

Report for SBNS bursary - ISPN Toronto 2024

51st Annual Meeting of the International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery
Lyon, France – 26-30th October 2025

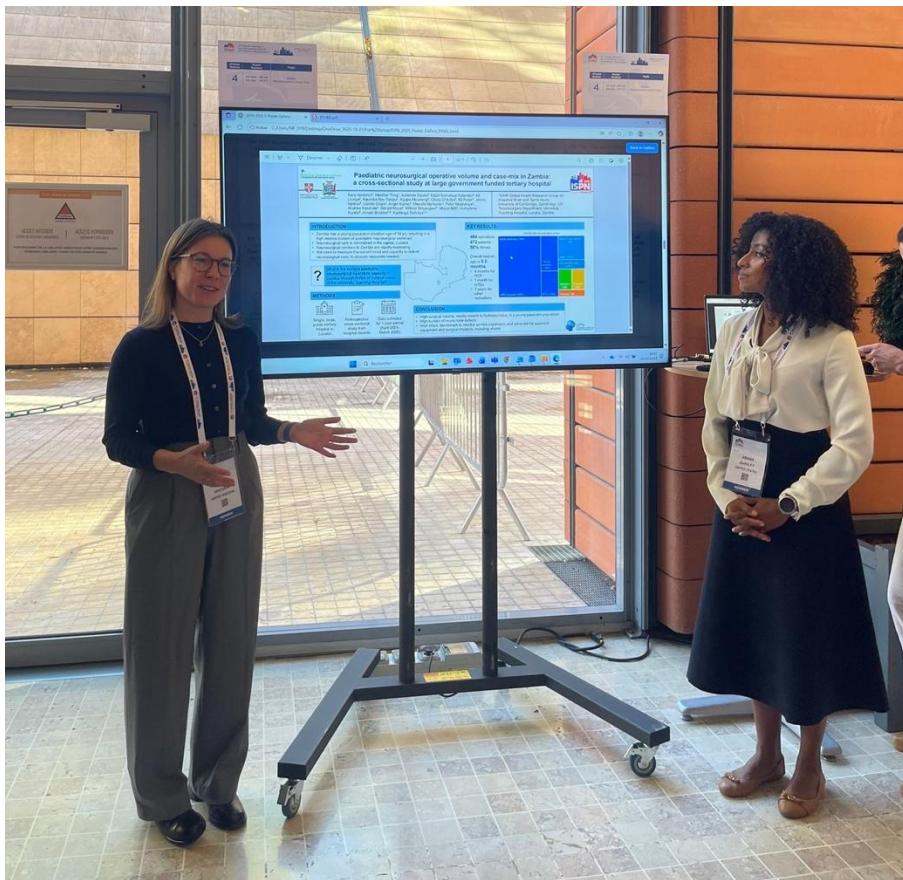
Sara Venturini

Thank you to the SBNS for supporting my trip to Lyon in October 2025 to attend and present at the 51st ISPN Annual Meeting, 26-30th October.

This was my second time attending the ISPN annual conference. The conference was a very interesting meeting, and it offered great opportunities for discussion and academic updates. Specifically, the meeting included several educational sessions covering all areas of paediatric neurosurgery research and clinical practice. I found the sessions on paediatric traumatic brain injury very engaging, where topics including gaps in evidence in prevention and managements were discussed. Furthermore, I attended a number of sessions on paediatric epilepsy and neuro-oncology, which I found extremely educational to advance my knowledge of different treatment modalities and advances in care.

Outside of the scheduled programme sessions in the programme, the breaks offered opportunity for interesting discussions and possible collaboration for future research.

The conference featured several global neurosurgery sessions, including one where I presented my abstracts entitled 'Paediatric neurosurgical operative volume and case-mix in Zambia: a cross-sectional study at large government funded tertiary hospital' and 'Operative management of paediatric hydrocephalus in Zambia: a cross-sectional study of surgical volume and case-mix at tertiary government funded hospital', and 'A comparative study of paediatric neurosurgical operative volume and case-mix in the UK and Zambia: perspectives from two institutions' (see photos). This work was presented on behalf of the wider research team at the University of Cambridge and University Teaching Hospital, Lusaka, Zambia, as part of an ongoing collaboration between the NIHR Global Health Research Group on Acquired Brain and Spine Injury (ABSI) at the University of Cambridge, and colleagues at UTH, Zambia. The discussion around these abstracts was well received, and we were able to engage members of the audience experiencing similar challenges in different clinical settings.



Presenting our NIHR ABSI group abstracts in one of the global neurosurgery sessions.
Present: Miss Sara Venturini, Dr Kabelele Sipalo, Dr Heather Tring.