

Fifth Annual Lawton-Tanikawa  
West-East Vascular Neurosurgery Course:

# “The Last Samurai”



**March 4-6, 2026**

Phoenix, Arizona

For more information:  
[BarrowNeuro.org/Samurai](http://BarrowNeuro.org/Samurai)



## Barrow Neurosurgery Research Laboratory

### Mark C. Preul, MD Director of the Neurosurgery Research Laboratory

The course will take place at the Neurosurgery Research Laboratory of the Barrow Neurological Institute Department of Neurosurgery, which is a world-class education, training, and research facility with a specialization in neurosurgical anatomy. The facility is well known for exquisite cadaver tissue specimens and features independent surgical stations fully equipped with operating microscopes, suction, irrigation, standard head frames, microsurgical and power instrumentation, 3D surgical projection, high definition flat screens, and fully trained attendant staff.

## Barrow Neurological Institute Fifth Annual Lawton-Tanikawa Vascular Neurosurgery Course

**March 4-6, 2026**

Barrow Neurological Institute announces the Fifth Annual Lawton-Tanikawa/West-East Vascular Neurosurgery Course, led by course directors Michael T. Lawton, MD, and Rokuya Tanikawa, MD. This didactic and practical course in neurosurgical approaches and vascular anatomy will focus on complex cerebrovascular pathology and advanced surgical techniques such as bypass. The hands-on laboratory exercises will cover anterior and lateral regions of the brain and skull base. This course is designed for neurosurgery residents, fellows, and vascular neurosurgeons. Beyond the surgical anatomy and approaches, this course will highlight the strategic thinking of two of the most experienced vascular neurosurgeons in practice today. This full two-day course is designed for intense instruction among 32 participants. Features include 3D microanatomical videos and 3D operative videos of cerebrovascular and tumor pathology to make the cadaver dissections come alive, using preserved cadavers with vascular injection. Each station will have state-of-the-art instrumentation and microscopes, with masters at the head station to demonstrate.

### Objectives

- Become familiar with microneurosurgical anatomy of the anterior and lateral regions of cranial and skull base
- Learn appropriate visualization, technique, and approaches to the skull base
- Correlate clinical pathological information with the corresponding anatomic region
- Combine anatomy and pathology information into decision-making for approach selection
- Explore and discuss options from experienced neurosurgical faculty for surgical treatment of vascular pathology
- Gain hands-on practice with these surgical approaches utilizing injected cadaver specimens

# General Information

## Course Location

### Loyal and Edith Davis Neurosurgical Research Laboratory

Barrow Neurological Institute  
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center  
350 West Thomas Road, Phoenix, AZ 85013

## Laboratory Contact Information:

**Neurosurgery Research Department:** (602) 406-3268

**Main:** (602) 406-3000

**Fax:** (602) 406-4153

**Email:** [William.Bichard@CommonSpirit.org](mailto:William.Bichard@CommonSpirit.org) or  
[Steve.Marsh@CommonSpirit.org](mailto:Steve.Marsh@CommonSpirit.org)

## Approved Accommodations:

### Embassy Suites by Hilton

#### Phoenix Downtown North

10 East Thomas Road, Phoenix, AZ 85012  
(602) 222-1111  
Three blocks from the lab.  
No hotel shuttle service.

### Hampton Inn Phoenix-Midtown-Downtown Area

160 West Catalina Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85013  
(602) 200-0990  
Across the street from the lab. Walking distance.  
No hotel shuttle service.

### Fairfield Inn and Suits Phoenix (Marriott)

2520 North Central Avenue  
(602) 716-9900  
0.6 miles from the lab.  
Hotel shuttle runs between 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

### Wyndham Garden Phoenix | Ramada Phoenix

Second Avenue and Osborn Road  
WyndhamHotels.com  
(602) 604-4900 Wyndham Garden  
(602) 595-4444 Ramada Phoenix

## Taxi Contacts:

### AAA Yellow Cab:

(602) 252-5252

### Discount Cab:

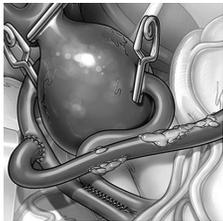
(602) 200-2000

### Execucar:

(800) 410-4444

# 2026 Schedule

## Wednesday, March 4



7:00 a.m. **Arrival and Registration** | *Breakfast*

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### Orbitozygomatic Approach

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7:45 a.m. Anatomy of Orbit & Pterion | *Almefty*

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8:15 a.m. Technique: Basic Pterional Craniotomy | *Tanikawa*

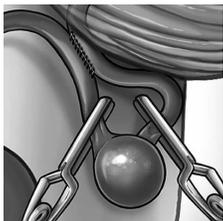
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8:45 a.m. Clinical Applications | *Lawton*

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9:15 a.m. **Lab Dissection:**  
OZ Approaches | *All*

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Noon **Lunch**

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### Cavernous Sinus and Middle Fossa Approaches

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12:45 p.m. Anatomy of Cavernous Sinus and Middle Fossa | *Benet*

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1:15 p.m. Technique: Transcavernous Approach | *Tanikawa*

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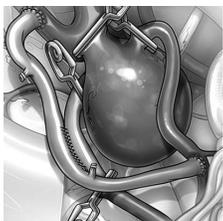
2:00 p.m. Clinical Applications | *Lawton*

