



Society of Physician Assistants in Otorhinolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery

THE VANGUARD



President's Message

Jennifer Brooks, PA-C

Greetings Society Members,

I would like to thank all the volunteers and speakers for all their hard work at the ENT for PA-C Annual Conference. I would also like to thank Mayo Clinic for inviting us. In the end, together, we pulled off an amazing conference. Our registration numbers continue to increase which enables us to offer more educational opportunities to our members.

I would like to welcome Nabliah and Brittany to our board. This year, we have had an increase in membership and I am excited to see what new ideas are generated.

We have a close and mutually beneficial relationship with AAO-HNSF. In the future, we are hoping to work more closely with them.

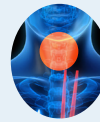
Our next conference is in Orlando. We are in the beginning stages of planning and I am already looking forward to the next conference.

SPAO-HNS is financially sound and will continue to represent the best interest of its members.

IN THIS ISSUE



CME Chair Report on the 2018 ENT for PA-C Conference 2



Clinical Practice Guideline: Hoarseness (Dysphonia) 3



SPAO-HNS 2017 Student Scholarship Award Winners 4



Member Publications 4



Save the Date 4

THE VANGUARD

6200 Lakeside Avenue
Richmond, VA 23228



CME Chair Report on the 2018 ENT for PA-C Conference

Marie Gilbert, PA-C Emeritus

This meeting welcomed a total of 359 attendees. The professional distribution included 256 PAs, 98 NPs, 2 MDs, 1 RN, 1 “other” and 1 student. 233 SPAO members and 27 AAO-HNS members were able to take advantage of the member discount, and 188 took the “Early Bird” discount. 98 persons paid the non-member rate, and 2 persons attended workshops only. (See Fig.1)

Advertisement methods included a “Save the Date” and one ad in the Bulletin plus online listings and eblasts via SPAO, AAPA, and AAO-HNSF websites. (See Fig.2)

The Mayo provided the following faculty: 12 physician speakers, 4 H&N Fellows for the cadaver lab, 6 PA speakers, 7 PA proctors, 1 SLP speaker, 1 SLP proctor, and 3 AuD speakers.

Four SPAO Fellows and one former Fellow provided a total of 7 talks plus a panel discussion, and prepared all 3 of the “backup” talks. SPAO provided 28 proctors and all but 2 of the workshop leaders. We also provided all volunteers for workshops setup and tear down.

SPAO invested \$10k this year on new mannequins and instruments, which improved hands-on time for attendees.

Non-Mayo physician speakers included 3 ENT Peds specialists, and three physician proctors/leaders for the new epistaxis trainer, strobes, and airway workshops.

We presented 34 lectures, 31 sessions of 10 different workshops and 4 sessions of Mayo OR labs. Twenty-eight of the lectures were recorded for video CME, and will be offered this Fall on AcademyU®. SPAO members will be offered a significant discount.

Post-meeting surveys of speakers and general meeting quality were collected and scored separately. Scores for speakers, workshops and venue were very high.

Financials showed a lower net than in some previous years, primarily due to high food and beverage costs at this venue. Methods to avoid similar problems in the future will be explored and put in place.

REGISTRATION TYPE		ATTENDEE DESIGNATION			
A SPAO Member - Early Registration	103	PA-C	243	ARNP	9
A SPAO Member - Regular Registration	129	PA	12	DNP	4
An AAO-HNS Member - Early Registration	15	NP	23	RN	1
An AAO-HNS Member - Regular Registration	12	NP-C	37	Student	1
Non-member - Early Registration	38	MD	2	Other (PA educator)	1
Non-member - Regular Registration	60	APN	4		
Student	1	APRN	21	TOTAL	359
Workshop Only	2				
TOTAL	359				

Fig. 1 Registration breakdown by Type and Profession

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE 2018 MEETING?	
SPAO-HNS Website	34.3%
AAO-HNSF website	5.0%
AAPA Website	1.4%
Direct Mail	2.2%
Email	17.0%
Employer	20.4%
Word of Mouth	13.4%
Other	6.1%

Fig. 2 Survey of advertising effectiveness



Clinical Practice Guideline: Hoarseness (Dysphonia)

from the March 2018 issue of *Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery*

Dysphonia is characterized by altered voice quality, pitch, loudness, or vocal effort that impairs communication or reduces quality of life. One-third of the population is affected by dysphonia at some point in their life. It can affect patients of all ages and sex, and has an increased prevalence in teachers, older adults, and people with significant vocal demands.

The clinical practice guideline (CPG) is an update of a guideline published in 2009 by the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Foundation (AAO-HNSF). The new guidelines pertain to patients of all age groups who present with dysphonia or impaired voice production. The guidelines are to be utilized by any clinician who are likely to diagnose and treat patients with dysphonia.

