



**For:**

- Physicians
- Nurses
- Emergency Medical Technicians
- Mental Health Professionals
- Hospice Staff
- Pastoral Care/Clergy
- Researchers & Educators
- Interested Others

[See inside for continuing education information](#)

## Near-Death Experiences: 30 Years of Research

Implications for health care professionals  
and others interested in this phenomenon

**The International Association for Near-Death Studies**  
and

**The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center**

The International Association for Near-Death Studies, Inc.  
PO Box 502  
East Windsor Hill, CT 06028

*Building global understanding of  
near-death and near-death-like  
experiences through research,  
education and support.*

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
South Windsor, CT  
Permit #75

**October 25-28, 2006**

at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center  
**Houston, TX**

# Near-Death Experiences: 30 Years of Research

## Presented by Leading Medical and Academic Researchers

### Facts:

- 30 years of sustained research into Near-Death Experiences (NDEs)
- In hospital studies, over 10% of patients resuscitated from cardiac arrest have reported NDEs
- No physiological or pharmacological causes determined
- Meaningful life-changing effects measured for years afterwards
- Significant ethical implications for clinical, palliative and end-of-life care

An unprecedented event, this conference unites The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and the International Association for Near-Death Studies (IANDS), the leading research organization dedicated to the study of NDEs. The conference will review 30 years of research into NDEs, spanning the field of near-death studies that began in 1975 with the book *Life after Life* by Raymond Moody, MD, PhD.

**Bruce Greyson, MD**



Carlson Professor of Psychiatry; Director, Division of Perceptual Studies, Department of Psychiatric Medicine, University of Virginia Health System  
Dr. Greyson, the foremost active researcher in the field of near-death studies and long-time editor of the *Journal of Near-Death Studies*, will present "Explanatory Models of Near-Death Experiences."

**Cherie Sutherland, PhD**



Private Practice of Counseling, Byron Bay, Australia  
Dr. Sutherland, NDE researcher, educator, speaker, and author, has written five books on NDEs, all translated into other languages. She will present on one of her topics of expertise within the field of near-death studies: "Children's and Teens' Near-Death Experiences."

**Jan Holden, EdD, LPC-S, LMFT, NCC**



Professor and Coordinator; Counseling Program, University of North Texas  
Dr. Holden, long-time investigator of veridical perception during NDEs and co-creator with Rozan Christian, PhD, of the consummate NDE research tool *Near-Death Experiences: Index to the Periodical Literature through 2005*, will co-present with Sam Parnia, MD, "Veridical Perception in Near-Death Experiences."

**Penny Sartori, PhD**



Intensive Therapy Unit Nurse, Morriston Hospital, Swansea, Wales, UK  
Dr. Sartori recently conducted a 6-year prospective study of NDEs in Wales. She will present her findings, which include a dramatic case of spontaneous healing and results of her veridical perception investigation.

**Pim van Lommel, MD**



Retired Cardiologist, Hospital Rijnstate, Arnhem, The Netherlands  
Dr. van Lommel, lead investigator for the prospective NDE study published recently in *The Lancet*, now devotes himself full time to research on the NDE and the mind-brain relationship. He will speak "On the Continuity of Consciousness."

**Peter Fenwick, DPM, MRCPsych, FRCPsych**



Consultant Neuropsychiatrist Emeritus, Maudsley Hospital; Honorary Senior Lecturer, Institute of Psychiatry, London, England  
Dr. Fenwick, whose NDE research has included one of the largest retrospective studies and co-investigation of one of the best known prospective studies, will co-present with Russell Noyes, MD, "Aftereffects of Pleasurable Western Adult Near-Death Experiences."

For more speakers' photos and bios, go to [www.iands.org/conference](http://www.iands.org/conference)

Segment 1, October 25-26

## NDE Research: The Scientific Foundation

### CME Event\*

The first two days address comprehensive, critical and integrative reviews of all research on NDEs published through 2005, concluding with applications for palliative, end-of-life and other clinical and educational settings. With this foundation of the science of NDEs, attendees will be prepared for Segment 2 which expands on ethical applications and future research directions.

