

APRIL 8 - WORLD NEUROSURGEONS' DAY

Oluwamayowa Opara

April 8, 1869 Harvey Williams Cushing was born. He is widely regarded as the Father of Modern Neurosurgery due to the immense work he did in studying neurosurgical conditions and refining surgical techniques for approaching brain tumours as well as his influence in making neurosurgery an autonomous surgical discipline. April 8 is now dedicated to celebrating Neurosurgeons the world over.

For us as neurosurgeons, it is a day to celebrate our wins - the many patients we have been able to intervene in and save, the new and safe surgical approaches that we have been able to develop, the innovations that we have pioneered, and many more.

It is a day to reflect on the time and effort we put into this profession and give ourselves a pat on the back for the sacrifices we have had to make.

It is a day to remember the patients we were not able to save or help and remind ourselves of the valuable lessons learnt from those experiences.

It is a day to relax and unwind with family and friends who have supported us and loved us despite our long gruelling hours at work, and our all too frequent absences from home and family events. Some of us have even lost valuable family relationships to this vocation, yet we have persevered.

We work every day, and even on this day we will still work; but it is a good day to set some time aside to reflect, relax, refresh and rejuvenate ourselves.

Happy World Neurosurgeons' Day to all of us Neurosurgeons all over the world!

Congratulations!!!