



**MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS  
CENTER**

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

# UAB Multiple Sclerosis Symposium: Immunological, Clinical & Aging Considerations

June 28, 2019

## UAB National Alumni Society House

*Featured Speakers:*

- Melissa Brown, PhD, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
- Jeffrey Bennett, MD, PhD, University of Colorado School of Medicine
- Fred Lublin, MD, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
- Ethan G. Hughes, PhD, University of Colorado School of Medicine
- Laurie Harrington, PhD, UAB School of Medicine
- Benjamin Jones, MD, UAB School of Medicine
- William Meador, MD, UAB School of Medicine
- Robert Motl, PhD, UAB School of Health Professions
- John Rinker II, MD, UAB School of Medicine
- Brian Sandroff, PhD, UAB School of Health Professions
- Zhaoqi Yan, MS, PhD Candidate, UAB School of Medicine

*Thematic Sessions :*

*Neurorepair & Immunological Concepts*

*Therapeutics & the Clinical Landscape*

*Aging with MS & Lifestyle  
Considerations*

Contact:

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Multiple Sclerosis Center Co-Directors:

Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD and Khurram Bashir, MD, MPH



# AGENDA

## 2019 UAB Multiple Sclerosis Symposium Immunological, Clinical and Aging Considerations The UAB Alumni Society House June 28, 2019

7:30-8:15 a.m. **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:15-8:25 a.m. **Welcome & Opening Remarks**  
Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD and Khurram Bashir, MD, MPH

### **SESSION I: Neurorepair & Immunological Concepts**

**MODERATOR:** Etty (Tika) Benveniste, PhD

8:30-9:10 a.m. Melissa Brown, PhD  
Professor, Department of Microbiology-Immunology  
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine  
**"Innate Immune Cells in MS: Why Sex Matters"**

9:10-9:50 a.m. Ethan Hughes, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Department of Cell and Developmental Biology  
University of Colorado School of Medicine  
**"Oligodendrocytes and their Precursors: Implications for Adult CNS Repair"**

9:50-10:20 a.m. Laurie Harrington, PhD  
Associate Professor, Department of Cell, Developmental and Integrative Biology  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**"Understanding the role of STAT4 in Th17 mediated neuroinflammation"**

10:20-10:40 a.m. Zhaoqi Yan, MS, PhD Candidate  
Graduate Trainee, Department of Cell, Developmental and Integrative Biology  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**"Deficiency of Socs3 Leads to Brain-Targeted EAE via Enhanced Neutrophil Activation and ROS Production"**

10:40-10:55 a.m. Break

### **SESSION II: Therapeutics and the Clinical Landscape**

**MODERATOR:** Khurram Bashir, MD, MPH

10:55-11:35 a.m. Fred Lublin, MD  
Saunders Family Professor of Neurology  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
**"MS Updates: Diagnostic & Pathophysiological Considerations"**

# AGENDA

11:35-12:15 p.m. Jeffrey Bennett, MD, PhD  
Gertrude Gilden Professor for Neurodegenerative Disease Research, Departments of Neurology & Ophthalmology  
University of Colorado School of Medicine  
**"Neuromyelitis Optica: From Pathogenic to Therapeutic Antibodies"**

12:15-1:15 p.m. **Lunch with Poster Session**

1:15-1:45 p.m. Benjamin Jones, MD  
Instructor/Fellow, Department of Neurology  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**"An Overview of Recently Approved Treatments for Multiple Sclerosis"**

1:45-2:00 p.m. William Meador, MD  
Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**"Progressive MS: Progress or Relapsing into Failure?  
An Argument for Aggressive Treatment"**

2:00-2:15 p.m. John Rinker II, MD  
Associate Professor, Department of Neurology  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**"Progressive MS: Progress or Relapsing into Failure?  
An Argument for the Ineffectual Nature of Treatment"**

## **SESSION III: Aging with MS & Lifestyle Concerns**

**MODERATOR:** Robert Motl, PhD

2:20-2:50 p.m. Gary Cutter, PhD  
Professor, Department of Biostatistics  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**"The Changing Face of MS "**

2:50-3:20 p.m. Brian Sandroff, PhD  
Professor, Department of Physical Therapy  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**"Aging, Physical Function, & Cognition in Persons with Multiple Sclerosis"**

3:20-4:00 p.m. Robert Motl, PhD  
Professor, Department of Physical Therapy  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**"Lifestyle and Function in Older MS"**

4:00-4:10 p.m. Etty "Tika" Benveniste, PhD  
Senior Vice Dean for Basic Sciences, School of Medicine (SOM)  
Associate Vice President for Medicine and Basic Sciences  
Charlene A. Jones Endowed Chair in Neuroimmunology  
Professor, Department of Cell, Developmental and Integrative Biology  
Co-Director, UAB Multiple Sclerosis Center  
**Closing Remarks and CME Evaluation**

4:10-5:00 p.m. Wine & Cheese Reception