‘A new approach to continuing professional development through NeuroBytes: an online e-Learning platform that provides concise, evidence-based updates on high-yield neurology topics’

**Presenter:** Laura E. Lavette, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, Winston Salem, NC

**Co-Authors:**
Alexandra Miller, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY;
Bobby Rook, American Academy of Neurology, Minneapolis, MN;
Zachary London, Michigan Medicine, Ann Arbor, MI;
Calli Cook, Emory University, Atlanta, GA;
Alexander E. Merkler, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, NY;
Veronica Santini, Stanford University, School of Medicine, Palo Alto, CA;
Ilana Marie Ruff, Aurora Neuroscience Innovation Institute, Milwaukee, WI;
Jeff Kraakevik, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR;
Don Smith, Denver, CO;
Wayne E. Anderson, California Pacific Medical Center, San Francisco, CA;
Stacy L. Johnson, Fort Wayne Neurological Center, Fort Wayne, IN;
Peter Z. Yan, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA;
Joan Sweeney, St. Luke’s University, Allentown, PA;
Amanda Chamberlain, American Academy of Neurology, Minneapolis, MN;
Beth Rogers-Baggett, American Academy of Neurology, Minneapolis, MN;
Richard Isaacson, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, NY;
Roy E. Strowd, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, Winston Salem, NC

**Background**
Rapidly growing advances in medicine necessitate high-yield updates in continuing professional development (CPD). In neurology, a sustainable CPD system is vital given the field’s expanding therapeutic options, multiple subspecialties, and vulnerable patient populations. In an effort to offer concise, evidence-based updates to a wide range of neurology professionals, the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) launched NeuroBytes – brief, multimedia videos that provide topic-specific updates to AAN members.

**Objective**
We aimed to assess the feasibility, usability, target audience, and effectiveness of NeuroBytes, a bite-sized (<5 min) asynchronous e-Learning program for continuing education of neurology healthcare providers.
Methods & Design
NeuroBytes was beta tested from August–December 2018 and piloted from January–April 2019. Usage was assessed by course enrollment and completion rates; feasibility by quantifying the cost and time required to design and release a module; appeal by user satisfaction scores; and effectiveness by self-reported change in practice behaviors.

Results
A total of 5,130 NeuroBytes member enrollments (1,026+551/month) occurred from January 11–May 28, 2019 with a median of 588 enrollments per module (interquartile range, 194-922) and 37% course completion. The majority of viewers were neurologists (54%) followed by resident trainees (26%) and students (8%). NeuroBytes took 59 hours to develop at an estimated $77.94/hour. Of the 1,895 users who completed post-course surveys, 82% were “extremely likely” or “very likely” to recommend NeuroBytes to a colleague and 60% agreed that the depth of educational content was “just right.” Only 29% of viewers responded that NeuroBytes would change how they managed many of their patients.

Conclusions
NeuroBytes is a user-friendly, cost-effective CPD product that delivers concise and relevant updates to neurology practitioners. Future efforts will explore models where NeuroBytes targets patient or trainee audiences and combines with other CPD programs to impact the quality of training, patient care, and clinical practice.