

Dr Rajani Sundar Endowment Symposium
Paediatric Neuraxial Anaesthesia: Intricacies Across the Continuum

Moderator: Dr Vrushali Ponde

Date: 17th July 2026

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Venue: Club Lounge

MINUTE-TO-MINUTE PROGRAM

11:00 – 11:03 (3 min)

Opening & Continuum Framing

Chair / Moderator: Dr Vrushali Ponde

- Why this is a continuum, not choices in isolation
- Outline: lectures → pivot case → extended pro-con

11:03 – 11:13 (10 min)

Lecture 1 | Neonates & Infants: The Start of the Continuum

Speaker: Dr Karen Boretsky

Focus:

- Anatomy
- Physiology, predictability, safety
- What evidence actually supports

11:13 – 11:23 (10 min)

Lecture 2 | Toddlers to Older Children: Evolving Choices

Speaker: Dr Abhijit Biswas

Focus:

- Transition from caudal to epidural to peripheral
- Functional recovery & ERAS
- Outcome-driven decision making

11:23 – 11:29 (6 min)

Pivot Case Segment When the Central Neuraxis Is Missing, Deformed, or Unsafe

Speaker: Dr Vrushali Ponde

Focus:

- Dysraphism, tethered cord, scoliosis, post-spine surgery
- Imaging vs blind techniques
- When peripheral blocks take over
- The wisdom of saying no

EXPANDED CONTINUUM PRO-CON PANEL (31 min total)

11:29 – 11:31 (2 min)

Panel Setup: Decision Points Along the Continuum

Moderator: Dr Karen Boretsky | Dr abhijeet biswas & Dr Rakhee Goyal

11:31 – 11:46 (15 min)

Decision Point 1: Caudal Block ↔ Spinal Block

Position	Faculty
Spinal – PRO	Dr Amruta Rath
Spinal – CON	Dr Dilip Chavan
Caudal – PRO	Dr Poonam Sawant
Caudal – CON	Dr Ahalya Kodalli

11:46 – 11:58 (12 min)

Decision Point 2: Single-Shot Neuraxial ↔ Peripheral Nerve Blocks

Position	Faculty
Single-shot neuraxial – PRO	Dr Dilip Chavan
Single-shot neuraxial – CON	Dr Amruta Rath
Peripheral blocks – PRO	Dr Ahalya Kodalli
Peripheral blocks – CON	Dr Poonam Sawant

Format:

- 1.5 min per panelist (6 min)
- 4 min moderator integration
- 2 min practical take-home points

11:58 – 12:00 (2 min)

Q and A | Final Synthesis & Closing

Dr Vrushali Ponde

- There is no hierarchy – only appropriateness
- The continuum shifts with age, anatomy, surgery, and skill
- Thank faculty