

Greetings all!

Thank you for expressing interest in our National Meeting/Webinar:

Utilization of the VA National ALS Biorepository Brain Bank for Multi-omic Molecular Studies and Biomarker Discovery

June 15-16, 2020

VIRTUAL Meeting (both days): 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EDT

MEETING WEB SITE

https://www.research.va.gov/programs/tissue_banking/als/default.cfm#natl-meeting

Registration Link: Registration is required to receive the online meeting link

Monday's registration link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1363774155443114498>

Tuesday's registration link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3817737873592657666>

First, a reminder that all who would like to attend must register prior to the meeting, regardless of whether you previously emailed an RSVP to us. **Those who are presenting do not need to register again as we already arranged this with you.** Details about the meeting and registration links are below. You must register for each day that you plan to attend. **It is recommended to log into the meeting by 10:50 am EDT to assure your connection and a timely start to the meeting.**

Second, this meeting was originally developed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and was to take place in Boston with a limited set of invitees serving as presenters and advisors. The purpose of this working meeting was to discuss how to enhance the VA Biorepository Brain Bank to support current and future ALS research. Upon the onset of the pandemic, the meeting was changed to a virtual one and was opened to the larger ALS research community. Accordingly, we have arranged the meeting so that our initial set of invitees will participate similar to an in-person meeting, while the larger community will also have an opportunity to ask questions or make comments in a written format during the meeting. The written questions/comments by the larger audience will be addressed during the meeting as time allows, and other will be replied to in a written format after the meeting. We have notified the initial set of invitees about their role as such. All others are part of the larger audience.

The meeting will largely follow this format across the sessions:

- Presentations
- Verbal questions/comments from the original meeting invitees
- Written questions from the larger audience of invitees addressed as time allows

Finally, meeting video and audio access for presenters/attendees will be controlled from Boston. Only presentations will be visible, with presenter audio (i.e., presenters will not be visible). There are options for making written comments.

See the study web site for the original announcement and agenda. Our meeting organizers are Latease Guilderson, M.S.W. (latease.guilderson@va.gov) and Keith Spencer, B. A. (Keith.Spencer@va.gov) Please contact them with questions or clarifications. We look forward to your attending our virtual conference and your input!