

cureCADASIL ASSOC. HOSTS FREE WEBINAR DEC. 5 ON MISDIAGNOSIS

As part of the CADASIL Connection webinar series, Dr. Jorge G. Ortiz Garcia, MD will speak on common misdiagnosis of the rare genetic disease CADASIL.

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As part of the cureCADASIL Association's Connection webinar series, Dr. Jorge G. Ortiz Garcia, MD, a neurocritical care fellow at the University of Chicago Medical Center, will speak December 5, 2017 on common misdiagnosis of the rare genetic brain disease cerebral autosomal dominant arteriopathy with subcortical infarcts and leukoencephalopathy (CADASIL).

cureCADASIL is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping patients, families, caregivers and the medical community find treatments and a cure for CADASIL. CADASIL is a disorder of the small blood vessels that causes subcortical transient ischemic attacks or strokes, and progresses to early vascular dementia. Though rare, this genetic form of stroke is the most common genetic cause of vascular dementia and is inherited with a 50 percent chance by family members.

The webinar is free and open to the public. It will be streamed online at 5:30-7:00 p.m. EST. Registration is necessary and more information is available by signing up on the <u>cureCADASIL.org</u> <u>webinar page</u>.

The webinar, "Misdiagnosis of CADASIL: One Institution's Experience," will focus on a patient review Dr. Ortiz Garcia undertook in 2016 while a vascular fellow in the department of Neurology at Loyola University Chicago. He found that of the 25 men and women seen for CADASIL at the stroke outpatient clinic, almost a third of them were initially misdiagnosed. "Multiple sclerosis (MS) is by far the most common misdiagnosis among our patients," Ortiz Garcia and his co-authors said.

"Despite the wide availability of genetic testing, misdiagnosis and delays in diagnosis are common among patients with CADASIL," he said.

The webinar is especially informative to researchers, clinicians and patients interested in CADASIL and other related diseases such as small vessel dementias, genetic stroke and leukodystrophies. It will be recorded and available at www.cureCADASIL.org.

CADASIL Connection is a webinar speaker series presenting the work of researchers and clinicians involved in studying the disease. The webinars are designed to help educate the medical community and patients on research that supports identification of potential therapeutics, biomarkers and understanding of disease progression. One particular goal is to increase the awareness of the need for patient samples and promote the sharing of patient samples for more research. cureCADASIL operates a patient registry that will help researchers, pharmaceutical companies and doctors seeking to identify participants for clinical trials and studies. Information is available at http://www.curecadasilfamilyregistry.com/

There are no current treatments for CADASIL. However, several potential treatments are in early research.

For more information, please visit cureCADASIL.org and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

About cureCADASIL Association

cureCADASIL is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization run by an all-volunteer Board of Trustees. The mission of cureCADASIL is to raise awareness of CADASIL, ensuring it will be universally recognized and understood by the medical community, enabling patients to be correctly diagnosed and ultimately treated.

For more information please contact: Nancy Maurer, President cureCADASIL Association info@cureCADASIL.org 1-307-215-9840

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