

Celebrating 25 Years of IFNE: Reflections on the IFNE–GLEN 2026 Congress and the Future of Neuroendoscopy

Victoria Tcherbbis Testa¹ , Ramiro del Rio² , Javier González Ramos² , Sebastián Jaimovich² 

¹ De los Arcos Clinic, Buenos Aires, Argentina

² Department of Neurosurgery, National Pediatric Hospital Juan P. Garrahan, Combate de los Pozos 1881, Buenos Aires, Argentina

✉ Sebastián Jaimovich, MD. PhD

e-mail: sebastianjaimovich@gmail.com

Available at:

<http://www.archpedneurosurg.com.br/>



Keywords: Neuroendoscopy; Minimally invasive neurosurgery; IFNE; GLEN; Pediatric neurosurgery; Education; Congress

The field of pediatric and adult neuroendoscopy has undergone substantial evolution over recent decades, driven by continuous advances in optical systems, neuronavigation, surgical instrumentation, and minimally invasive techniques. These developments have expanded the indications for endoscopic approaches while improving safety and outcomes across a wide range of neurosurgical pathologies.

In May 2026, Buenos Aires, Argentina, hosted the International Congress of Endoscopic and Minimally Invasive Neurosurgery, which included the IX GLEN Latin American Congress of Neuroendoscopy and the IFNE Interim Meeting Congress. The meeting brought together an international community of neurosurgeons, pediatric neurosurgeons, researchers, and allied healthcare professionals, serving as a major platform for scientific exchange and technical education.

The congress coincided with the 25th anniversary of the International Federation of Neuroendoscopy (IFNE), representing a significant milestone in the development of the field. Over the past 25 years, IFNE has played a central role in fostering international collaboration, structured training, and academic development in neuroendoscopy. The Buenos Aires meeting therefore represented both a scientific forum and an opportunity for institutional reflection on the progress achieved and future challenges.

A major institutional outcome of the congress was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between IFNE and GLEN, strengthening academic cooperation and establishing a framework for future joint educational and scientific initiatives (Figure 1).

Celebrating 25 Years of IFNE: Reflections on the IFNE–GLEN 2026 Congress and the Future of Neuroendoscopy



Figure 1. MOU signing between IFNE and GLEN: Kenichi Nishiyama (IFNE President), Adrian Caceres (GLEN President), Victoria Tcherbbis Testa (IFNE+GLEN Congress Scientific Secretary), Ramiro Del Rio (IFNE+GLEN Congress General Director), Joachim Oertel (IFNE Secretary), Samer Elbabaa (IFNE President-Elect), Ricardo Santos de Oliveira (GLEN President-Elect), Javier Gonzalez Ramos (IFNE+GLEN Congress Scientific Director), Sebastian G. Jaimovich (IFNE+GLEN Congress President). (from bottom right)

The scientific program covered a wide spectrum of topics including ventricular endoscopy, skull base surgery, spinal endoscopy, fetal neurosurgery, and craniostomosis surgery. Emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence–assisted planning, advanced neuronavigation, and augmented visualization systems were also highlighted.

A total of six structured pre-congress courses and symposium were conducted, including Surgical Scrub Nurse Symposium, Skull base surgery 3D approach course, Spinal endoscopic surgery handson course, Fetal endoscopic surgery handson course, Ventricular and PORT-assisted endoscopic surgery handson course, and Craniostomosis endoscopic surgery handson course. The ventricular&PORT-assisted and craniostomosis courses received support from the International Society of Pediatric Neurosurgery (ISPN), emphasizing the importance of international collaboration in pediatric neurosurgical education.

The congress further emphasized multidisciplinary collaboration, involving surgeons, nurses, engineers, and trainees, reinforcing the team-based nature of modern minimally invasive neurosurgery.

The local organizing committee—Drs. Sebastian Jaimovich (Congress President), Ramiro del Rio (General Director), Victoria Tcherbbis (Scientific Secretary), and Javier González Ramos (Scientific Director)—was responsible for the scientific and logistical coordination of the meeting, ensuring the successful execution of the academic program.

The election of Dr. Ricardo Santos de Oliveira as President-Elect of GLEN represents an important institutional development for the continued advancement of neuroendoscopic education and collaboration in Latin America.

Overall, the IFNE–GLEN 2026 Congress reaffirmed the importance of global cooperation in the development of pediatric and adult neuroendoscopy. Beyond its scientific content, the meeting highlighted the strength of the international neuroendoscopic community and its shared commitment to education, innovation, and improved patient care.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors acknowledge all faculty members, participants, supporting staff, societies support, and industry sponsors who contributed to the success of the IFNE–GLEN 2026 Congress.