Major topic areas will cover the entire field of near-death studies:

- Western NDEs in Adults and Children: Circumstances, Contents and Aftereffects
- NDEs throughout History and across Cultures
- Explanatory Models of NDEs
- NDE Perceptions that are Later Confirmed as Accurate
- Spirituality, World Religions and NDEs
- Practical and Ethical Applications of NDE Research for Palliative, End-of-Life and Other Clinical Care and Educational Settings

Presenters include many of the world's leading researchers and experts. In alphabetical order by last name they are: Nancy Evans Bush, MA; Diane Corcoran, RN, PhD; Peter Fenwick, MD, of the United Kingdom; Bruce Greyson, MD, University of Virginia; Jan Holden, EdD, LPC-S, NCC, LMFT, University of North Texas; Debbie James, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNS, UTMDACC; Allan Kellehear, PhD, University of Bath, United Kingdom; Jeff Long, MD; Jason MacLurg, MD; Farnáz Ma'súmián, MA, University of Texas; Russell Noyes, MD, University of Iowa; Sam Parnia, MD, PhD, MRCP of the United Kingdom and Cornell University; Cherie Sutherland, PhD, Australia; Scott Taylor, EdD, South Central College, MN; and Pim van Lommel, MD, of The Netherlands.

Segment 2, October 27-28

## Implications and Applications of NDE Research\*

Building on the foundation provided by the first segment, or as a stand-alone experience, the second two days of the conference are designed for both professional and general audiences. The theme is implications of NDE research and its applications to palliative, end-of-life and other clinical care; education about NDEs; and future research directions. Each day also includes panels of experiencers describing their experiences and aftereffects, and special sessions for experiencers. Specific topics include:

- New data from a 5-year hospital study of NDEs in Wales, not yet reported in the professional literature
- What NDEs contribute to the study of consciousness
- Response to research relating NDEs to REM intrusion
- Panel discussions on
  - caregiver challenges
  - children's NDEs
  - combat NDEs
  - suicide and NDEs
  - impact of NDEs on couples
  - research on verifiable perceptions during NDEs

General session speakers include Maggie Callanan, RN, CRNH, hospice nurse and author; Bruce Horacek, PhD, of the University of Nebraska; Pam Kircher, MD, author and former hospice physician; and Alex Peralta, Jr, MD, a Director of Palliative Care. Concurrent session speakers include PMH Atwater, LHD; Rozan Christian, PhD, LPC; Kim Clark-Sharp, MSW; Evelyn Elsaesser-Valarino of Switzerland; Richard E. Kelly, EdD, LCPC, of the FBI; Jerry Shields, MDiv; Penny Sartori, PhD, nurse, of the United Kingdom; Ken Vincent, EdD; and Deborah Q. Wilkinson, EdD, RN. Panel members and moderators include many speakers from both conference Segments 1 and 2.

\* Continuing Education units are available for both Segments 1 and 2 for: CNE, NCC, TX LPC, TX LMFT and TX Social Worker. CME is available for Segment 1.

## Special Events

**Raymond Moody, MD, PhD**, is the luncheon speaker the first day of the conference. Dr. Moody authored the 1975 book *Life After Life* that coined the term "near-death experience" and marked the official beginning of the field of near-death studies.



**Janis Amatuzio, MD**, will be the speaker for the Thursday night Banquet. In her 2004 book, *Forever Ours*, Dr. Amatuzio draws on more than 25 years of experience in forensic medicine to chronicle forensic investigations in which she encountered unexpected happenings for which she was not professionally prepared.



**Christian Andréason**, critically acclaimed, award-winning recording artist and NDEr, will provide his NDE-inspired music during the Saturday night *Celebration of 30 Years of NDE Research* party.



The Banquet will provide a transition between the two segments of the conference, serving as a culmination of the first segment and a pre-conference activity for the second. The conference will close Saturday evening with a party *Celebrating 30 Years of NDE Research*.

# Near-Death Experiences: 30 Years of Research

## About M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

Celebrating more than six decades of Making Cancer History®, The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center is located in Houston on the sprawling campus of the Texas Medical Center. It is one of the world's most respected centers devoted exclusively to cancer patient care, research, education and prevention. M. D. Anderson Cancer Center was created by the Texas Legislature in 1941 as a component of The University of Texas System, and is one of the nation's original three Comprehensive Cancer Centers designated by the National Cancer Act of 1971 and is one of 39 Comprehensive Cancer Centers today.

Since 1944, almost 700,000 patients have turned to M. D. Anderson for cancer care in the form of surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, immunotherapy or combinations of these and other treatments. This multidisciplinary approach to treating cancer was pioneered at M. D. Anderson. Because they focus only on cancer, experts here are renowned for their ability to treat all types of cancer, including rare or uncommon diseases.

M. D. Anderson holds accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). In 2006, the American Nurses Credentialing Center renewed the Magnet Nursing Services Recognition designation at M. D. Anderson, an honor first earned in 2001.

