



CV Marco Tulio Medina

I am professor of Neurology and Epileptology as well as Dean of the School of Medical Sciences at the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH). I got my MD degree at the UNAH, I made my neurology training at the National Institute of Neurology in Mexico, and the pediatric and adult epileptology/neurophysiology training at the Saint Paul Center, Marseilles, France, under the direction of Charlotte Dravet and colleagues, and later at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). I am a PhD candidate in Neuroscience at the University College London.

We founded with the support of the World Federation of Neurology (WFN) the UNAH Honduras Neurology Training program, a WFN pilot program. By 2012 the program has resulted in a 50% increase in the national neurologist ratio per inhabitant, significantly improved the quality of patient care and promoted research in the neurosciences.

My main research activities are related to the epilepsy genetic, neuro-epidemiology and vascular endothelium. We have co-discovered the EFHC1 Juvenile Myoclonic Epilepsy gene and the GABRB3 Childhood Absence epilepsy gene, and we established a community epilepsy intervention program in Salama, Honduras where we reduced the rate of epilepsy from neurocysticercosis (NCC).

I have published more than 111 peer-reviewed publications, 30 book chapters and Editor of 5 books. I am editorial member/ reviewer of several journals (International Stroke Journal, Neurociencias, Revista Neurologia, Epilepsia, Journal of Neurological Sciences, etc).

In the last ten years I served as member and Chair of the Commission on Latin American Affairs as well as 3rd Vice-President of the ILAE Executive Committee, where I had the great opportunity to develop with my colleagues in several important proposals, and I would like to highlight the followings: 1) Foundation of the Latin American Academy of Epilepsy (ALADE) with Elza M. Yacubian, Esper Cavalheiro, myself and others. 2) The Strategic Plan for Epilepsy that has been approved by PAHO in September 2011. This Plan formally establishes epilepsy as a health care priority in the Americas. Carlos Acevedo (IBE Secretary General), Dr Jorge Rodriguez of PAHO, I and others has worked over many months in this project that represent the first initiative in this continent on the epilepsy field. 2). The World Health Organization International Classification of Diseases (ICD). A Neurology Task Force Advisory Group was charged to produce a revision that reflects scientific advances and new concepts of pathophysiology since 1992. Donna Bergen, Ettore Beghi and myself have worked on the ICD-11 Seizures and Epilepsy Classification and the first proposal has been published (Epilepsia 2012 Jul;53 Suppl 2:3-5).