



Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion



From the Editor

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Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) is an online forum that highlights content related to EDI topics; provides a welcoming, respectful, and safe environment for the neurology community to amplify their perspectives and lived experiences; and shares opportunities that advance EDI in health and health care within and beyond the field of neurology.

Voices: Lived experiences

The EDI specialty site recently featured an article by Dr. Orly Avitzur, president-elect of the American Academy of Neurology (AAN). In this powerful piece, Dr. Avitzur shares insights into her childhood after arriving to the US from Israel at age 9, unable to speak English.

She describes that transition in poignant detail: “In an effort to include me, the teachers gave me chores: washing the blackboards, sharpening pencils, and taking out the trash. I was a quiet shy child and an introvert, and that probably didn’t help matters much. I clearly remember thinking that just because I could not communicate did not mean that I was unintelligent, but some days were harder than others, like the time I filled a pail with water from the boy’s restroom, only to be reprimanded by a gesticulating exasperated teacher.”

She writes that she “also got from those first months... a strong appreciation for EDI”, which has driven her to write about gender inequity in neurology, serve as vice-chair of the AAN Women in Academic Leadership Work Group, and continue to advocate tirelessly for equity for all individuals in neurology. She writes that she “hope [s] to see the day when it will no longer be remarkable for a woman to become president of this organization, for neurologists to earn equal pay regardless of gender, or for underrepresented medical students to enter the field of neurology and its leadership.”

Dr. Avitzur shared this piece as part of the EDI specialty site blog “Voices: Lived Experiences,” which seeks to amplify experiences lived within the realm of diversity, equity, and inclusion in order to inform and enlighten our community on these critical issues. Submissions are welcome from all individuals and roles within the neurology and neuroscience community. If you are inspired to share your lived experience, find more information on the EDI site.



Voices: Lived experiences

The Editors welcome short first-person accounts (≤1,000 words) of experiences lived within the realm of EDI with the goal of informing and enlightening our community on these critical issues. Submit your contributions to journal@neurology.org and include “Voices Submission” in the subject line. All submissions will be reviewed by the Editors.

[NPub.org/voices](https://www.npub.org/voices)

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What's happening in Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion

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