PURPOSE

The Brain Recovery Project’s Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) provides guidance and direction for the organization’s research and programs. It plays a key role in guiding and prioritizing research projects and funding, assists with web content, guides, and commentary, and is committed to furthering our mission to help children reach their full potential after epilepsy surgery.

COMPOSITION

The SAB is comprised of internationally recognized or promising researchers and specialists with particular interest in the functional effects of pediatric epilepsy surgery. It is comprised of leaders in research, clinical practice, and advocacy who have made significant contributions to the fields of pediatric epilepsy and epilepsy surgery, cerebral palsy research, neuro-rehabilitation, education, and related fields. Members of the SAB will represent the various research and clinical specialties that are encompassed by the many facets of pediatric epilepsy, epilepsy surgery, and body systems and brain circuits affected by epilepsy or epilepsy surgery, including, but not limited to neurology, neurosurgery, neuro-anatomy, kinesiology, orthopedics and orthopedic surgery, ophthalmology, neuro ophthalmology, endocrinology, anatomy, kinesiology, and other aligned professions. The SAB will consist of 5-20 members, who have been invited to serve by the organization’s Executive Director.

The SAB is led by the organization’s Executive Director, or, if appointed, the Chief Science Officer.

ELIGIBILITY

Members of the SAB must be willing to support and assist with the mission, goals, objectives and values of The Brain Recovery Project. Individuals should be professionals with accomplishments that can be documented by reputation, publication, and/or direct experience with and knowledge of pediatric epilepsy surgery and/or body systems/brain circuits affected by epilepsy surgery.

TERM

SAB members will serve for terms of three (3) years. At the end of his/her term, a SAB member may be invited to serve for another term, with no limit to the number of consecutive terms permitted, though rotation of membership is expected. A member of the SAB may resign by submitting a written notice to The Brain Recovery Project’s Executive Director. The Executive Director may fill a vacancy on the SAB by appointing a new member.

OPERATION

Meetings

SAB meetings will be held at least annually. All meetings may be held in person or by teleconference call, at times and in places determined by the Chair of the SAB. A vote equal to or greater than the majority of members then in office and voting shall be required to carry any motion. Votes may be cast in person, by phone, by fax, by e-mail, or by proxy (if organized in advance).

Compensation

SAB membership is purely voluntary. Members of the SAB will receive no compensation for their time or their expertise. SAB members will be reimbursed, however, for expenses that are incurred in order to fulfill their specific responsibilities to The Brain Recovery Project, as long as these expenses are reasonable and appropriate, are authorized by the Executive Director in advance, and are not covered by other means.
Operating Guidelines
These operating guidelines may be changed only by a vote of the Board of Directors, though recommendations for changes will be welcome from the SAB itself.

Roles and Responsibilities
Members of the Scientific Advisory Board are expected to be active participants in and advocates for the The Brain Recovery Project. Members may be asked to assist the organization in a variety of ways, depending on their interests and abilities as well as the needs of The Brain Recovery Project. Not all of these duties will fall to any one individual, but the types of responsibilities one should expect might include, but are not limited to:

Writing, editing or reviewing online or printed material to be approved and distributed by The Brain Recovery Project.

Making recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the development and execution of appropriate and effective research strategies to encourage research funded by third parties and to establish guidelines, solicitation, approval and oversight processes for The Brain Recovery Project-funded grants.

Ensuring that other members of the SAB and the Board of Directors are kept abreast of research and clinical work that is being done in fields relevant to pediatric epilepsy surgery and keeping them informed about promising areas of basic, translational science as well as clinical research.

Contribute to an Annual Report for the Board of Directors that will encompass the following:

Need for new written materials and/or policy statements, research and technology approach updates, and new developments in clinical care.

Evaluating the significance and meaning of published research papers relevant to pediatric epilepsy surgery and sharing this with The Brain Recovery Project.

Participating in the biennial family gathering of the The Brain Recovery Project.

Helping to improve both the quality and quantity of data in the The Brain Recovery Project Global Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Registry, consisting of data furnished by families of children who have had, or have been considered for, epilepsy surgery for use by approved researchers and clinicians.

Providing guidance and support to The Brain Recovery Project in the creation and execution of targeted awareness programs directed toward various segments of the medical and scientific communities.

Serving as spokespersons for The Brain Recovery Project at professional conferences, in the media, and at certain fundraising events.

Assisting The Brain Recovery Project with contacts at a variety of governmental, medical, scientific, and educational institutions and organizations.

Offering assistance in The Brain Recovery Project’s desire to provide access to specialized diagnostic and treatment resources both before and after epilepsy surgery in order to create and deliver successful diagnoses, treatments.

Allowing his/her name to be displayed as a member of the The Brain Recovery Project's Scientific Advisory Board on the organization’s letterhead, in various publications, and on the organization’s website: http://www.brainrecoveryproject.org
Making a concerted effort to attend SAB meetings.

In carrying out these duties, each member of the SAB will be responsible for keeping certain information about the organization’s, researchers, grants, and individual patients confidential, as dictated by regulation (e.g., HIPAA) or ethics standards or as requested by The Brain Recovery Project.

Approved by the Board of Directors on April 27, 2018