July 23, 2025

The Social Brain: Leveraging Networks to Transform Neurological Care

Amar Dhand, MD, DPhil

Dr. Amar Dhand is a physician-scientist and international leader in the study of social networks and neurological outcomes. He is Associate Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School and practices at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Trained at Harvard and Oxford in both clinical neurology and social science, Dr. Dhand developed the theory that patients with neurological illness are best understood in the context of the social networks around them. His research group designed the PERSNET tool, which enables rigorous, quantitative social network assessment and is now used across a range of neurological conditions and international research studies. Dr. Dhand has led several major innovations translating social network science into neurology. He was principal investigator of the first clinical trial to activate social networks for stroke recovery, demonstrating the feasibility of network-based interventions. He created SocialBit, the first universally accessible and privacy-preserving wearable algorithm for detecting human interaction in persons with and without speech or cognitive deficits. He also co-invented a smartphone-based app for stroke detection that introduced a new model for digital diagnostics in emergency neurology. Through a vision that bridges neuroscience, sociology, and technology, Dr. Dhand leads a multidisciplinary lab of neurologists, sociologists, and theorists. His work is motivated by the belief that enhancing a patient's social environment is a powerful and overlooked lever for improving brain health.

Date: Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Time: 12:00–1:00 PM

Location: Marshall Wolf Conference Center, Hale Building, 3rd floor

Zoom: https://partners.zoom.us/j/86999723143?pwd=7yshgjiGgxb9uigOj7py2t3naFCGbP.1

Webinar ID: 869 9972 3143

Passcode: 772406

CME Credit: 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™
To claim credit, text the code <mark>SOFDUM</mark> to (857) 214-2277 or visit Mass General Brigham CPD. *Note: The code expires in 7 days.*

Grand Rounds Recordings

Recordings are available on the following sites:

- MGH Website
- BWH Website

Systemwide Grand Rounds Now on Vitals

Departmental Grand Rounds are now accessible to all Mass General Brigham providers. View the full list of series by specialties and upcoming sessions on Vitals, which now includes links to archived recordings. Please go to Systemwide Grand Rounds - Home for details.

Mass General Brigham