## Conference Hotel

### Houston Marriott Medical Center Hotel

6580 Fannin St., Houston, TX 77030. Book directly by calling 1-800-228-9290. Be sure to request the special IANDS conference room rate. Reservations must be made by Oct. 3rd for the special rate. **Space is limited**, so make your reservation early. For other hotel options, see the IANDS website: [www.ians.org/conference](http://www.ians.org/conference)

## Continuing Medical Education Information

### Educational Objectives

After attending the conference, participants should be able to

- summarize findings from a critical, comprehensive review of the first 30 years of research in the field of near-death studies;
- describe the most fruitful areas of future research in the field of near-death studies;
- discuss the application of findings from a critical, comprehensive review of literature on near-death experience to practical and ethical applications to palliative and end-of-life patient care, with emphasis on how health providers can respond constructively to patients who report near-death experiences, their families, and their other health providers.

### Educational Methods

Lectures, Question-and-Answer Sessions, Panel Discussions, Case Studies

### Evaluation

A course evaluation form will provide participants with the opportunity to review each session and speaker, to identify future educational needs, and to comment on any perceived commercial bias in the presentations.

## Who Should Attend

Nurses, physicians, psychotherapists, social workers, emergency medical personnel, hospice staff and volunteers.

Near-death experiencers and those close to them.

Clergy, theologians, funeral directors, bereavement counselors, educators.

Anyone dealing with death, grief or loss.

Those who are terminally ill.

Anyone with an interest in learning more about NDEs.

## October 25-28, 2006

The University of Texas  
M. D. Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, Texas

## About IANDS

Thousands of NDEs have now been documented: transcendent and mystical encounters reflecting a consistent pattern with universal elements, in which a person's consciousness appears to exist independent of his or her physical body. IANDS, founded as a research organization in 1981, is the only international organization dedicated to encouraging scientific research on the nature and ramifications of these experiences—physical, psychological, social and spiritual; to educating about NDEs; and to supporting experiencers and their personal and professional caregivers. The organization includes members on every continent, publishes the peer-reviewed *Journal of Near-Death Studies*, and sponsors conferences and retreats for researchers, healthcare professionals, educators, experiencers and the general public.

## Accreditation/Credit Designation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and the International Association for Near-Death Studies. The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

This course has been designated by The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center for 13.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* in medical ethics and/or professional responsibility. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

*The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center has implemented a process whereby everyone who is in a position to control the content of an educational activity must disclose all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest that could potentially affect the information presented. M. D. Anderson also requires that all faculty disclose any unlabeled use or investigational use (not yet approved for any purpose) of pharmaceutical and medical device products. Specific disclosure will be made to the participants prior to the educational activity.*

# Conference Schedule (subject to change)

## Tuesday

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Registration

in the Marriott Medical Center Hotel Lobby

## Segment 1—CME Event

### Wednesday, October 25

- 7:00 am Registration at M. D. Anderson, Hickey Auditorium
- 8:00 am Welcome and Announcements
- 8:30 am **History and Controversy in the Field of Near-Death Studies**  
Jan Holden, EdD, LPC-5, NCC; Bruce Greyson, MD;  
Debbie James, MSN, RN, CCRN
- 9:00 am **Pleasurable Western Adult NDEs: Circumstances and Contents**  
Scott Taylor, EdD; Pim van Lommel, MD
- 10:15 am Break
- 10:45 am **Pleasurable Western Adults NDEs: Aftereffects**  
Russell Noyes, MD; Peter Fenwick, MD
- 12:00 pm **Lunch — Personal Reflections on the Field of Near-Death Studies**  
Raymond Moody, MD, PhD
- 1:30 pm **Distressing Western NDEs**  
Nancy Evans Bush, MA
- 2:45 pm Break
- 3:00 pm **Western Children's and Teens' NDEs**  
Cherie Sutherland, PhD
- 4:15 pm Break
- 4:45 pm **Characteristics of Western NDErs**  
Jeff Long, MD; Jason MacLurg, MD
- 6:00 pm Evaluations and Closing
- 6:15 pm Dinner—On your own

