

## Neuroplasticity Alliance Welcomes Dr. Martin M. Bednar as Chair of Scientific Advisory Board



**Atlanta, GA** — The Neuroplasticity Alliance (NPA) is proud to announce the appointment of **Martin M. Bednar, M.D., Ph.D., FAANS**, as Chair of its Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), effective September 1, 2025. A globally recognized leader in neuroscience, Dr. Bednar brings over three decades of clinical, academic, and industry experience to lead the development and strategy of NPA's SAB. NPA's Board of Directors will work with Dr. Bednar to build a world-class scientific advisory board

focused on accelerating research and education that transforms neuroplasticity breakthroughs into effective, accessible, and reimbursable therapies for the 50% of the population facing neurological dysfunction from stroke, Alzheimer's, developmental disorders, and emotional dysregulation challenges.

As Chair, Dr. Bednar will recruit and lead a team of top-tier scientists, clinicians, and innovators to provide scientific oversight across NPA's initiatives. Working in alignment with NPA's Board of Directors—who will oversee the organization's business strategy and operations—the SAB will identify and align with individuals and organizations leading translational research in neuroplasticity. A key focus will be facilitating efforts that produce the clinical and economic evidence needed to advance the field and gain recognition from third-party payers, paving the way for approval and reimbursement of neuroplasticity-based therapies. Other critical activities performed by the SAB will include advising on public education efforts, and positioning NPA at the forefront of innovation in neuroscience. His leadership

brings deep experience and vision to this critical role, and we are honored to have him guiding our scientific strategy.

Dr. Bednar's distinguished career embodies this bench-to-bedside vision. As the first M.D./Ph.D. graduate of New York Medical College, he completed a neurosurgery residency, earned board certification in Neurological Surgery, and is a Fellow of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (FAANS). At the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, as Head of Surgical Research and Associate Professor in Surgery and Pharmacology, he discovered the third pathway of arachidonic acid metabolism in human neutrophils, securing patents for 16-R HETE as a potent neutrophil inhibitor, in addition to contributing to the advancement of tissue plasminogen activator (t-PA) for acute stroke care.

In industry, Dr. Bednar held leadership roles at Pfizer and, since 2017, at Takeda Pharmaceuticals as Vice President, Neuroscience Therapeutic Area Unit. He has led global programs for various neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's disease, stroke, and age-related hearing loss, as well as schizophrenia, utilizing small molecules and biologics. His seminal work on drug-induced QT prolongation was instrumental in the FDA approval of Geodon for schizophrenia. Dr. Bednar designed and led the first clinical trial for age-related hearing loss and led one of the first clinical trials for cerebral amyloid angiopathy. Additionally, as the Director of the Takeda MGH-Neuroscience Fellowship Program, he has mentored a number of future neuroscience leaders.

Dr. Bednar shared his vision for NPA:

*"I'm honored to lead the NPA Scientific Advisory Board and build a team dedicated to bridging science and accessibility. Neuroplasticity has the potential to fundamentally restore function, not just manage symptoms, offering real hope for conditions like stroke, Alzheimer's, and developmental disorders. I'm excited to drive NPA's mission forward, leveraging neuroplasticity's transformative potential to ensure innovative therapies reach patients quickly, supported by robust data and sustainable reimbursement structures."*

NPA Founder **Sherry Odom** emphasized Dr. Bednar's impact:

"Dr. Bednar's appointment as Chair represents a pivotal moment for NPA. His unparalleled expertise across stroke, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's research, combined with his proven ability to navigate clinical trials, aligns perfectly with our mission. Martin's leadership in building the SAB will

accelerate our efforts to make neuroplasticity-based care affordable, evidence-backed, and accessible, transforming outcomes for millions.”

With over 90 peer-reviewed publications and a vast network of academic and industry collaborators, Dr. Bednar is uniquely positioned to assemble a dynamic SAB and guide NPA toward a future where neuroplasticity becomes a cornerstone of neurological care. His leadership will ensure that innovative therapies are rapidly translated into accessible treatments, revolutionizing how we address neurological challenges.

Join us in welcoming Dr. Martin M. Bednar as we advance science, access, and outcomes in neuroplasticity-based care.

## **About Neuroplasticity Alliance**

**NPA helps accelerate the use and development of treatments that leverage recent discoveries in neuroscience** to change the trajectory of life for the 50%+ of the population that struggles with neurological challenges. Our work includes generating awareness for those who can benefit, improving access and affordability to innovative treatments, and supporting the community of providers and technology innovators that serve this space.