



TRENDS-in-MEDICINE

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Weekly Preview

...Highlights of news to
watch in the upcoming
week relating to drugs
and devices in
development...

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Here is the medical news to watch for July 26-August 1, 2021. It's a light week.

■ **Cardiology** – Part 2 of the Heart Rhythm Society ([HRS](#)) annual meeting will be hybrid, taking place both in person in Boston and virtually July 28-31.

■ **Neurology** – The Alzheimer's Association International Conference ([AAIC](#), formerly ICAD) will take place July 26-30, both in person in Denver and virtually. The controversial approval of **Biogen's Aduhelm** (aducanumab) for Alzheimer's disease is likely to be a hot topic, but the data to watch include:

- Additional data from the open-label Phase IIa INFRONT-2 trial of **Alector's AL-001**, an anti-SORT1, in frontotemporal dementia.
- A Phase Ib study of **AC Immune's ACI-24**, an anti-amyloid beta vaccine for Alzheimer's disease-like characteristics in Down's syndrome patients.
- A Phase I trial of **Athira Pharma's ATH-1017**, an HGF/MET promoter, in mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease.
- Safety and cognition results for the first 50 patients who completed nine months of treatment with an oral agent that binds misfolded filamin A in the brain – **Cassava Sciences' simufilam** (PTI-125) – from a Phase IIb trial in Alzheimer's disease.

■ **Ophthalmology** – The American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery ([ASCRS](#)) in person meeting in Las Vegas continues through July 27.

■ **Regulatory**

- The FDA is hosting a [webinar](#) on July 29 on its final guidance on non-clinical testing and clinical consideration in development of implanted brain-computer interface (BCI) devices for patients with paralysis or amputation.
- The FDA's Oncology Center of Excellence is holding a [webinar](#) on July 29 on advancing equity in Asian American and Pacific islander communities, including discussions of disparities in cancer care and false blame for spreading Covid-19.

Upcoming medical conferences (more meetings are trying a hybrid format):

- August 9-13 – Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society ([HIMSS](#)) – **hybrid** (Las Vegas for anyone who is vaccinated, otherwise virtual)
- August 11-14 – Amputation Prevention [Symposium](#) – **hybrid** (Orlando and virtual)
- August 12-14 – American Psychological Association ([APA](#)) – **virtual**
- August 21-25 – American Association of Neurological Surgeons ([AANS](#)) – **hybrid** (Orlando/virtual)
- August 27-30 – European Society of Cardiology ([ESC](#)) – **virtual**
- August 31-Sept. 3 – Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons ([SAGES](#)) – **in person** in Las Vegas (not virtual) ■

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