

Dear Colleague,

We would like to introduce you to InterSurgeon. This is a unique and innovative website which acts as a platform for creating international collaborative partnerships in the world of Paediatric Neurosurgery. In a recent survey over 40% of respondents stated that difficulty identifying an international partner was a major obstacle to international collaboration. InterSurgeon hopes to address this.

Whether you are an individual surgeon or a representative of a clinical or academic Paediatric Neurosurgical department we would like to invite you to register with InterSurgeon and once your membership has been approved, which should take less than 24 hours, you will be able to make offers or requests to establish partnerships. During the registration process we will want to know a little about you so that we can match your skills or needs with others. We also want to know if you have had previous experience of collaboration. The website has a map so you will be able to see where in the world potential partners are located and in addition the website will identify potential partners for you and send you their details. All communication is confidential and carried out through the website's mailing system.

InterSurgeon is a not for profit organisation and we are applying for Charitable status in the UK. The service is free to use and we hope that Paediatric Neurosurgery will be the first of many surgical and medical specialities that use InterSurgeon as a means of identifying potential partners.

So please go ahead and visit our website, register and we hope that this will lead to a productive long term partnership. Our goal is to improve neurosurgical care for children throughout the world.

Best wishes.

William Harkness FRCS

· 11: 16 thuis

Immediate Past President ISPN Consultant Paediatric Neurosurgeon Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health London, UK

williamharkness@intersurgeon.org

Jim Johnston MD

Associate Professor, Pediatric Neurosurgery Department of Neurosurgery University of Alabama at Birmingham Children's of Alabama

jimj@uab.edu