Boston Children's Hospital
Department of Radiology

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
Department of Radiology

Personal Statement

Candidate for ASPNR At Large Director

I am honored to be considered for the position of **At Large Director of the American Society of Pediatric Neuroradiology (ASPNR)**. Since moving to the United States in 2018, I have been deeply committed to ASPNR and have consistently sought opportunities to contribute to the Society's scientific, educational, and collaborative missions. Over the past eight years, ASPNR has become an important part of my professional life, and I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve its membership in a formal leadership capacity.

My commitment to ASPNR has been longstanding and multifaceted. Since 2018, I have **submitted multiple scientific and educational abstracts and posters to ASPNR meetings every year**, receiving several awards, and directly contributing to the scientific program particularly sharing work related to pediatric neuroimaging in rare neurometabolic disorders. I have also consistently served as an **abstract reviewer**, contributing to the peer-review process and helping maintain the scientific quality of the Society's meetings.

My involvement in ASPNR education has also progressively expanded. In recent years, I have been responsible for organizing and leading the **Gene Therapy Masterclass/breakout session**. During the past two years, I have taken on responsibility for **all breakout sessions, now known as Masterclass sessions**, working with faculty and colleagues to develop educational content that is relevant to the practice of pediatric neuroradiology. I have found these activities particularly important because they bring together experts from different areas while providing practical and meaningful educational experiences for our members and for myself.

I am also currently responsible for the **Cases of the Week initiative, now called Patient Study of the Week**. I see this as an additional important educational and community-building opportunity within ASPNR. Challenging clinical cases provides an excellent platform for discussion, learning, and interaction among members, and I am enthusiastic about continuing to develop this initiative and making it increasingly engaging for both trainees and practicing pediatric neuroradiologists.

Over the years, I have also developed a strong history of **clinical and research collaboration with ASPNR members across different career stages**, including both senior leaders in the field and junior colleagues. One of the aspects of ASPNR that I value most is its collaborative culture. I believe that a strong professional society should not only advance science and education but also create opportunities for mentorship, collaboration, and professional development. As an At Large Director, I would hope to **further strengthen** these connections and help ensure that members at all stages of their careers feel represented and engaged.

My primary clinical and research focus is **pediatric neurometabolic disorders, with a particular interest in primary mitochondrial disorders and other rare neurological diseases**. Over the past several years, I have developed my research capacity centered on pediatric neuroimaging of these conditions and have been actively involved in multidisciplinary scientific collaborations aimed at improving our understanding of their imaging manifestations, natural history, and genotype-phenotype correlations.

I believe that pediatric neuroradiology is entering an especially exciting period in which advances in genetics, molecular biology, precision medicine, and novel therapies are fundamentally changing how we understand and manage these neurological conditions. My long-term goal is to contribute to this evolution by helping establish **advanced neuroimaging biomarkers and clinically meaningful imaging phenotypes for neurometabolic disorders**, while bridging molecular mechanisms with neuroimaging findings and clinical outcomes.

I believe ASPNR is uniquely positioned to facilitate these collaborations and to provide a forum where new scientific knowledge can be translated into clinically relevant application for our patients.

My academic work reflects this commitment. I have authored **more than 100 original peer-reviewed publications in the last decade**, including work published in high-impact journals such as the *American Journal of Neuroradiology*, *Neuroradiology*, and *Annals of Neurology*, among others. I have also had the privilege of being invited to speak at ASPNR meetings and educational activities over the recent years.

I would bring to the position of At Large Director a combination of **longstanding ASPNR service, academic productivity, clinical expertise, educational experience, and a strong commitment to collaboration**. I feel I could also bring an international perspective developed through clinical practice, research collaborations, and engagement with colleagues from diverse backgrounds. I believe that exchanging experiences across institutions, countries, and disciplines is essential for advancing pediatric neuroradiology and creating meaningful opportunities for our members.

If elected, I would hope to contribute to ASPNR in several areas: **strengthening educational initiatives, supporting innovative scientific programs, promoting collaboration between senior and junior members, encouraging multidisciplinary research, and helping the Society remain at the forefront of emerging areas such as neurometabolic disease, genomics, artificial intelligence, advanced neuroimaging, and novel therapies**.

Most importantly, I see this position as an opportunity for **continued service rather than simply recognition of past contributions**. Since arriving in the United States in 2018, I have consistently invested my time and energy in ASPNR, and I would be grateful for the opportunity to expand that service as an At Large Director.

As mentioned, ASPNR has played an important role in my professional development and has provided a community in which I have been able to learn, collaborate, teach, and contribute. I would be honored to give back to that community by being part of the Society's future and ensuring that ASPNR continues to be a leading organization for education, research, innovation, and professional collaboration in pediatric neuroradiology.

I respectfully submit my candidacy for **At Large Director of ASPNR** and would be honored to serve the membership in this capacity.



Cesar Augusto P. F. Alves MD PhD
Attending Pediatric Neuroradiologist, Division of Neuroradiology, Boston Children's Hospital

Assistant Professor, Department of Radiology, Harvard Medical School