HIGHLIGHTS:

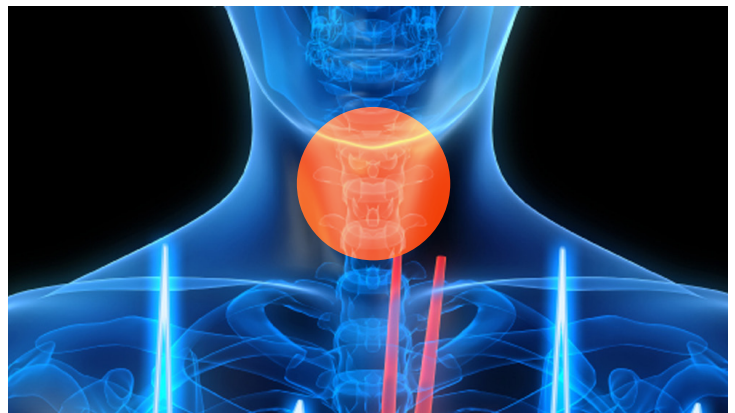
- Clinicians should not routinely prescribe antibiotics to treat dysphonia.
- If the dysphonia fails to resolve or improve within 4 weeks, clinicians should perform laryngoscopy or refer to a clinician who can perform laryngoscopy; or they should refer sooner irrespective of duration if a serious underlying cause is suspected.
- Clinicians should not do the following prior to visualization of the larynx:
 - Prescribe corticosteroids for patients with dysphonia;
 - Obtain computed tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) for patients with a primary voice complaint; or
 - Prescribe anti reflux medications to treat isolated dysphonia, based on symptoms alone attributed to suspected gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) or laryngopharyngeal reflux (LPR).
- Clinicians should perform laryngoscopy or refer to a clinician who can perform laryngoscopy before prescribing voice therapy and document/communicate the results to a speech-language pathologist.
- Clinicians should offer, or refer to someone who can offer, botulinum toxin injections for dysphonia

caused by spasmodic dysphonia and other types of laryngeal dystonia.

- Clinicians should advocate for surgery as a therapeutic option for patients with dysphonia with conditions amenable to surgical intervention, these include:
 - Suspected malignancy;
 - Symptomatic benign vocal fold lesions that do not respond to conservative management; and
 - Glottic insufficiency.
- Clinicians should inform patients with dysphonia about control and preventive measures.
- Clinicians should document resolution, improvement, or worsened symptoms of dysphonia, or change in quality of life of patients with dysphonia after treatment or observation.

The guideline authors are: Robert J. Stachler, MD, David O. Francis, MD, MS, Seth R. Schwartz, MD, MPH, Cecelia C. Damask, DO, German P. Digoy, MD, Helene J. Krouse, PhD, Scott J. McCoy, DMA, Daniel R. Ouellette, MD, Rita R. Patel, PhD, CC-SLP, Charles (Charlie) W. Reavis, Libby J. Smith, DO, Marshall Smith, MD, Steven W. Strode, MD, Med, MPH, Peak Woo, MD, and Lorraine C. Nnacheta, MPH.

The full guideline is available at: www.entnet.org/content/clinical-practice-guideline-hoarseness-dysphonia and in the *Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery* as published at www.otojournal.org.





SPAO-HNS 2017 Student Scholarship Award Winners

Ryan Marovich, MPAS, PA-C, SPAO-HNS Scholarship Chairman

Since 2005, The Society of Physician Assistants in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery has sought to recognize motivated physician assistant students with a career interest in ENT. Since the inception of the scholarship fund, several of the recipients have gone on to practice in the field of otolaryngology and have provided significant contributions to our organization either as a fellow member, board member, and/or volunteer for which we are grateful.

This spring, SPAO-HNS concluded another successful annual meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona and would now like to recognize two physician assistant students to receive the 2018 scholarship award! The first recipient, **Ashleigh McCoy**, is in her clinical rotation year at Bethel University and is expected to graduate next spring. The second recipient, **Susan Vogel**, is in her didactic year at Texas Tech University. Otolaryngology,

in one way or another, has contributed to their interests in medicine or influenced their career choice, and hopefully finds a place in their paths moving forward. Ashleigh and Susan, SPAO congratulates you on your accomplishments and wishes you the best of luck in your future endeavors.



Ashleigh McCoy

Thank you to all who contributed to the annual scholarship fund by way of the **silent auction** in Scottsdale and by **donating online**. Also, a special thank you to Thieme Publishing, Marie Gilbert, and Laura Kirk for your generous contributions and support!



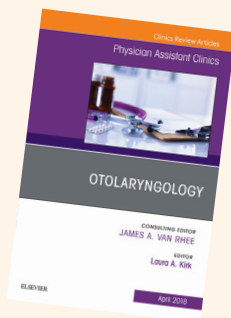
Susan Vogel

Member Publications

We would like to congratulate the following members on their recent publication in Otolaryngology issue of *Physician Assistant Clinics* (vol.3, no.2, April 2018). To become a subscriber for access to *Physician Assistant Clinics* or to view the most recent Otolaryngology issue, please visit physicianassistant.theclinics.com.

- Laura Kirk, guest editor
- Trina Sheedy
- Kimberly Lakhan
- Linda Smith

SPAO encourages our members to contribute to ENT literature. If you are interested in becoming published, or have been published and are interested in mentoring, please contact brittanygunville@gmail.com.



Save the Date

Thank you to our SPAO-HNS team, Mayo faculty and attendees for another successful conference.

Mark your calendars for the next ENT for the PA-C Annual CME conference in Orlando, Florida on **April 3-7, 2019**. The conference will be held at Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek.

The conference is jointly presented by the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery Foundation and the Society of Physician Assistants in ORL-HNS hosted by The Ear, Nose, Throat and Plastic Surgery Associates of Winter Park Memorial Hospital Department of Otolaryngology.

See you next year in Orlando!