### Thursday, October 26

- 7:00 am Registration at M. D. Anderson, Hickey Auditorium
- 8:00 am Welcome and Announcements
- 8:30 am **NDEs throughout History and across Cultures**  
Allan Kellehear, PhD
- 9:45 am Break
- 10:15 am **Spirituality, World Religions and NDEs**  
Farnáz Ma'súmián, MA
- 11:30 am Break
- 11:45 am **Explanatory Models of NDEs**  
Bruce Greyson, MD
- 1:00 pm **Lunch — The Bruce Greyson Research Award Address**
- 2:30 pm **Veridical Perception in NDEs**  
Jan Holden, EdD, LPC-5, NCC; Sam Parnia, MD, PhD, MRCP
- 3:45 pm Break
- 4:15 pm **Practical and Ethical Applications of NDE Research for Palliative, End-of-Life and Other Clinical Care and Educational Settings**  
Diane Corcoran, PhD, RN; Debbie James, MSN, RN, CCRN
- 5:30 pm Evaluations and Closing
- 7:00 pm **Banquet — Forever Us**  
Janis Amatuzio, MD, "The Compassionate Coroner"  
**Houston Marriott Medical Center Hotel**

Presentations will be held at  
M. D. Anderson, Hickey Auditorium  
1515 Holcombe, Houston, TX

## Segment 2

### Friday, October 27

- 7:00 am Registration at M. D. Anderson, Hickey Auditorium
- 8:00 am Welcome and Announcements
- 8:30 am **A Thirty Year Perspective: Medicine's Changing Views Toward NDEs**  
Pam Kircher, MD
- 10:00 am Break
- 10:20 am **Concurrent Session 1**
1. **On the Continuity of Consciousness**  
Pim van Lommel, MD
  2. **Panel: Combat NDEs**  
Diane Corcoran, PhD, RN, Moderator
  3. **Panel: NDEs and Suicide — Bruce Greyson, MD, Moderator**
- 11:30 am **Concurrent Session 2**
1. **Recent Veridical Perception Research in U.S. and U.K. Hospitals**  
Jan Holden, EdD, LPC-5, NCC; Bruce Greyson, MD;  
Peter Fenwick, MD, Sam Parnia, MD, PhD, MRCP
  2. **Psychological and Therapeutic Aspects of NDEs: From Potential to Transformation**  
Sylvie Déthiollaz, PhD
  3. **Panel: Childhood NDEs**  
Pam Kircher, MD, Moderator
- 12:30 pm Lunch—On your own
- 2:00 pm **Concurrent Session 3**
1. **A Five-Year Prospective Hospital Study of NDEs in Wales**  
Penny Sartori, PhD
  2. **Sharing Near-death Experiences, a Therapeutic Use of Self**  
Deborah Q. Wilkinson, EdD, RN
  3. **The Search for God and Afterlife in the Age of Science**  
Ken Vincent, EdD
- 3:10 pm **Concurrent Session 4**
1. **Panel: NDEs and Consciousness Research**  
Jan Holden, EdD, LPC-5, NCC, Moderator
  2. **Why NDEs Bring Comfort to the Ill and Bereaved**  
Evelyn Elsaesser-Valarino
  3. **Leading IAHDS Local Groups: Insights from Decades of Experience — Kim Clark-Sharp, MSW**
- 4:20 pm NDErs' Panel A
- 5:20 pm Evaluations and Closing
- 5:30 pm Dinner—On your own
- 7:30 pm **End of Life Care — Alex Peralta, Jr, MD**

### Saturday, October 28

- 7:00 am Registration at M. D. Anderson, Hickey Auditorium
- 8:00 am Welcome and Announcements
- 8:30 am **Nearing-Death Awareness in Palliative and End-of-Life Care**  
Maggie Callanan, RN, CRNH
- 10:00 am Break
- 10:20 am **Concurrent Session 1**
1. **NDEs and REM Intrusion**  
Jeff Long, MD; Jan Holden, EdD, LPC-5, NCC
  2. **Sense of Contact with the Deceased: Experiences of Police, Firefighters, and Emergency Medical Personnel**  
Richard E. Kelly, EdD, LCPC
  3. **Let's Talk About It**  
Diane Corcoran, PhD, RN; Debbie James, MSN, RN, CCRN
- 11:30 am **Concurrent Session 2**
1. **Panel: Caregiver Challenges**  
Debbie James, MSN, RN, CCRN, Moderator
  2. **Panel: The Effect of NDEs on Couple Relationships**  
Rozan Christian, PhD, LPC, Moderator
  3. **What in the World? — PMH Atwater, LHD**
- 12:30 pm Lunch—On your own
- 2:00 pm NDErs' Panel B
- 3:00 pm Break
- 3:20 pm **The Role of Anomalous Experiences in Healthy Grief**  
Bruce Horacek, PhD
- 4:20 pm Evaluations and Closure
- 6:45 pm **Celebration/Party — Houston Marriott Medical Center Hotel**

