

EDITORIAL

Networking neurosurgery

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Those were the days when newspapers, TV and radio used to be the only source of disseminating any information. With the advent of the internet and especially social media, the spread of knowledge and recent news has become tremendously fast. Conferences and letters used to be the only media for connecting neurosurgeons worldwide in yesteryear. But instant access of information and connecting neurosurgeons worldwide has become possible now due to the advent of the internet and social media.

Four pillars of networking neurosurgeons, which are connecting neurosurgeons worldwide in an instant manner, are the World Federations of Neurosurgical Society (WFNS), conferences, publications, and social media.

Since the starting of WFNS in 1955, Neurosurgeons have been connected to this supreme society of neurosurgeons through the respective country's society.

WFNS now has 130 member societies, five continental associations, 119 national neurosurgical societies, and six affiliated societies, which is representing over 71 thousand neurosurgeons (1) in the world. Dissemination of knowledge and the latest updates among neurosurgeons occurs through the every two-yearly congress of WFNS.

Many national and international conferences are organized each year, which connect national and international neurosurgeons. Each major conference, like the WFNS Congress, European Associations of Neurosurgical Society, Congress of Neurological Surgeons, American Associations of Neurological Surgeons, is attracting over 3 thousand neurosurgeons every year. These platforms are not meant only to disseminate knowledge but also a means to connect mentors and prominent neurosurgeons around the world in persons.

Publications are another means of networking neurosurgeons where connecting new neurosurgeons occur through making scientific collaborations in articles.

Above all, the central role of networking neurosurgeons is being played by social media. Social media has become an indispensable means of everyone's life. Whether being announcement of conferences, video, workshops, webinars, or new publication alerts, social media plays a cornerstone role now (2–5). The role of *Neurosurgery Cocktail* (2, 6–10), currently the largest neurosurgical social media platform on Facebook (31K members), Instagram (3902 followers), X (29K followers), Telegram (10K members), LinkedIn (2K members), Threads, WeChat, and WhatsApp (15K members) can't be overlooked in connecting neurosurgeons worldwide. Since its inception (2016), *Neurosurgery Cocktail* has evolved beyond a mere discussion forum, becoming an unparalleled medium for case consultations, mentorship, education, and research collaboration (5–10). The power of such platforms has been especially evident in the COVID era, where restrictions on travel and in-person conferences necessitated the rapid expansion of virtual engagement. Being the private group of 55,000 neurosurgeons worldwide, where only neurosurgeons can join, is maintaining a good reputation in networking neurosurgeons globally.

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