Kentucky



Michael Karras, MD
Assistant Professor, University of Illinois



Fawad Yousuf, MBBS
Faculty, Florida Atlantic University

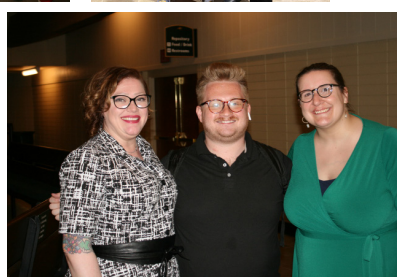


Lei Zhou, MD
Private Practice

Congratulations

Events Cont.

Trainee Graduation Cont.



Thien T. Nguyen, MD, made a video of some great pictures too. [Click here](#) to view it.

Events Cont.

Welcome



Dr. Sharoon and Mrs. Hazel Qaiser, along with big sisters, Aryeh Asifa, and Aryel Grace, welcomed baby sister Joyce Emmanuella, on May 16.

Save the Dates

**THE SCN IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE
2021 SUMMIT KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**



Dr. Justin Fraser, FAANS, FAHA
Vice Chair, Department of Neurological Surgery Associate Professor of
Cerebrovascular, Endovascular, and Skull Base Surgery
Director, Cerebrovascular Surgery and NeuroInterventional Radiology
Departments of Neurological Surgery, Neurology, Radiology, and
Neuroscience Center for Advanced Translational Stroke Science
University of Kentucky

Stroke Care Network Virtual Summit
October 14th and 15th, 2021
Registration Forthcoming

Rachel Ward-Mitchell, RN, BSN, would like to invite you to the virtual epilepsy support group meeting every other week via Zoom. This meeting will replace the in-person monthly meeting for now. If you would like to join the meetings please contact Rachel at 859.218.5053 or through Central Kentucky Epilepsy Network <https://www.facebook.com/CentralKentuckyEpilepsySupportNetwork>.

Please submit contributions for the July
Newspaper to Lee Anne Rudd, (lee.rudd@uky.edu).