# 2006 Conference Registration

<b>Segment 1 (10/25 &amp; 26)<sup>1</sup>:</b> <small>(includes a box lunch each day &amp; one Banquet ticket)</small>	<b>Early Bird</b> <small>Until Sept 10th</small>	<b>Advance</b> <small>9/11 - 10/15</small>	<b>On-site</b>		
*Members & Employees:	\$240	\$260	\$285	# _____	= \$ _____
Non-Member:	\$265	\$285	\$310	# _____	= \$ _____
<b>Single Day:</b> <small>(includes box lunch; does <b>NOT</b> include Banquet ticket)</small>					
*Members & Employees:	\$140	\$155	\$170	# _____	= \$ _____
Non-Member:	\$155	\$170	\$185	# _____	= \$ _____
<b>Circle day:</b>	<b>Wednesday<sup>1</sup> Thursday<sup>1</sup></b>				
<b>Segment 2 (10/27 &amp; 28)<sup>1</sup>:</b> <small>(includes one Celebration ticket)</small>					
*Members & Employees:	\$180	\$200	\$225	# _____	= \$ _____
Non-Member:	\$205	\$225	\$250	# _____	= \$ _____
<b>Single Day:</b> <small>(does <b>NOT</b> include Celebration ticket)</small>					
*Members & Employees:	\$ 95	\$110	\$125	# _____	= \$ _____
Non-Member:	\$110	\$125	\$140	# _____	= \$ _____
<b>Circle day:</b>	<b>Friday<sup>1</sup> Saturday<sup>1</sup></b>				
<b>Attend both segments and save!<sup>1</sup></b> <small>(includes two box lunches, one Banquet ticket &amp; one Celebration ticket)</small>					
*Members & Employees:	\$395	\$430	\$465	# _____	= \$ _____
Non-Member:	\$445	\$480	\$515	# _____	= \$ _____
<b>IANDS General Membership<sup>2</sup>:</b>	\$ 65	\$ 65	\$ 65	# _____	= \$ _____
<b>Donation to help IANDS (U.S. tax-deductible)</b>			\$ _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship <input type="checkbox"/> Where needed most					
<b>Total Registration Amount:</b>					\$ _____
*IANDS Members & M. D. Anderson employees					

## Early Bird Registration

### Now thru Sept 10th

Advance conference registration ends  
**October 13th**

**On-site registration: October 25-28**

<sup>1</sup> Additional Thursday night Banquet tickets and Saturday night Celebration tickets are available for sale on-line at [www.iands.org](http://www.iands.org)

<sup>2</sup> Join IANDS at the General Membership level and get member pricing for the conference. Other membership levels and benefits are available. Please check our website: [www.iands.org](http://www.iands.org).

## Continuing Education

I will be seeking continuing education credit for (check all that apply):

CME (Segment 1 only)  
  CNE  
  NCC  
 TX LPC  
  TX LMFT  
  TX Social Worker

### Nursing Continuing Education Contact Hours

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Texas Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This activity meets Type I criteria for mandatory continuing education requirements toward relicensure as established by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas.

For details about continuing education credit, visit [www.iands.org/conference](http://www.iands.org/conference).

### Cancellation & Refund Policy:

Cancellations will be accepted by phone or a postmarked letter through October 13th, 2006, less a \$50 administrative fee. **No refunds after October 13th, 2006.**

Do **not** include my name & address on the attendee list  
  Do **not** share my name & address with other organizations

### Individual(s) Attending

(If different addresses, please submit separate forms.)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Day (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment

**Total Registration Amount** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Form of Payment:

\_\_\_ Check or Money Order payable to IANDS in US dollars drawn on a US bank

\_\_\_ Mastercard   \_\_\_ Visa   \_\_\_ Amex   \_\_\_ Discover

**Account #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exp. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Advance conference registration ends October 13th

### By Phone

(860) 882-1211  
Registration lines open Mon-Fri,  
9:00 am - 4:30 pm U.S. Eastern Time

### By Mail or Fax

Complete the registration form  
above, mail or fax with payment to:  
IANDS Conference Registration  
P.O. Box 502, East Windsor Hill, CT 06028

### On-Line

[www.iands.org](http://www.iands.org)

Fax: (860) 882-1212

For more information call (860) 882-1211 or visit us at [www.iands.org](http://www.iands.org)