



Claudia F. Lucchinetti, M.D.

Professor of Neurology



Claudia F. Lucchinetti, M.D., is a consultant and serves as chair of the Department of Neurology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, where she is also Director of the Mayo Clinic Center for Clinical Translational Science and Dean of Clinical Translational Research. Dr. Lucchinetti serves on the Mayo Clinic Board of Governors and Board of Trustees since 2019. She holds the academic rank of professor of neurology, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine, and holds full faculty privileges in clinical and translational science at Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Lucchinetti joined the Mayo Clinic staff in 1996 and is recognized with the distinction of the Eugene and Marcia Applebaum Professorship in Neurosciences.

Dr. Lucchinetti received the B.S. in biology from Northwestern University. She earned the M.D. from Rush Medical College in Chicago. After an internship at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, she was a neurology resident at Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education. She also completed a fellowship in neuro-immunology at Mayo Clinic, with additional subspecialty training as a Mayo Foundation Scholar in experimental neuropathology at the Brain Research Institute in Vienna, Austria.

Dr. Lucchinetti has an active clinical practice and is recognized as an international referral source for the evaluation of patients with multiple sclerosis, neuromyelitis optica and complex inflammatory demyelinating central nervous system disorders. Her research focuses on the immunopathology and pathogenesis of MS, NMO, acute disseminated encephalomyelitis, and MOG antibody associated disease. Her research is also funded by the National MS Society, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NCATS, the United States Department of Defense and several industry grants.

Dr. Lucchinetti has published in prominent journals, including *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Lancet Neurology*, *PNAS*, *Annals of Neurology*, *Brain* and *Neurology*. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters and editorials.

Dr. Lucchinetti's research has contributed novel insights underlying the mechanisms of tissue injury in patients with early stages of MS and other central nervous system inflammatory demyelinating disorders. She first-authored an important peer-reviewed study describing four different patterns of tissue damage in early MS, which suggested that MS lesions may form differently between different MS patient subgroups. In 2002 she proposed that NMO was an antibody-mediated disease targeting the perivascular space, which has ultimately been confirmed in subsequent Mayo Clinic studies, wherein both the biomarker and target antigen were identified. Her research also described evidence for early inflammatory cortical damage in MS, which suggests that the disease may progress from the outermost layers of the brain into the deeper brain regions. Understanding the sequence and timing of nervous system-damaging events in MS may lead to identification of novel treatment strategies aimed at limiting this tissue damage and stopping MS disease progression.

Dr. Lucchinetti served as chair of the CNBT NIH study section, and currently is a Council Member of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. She was a recipient of the Frontiers in Neurology award from the American Academy of Neurology and the 2016 John Dystel Prize for MS Research awarded jointly by the American Academy of Neurology and the National MS Society. She was also the recipient of the American Academy of Neurology Robert Wartenberg Lecture, given at the Presidential Plenary Session of the 2018 annual meeting.