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2:30 p.m. **Lab Dissection:**  
Cavernous Sinus, Middle Fossa Approach and  
Anterior Petrosectomy | *All*

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5:00 p.m. **Adjourn**



# 2026 Schedule

## Thursday, March 5

7:00 a.m. **Breakfast**

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7:30 a.m. Skull Base Bypass | *Tanikawa*

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8:30 a.m. Technique: Transpetrous Approaches | *Benet*

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10:00 a.m. **Lab Dissection:**  
Transpetrous Approaches | *All*

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Noon **Lunch**

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### **Far Lateral Approach**

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12:45 p.m. Anatomy of Foramen Magnum and Jugular Foramen | *Lawton*

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1:15 p.m. Technique: Posterior Circulation Bypass | *Tanikawa*

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1:45 p.m. **Lab Dissection:**  
Far Lateral Approach | *All*

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4:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

## Friday, March 6

7:30 a.m. Neurosurgery Case Conference

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8:30 a.m. Neurosurgical Grand Rounds | *Tanikawa*

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9:30 a.m. **Course Adjourns**

# Course Faculty

## Course Director

### Michael T. Lawton, MD

President & CEO  
Professor & Chair, Department of Neurosurgery  
Robert F. Spetzler Endowed Chair in Neurosciences  
Chief, Division of Neurovascular Surgery  
Barrow Neurological Institute | Phoenix, Arizona

## Special Guest Faculty

### Rokuya Tanikawa, MD

Senior Vice President  
Director, Stroke Center  
Department of Neurosurgery  
Sapporo Teishinkai Hospital | Sapporo, Japan

## Lab Director

### Mark Preul, MD

Newsome Family Endowed Chair of Neurosurgery Research  
Director, Neurosurgery Research, Department of Neurosurgery  
Barrow Neurological Institute | Phoenix, Arizona

## Course Coordinator

### William Bichard

Clinical Coordinator  
Barrow Neurological Institute | Phoenix, Arizona

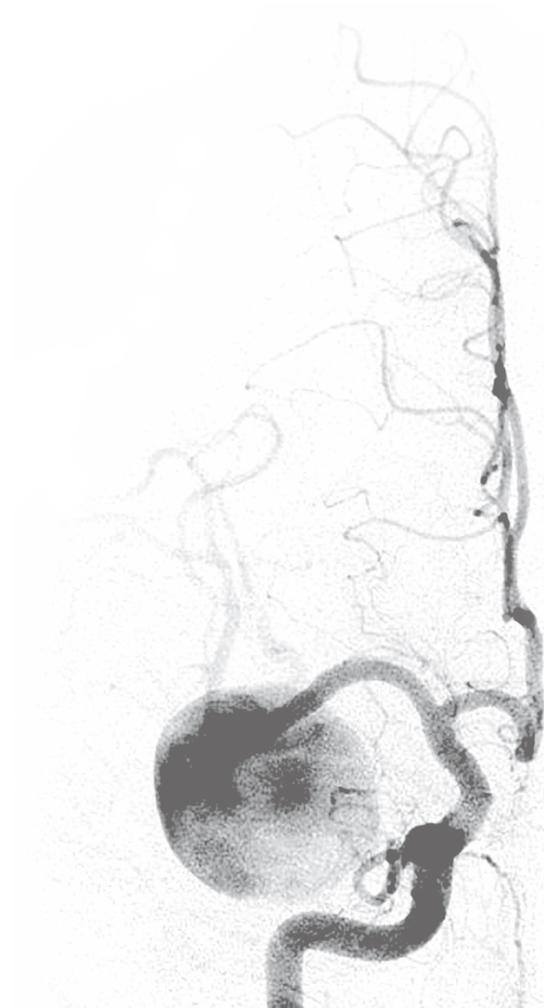
## Faculty

### Kaith Almefty, MD

Neurosurgery  
Barrow Neurological Institute

### Arnau Benet, MD

Neurosurgery  
California Neurosurgical Specialists



## For more information:

[CME@BarrowNeuro.org](mailto:CME@BarrowNeuro.org)  
(602) 406-3067

## **Fifth Annual Lawton-Tanikawa Vascular Neurosurgery Course: “The Last Samurai”**

Barrow Neurological Institute

**Residents/Fellows:** \$300  
**Non-trainee:** \$2,500\*

**REGISTER NOW**

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**For more information, please contact:**

**William Bichard**

[William.Bichard@CommonSpirit.org](mailto:William.Bichard@CommonSpirit.org)

(602) 406-3268

### **Refunds:**

To ensure adequate spaces and planning for the course,  
no refunds are given for canceled registrations.

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Phoenix, AZ 85013

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Course Co-Directors

**Michael T. Lawton, MD**

President & CEO  
Professor & Chair, Department of Neurosurgery  
Robert F. Spetzler Endowed Chair in Neurosciences  
Chief, Division of Neurovascular Surgery  
Barrow Neurological Institute, Phoenix, Arizona

**Rokuya Tanikawa, MD**

Senior Vice President, Director  
Department of Neurosurgery, Stroke Center  
Sapporo Teishinkai Hospital, Sapporo, Japan

