“Cystinosis and the Brain”  
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Rose F. Kennedy Center, Room 901  
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**Bio:** Dr. Trauner holds the title of Distinguished Professor of Neurosciences and Pediatrics and Vice Chair (Neurosciences) for Academic Personnel at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine. She is a pediatric neurologist specializing in neuro-developmental disorders. Her research focuses on cognitive development in children, plasticity in the developing brain, and cognitive impairments in children with several neuro-developmental and metabolic disorders, including nephropathic cystinosis, autism, and peri-natal stroke. She has published over 140 peer-reviewed research papers, as well as 2 books and multiple book chapters. Her research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health as well as by several private foundations. Her clinical practice takes place at the Rady Children’s Hospital San Diego.

**Abstract:** Nephropathic cystinosis is a lysosomal storage disease that affects many organs, including the brain. Individuals with this disorder have structural differences in brain development, as well as specific cognitive and behavioral manifestations including impaired visual spatial and visual memory skills, attentional problems, academic difficulties, and later memory dysfunction. The cause of the neurologic differences is unknown. However, the early onset of structural and functional disturbances suggests that there may be an effect of the cystinosin gene on brain development.

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