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## Welcome New Members

Jennifer Layman, CRNP  
Johns Hopkins

### President's message:

Let it snow, what a beautiful mess! We will always remember this winter for the record snow. Luckily spring is around the corner.

Our Annual Conference is upcoming, please attend and invite friends too! There are lots of great speaker at a great price. We thank all the speakers for volunteering their expertise. We are proud of Elaine who yet again has worked tirelessly to make this conference a reality.

The new website is up and under construction!! Most of the information is submitted, so should really be official soon. Website is: <http://www.sohnmddc.com>

### Next meeting

**Topic:** Interesting Otology  
Cases

**Speaker:** Matt Stewart,  
MD, PHD

**Place:** JHOC 6<sup>th</sup> floor

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**CEUs:** Awarded  
**Spiderphone:**

Please let Nina know if  
you intend to use.

**Brief meeting to follow**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO  
BRING FOOD FOR DINNER**

Nina



### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS-

November and January

### January Meeting at Johns Hopkins Greenspring Station

**Topic:** Hair Transplant

**Speaker:** Lisa Iishi, M.D., Johns Hopkins

### November Meeting at GBMC

**Topic:** Cancer Medicine and Palliative care

**Speakers:** Danielle J. Doberman, MD, MPH, Medical Director,  
Palliative Palliative Care and Head and Neck

## HAPPENINGS IN 2009

**March 10, 2010**  
MD/DC SOHN JHH

**March 26, 2010**  
Annual Conference @  
MD/DC SOHN GBMC

**April 17, 2009**  
Saturday, business  
meeting, location TBA

**April 27-May 2,  
2010**  
COSM/SOHN Spring  
Meeting-Las Vegas

**May 9, 2010**  
National ORL Nurse  
Day

**June 9, 2010** MD/DC  
SOHN NIH

**June 24, 2010**  
Poster/Video  
Application deadline

**September 24-28**  
34th Annual SOHN  
Congress, Boston, MA

**October 15, 2010**  
Call for Abstracts for  
SOHN Meetings



## Medical Ministry International

Submitted by Laurie Turner

Medical Ministry International (MMI) is an organization that provides opportunities to provide spiritual and physical health care around the world. In the summer of 2009, I had the privilege of participating in one of their medical missions to Bolivia, led by one of my colleagues, Dr. Wayne Koch as well as a team of health care providers and other volunteers from across the country. Although there were language and cultural barriers, the human to human experience prevailed as we triaged and operated on those in need.

It reminded me that so much of what we have and do on a daily basis has become expected rather than appreciated. I would encourage all nurses to step out in faith by giving their time and talents to people near and far who are in need.

## The Maryland/Washington DC Chapter 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting- What's Hot in ORL Nursing

The conference will be held on March 26, 2010 at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland. The program awarded up to contact hours for attendees (members and non-member). The program/presenters are

Submandibular Gland Transfer- Patrick Ha, MD,

KEYNOTE: On Osler and Other Thoughts- Charles Cummings, MD

Use of daVinci / Robots in ORL Care- Jeremy D. Richmon, MD

Resources for Head & Neck CA Patients- Elisabeth Carrino-Tamasi,  
MSW, LGSW

Otology: Cochlear Implants- John Niparko, MD and Barbara Gottshalk,  
CRNP

EXIT Procedure for CHAOS- Ian Smith, MD and Rose Stavinoha, MD

Facial Reanimation- Patrick Byrne, MD

Pediatric: Genetic Syndromes- Melinda DeSell, CRNP SOHN

MEMBER- \$75.00, NON-MEMBER- \$90.00, ALLIED HEALTH- \$55.00  
Total Contact Hours: 6.75.



Become a certified in ORL nurse or recertify.

**Application**

**Deadline:**

4/1/2010 9/18/2010

**Exam Dates:**

5/1/2010 - 5/15/2010

10/9/2010 - 10/23/2010

Please go to the National Certifying Board of Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck nursing website <http://www.ptcny.com/clients/NCBOHN/index.html> to learn more details and to apply.

## Head and Neck Cancer: A Patient Education Day

**Saturday, April 24, 2010**

**9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

*Johns Hopkins*

*Weinberg Building, Auditorium, First Floor*

*The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center*

*401 North Broadway, Baltimore, MD*

**For more information about this FREE event,**

**please call: 410-955-2309 or e-mail [abrady6@jhmi.edu](mailto:abrady6@jhmi.edu)**



## SPOHNC Meetings

**Johns Hopkins: Meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday**

**Time:** 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

**Place:** Johns Hopkins Greenspring Station, 10755 Falls Road, Lutherville, MD.

**Next JH meeting is:** March 10<sup>th</sup> The speakers will be:

Beth Erhardt, OTR/L, CLT-LANA, Clinical Specialist and Jennifer Millar, Physical Therapist Outpatient Therapy Services, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Johns Hopkins Hospital

They will speak about: “ Lymphedema management and physical therapy needs for head and neck cancer patients”

For more information on participating, call Kim Webster at 410-955-1176 or Dwayne at 717-615-7464. [www.jhhspohnc.com](http://www.jhhspohnc.com)

**GBMC SPOHNC support Group meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month**

**Time:** 7 pm - 8:30 pm

**Place:** Physician's Pavilion East conference center

**Laryngectomy Interest Group** meets the 1st Tuesday of each month

**Time:** 12 noon 'til 1 pm

**Place:** Physician's Pavilion East conference center

**SPOHNC** is a patient-directed, self-help organization dedicated to meeting the needs of oral and head and neck cancer patients or caregivers.

[www.spohnc.org](http://www.spohnc.org)



We have been using Spiderphone.com to connect to other groups in DC and Virginia. This is the web-enhanced audio conferencing service. Both audio conferencing and web interfaces allows our conference participants to hear the speaker in real-time and view the presentation. This has allowed us to collaborate with our colleagues from far away.

In order to participate, you need a telephone with speakerphone (if more than one person will be viewing from a computer terminal) and a computer terminal with an internet connection, and browser with javascript and cookies enabled.

<http://www.spiderphone.com/>



### Editor's Note:

Please submit information to me as the news happens. Send all info by email: [mdesell1@jhmi.edu](mailto:mdesell1@jhmi.edu) Nina DeSell, C.R.N.P.

### Product of Interest

#### Blom® Tracheostomy Tube System

Submitted by Karen Ulmer

I "discovered" a new trach tube while at the SOHN 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Congress and Nursing Symposium. Dr. Eric Blom developed the Blom® Tracheostomy Tube System to improve communication options for ventilator dependent tracheostomy patients.

The Blom® Tracheostomy Tube System provides ventilator dependent patients the ability to communicate regardless of cuff inflation status. The system also has a unique subglottic suctioning cannula that provides staff the ability to suction secretions above the cuff of the tracheostomy tube, providing another resource in the battle against ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP).

The fenestrated Blom® Tracheostomy Tube is necessary to use the Blom® speech cannula. The fenestration is located ~ 1 mm above the cuff, so that when the cuff is inflated, contact between the fenestration and tracheal mucosa is prevented. The fenestrations also have rounded, smooth edges to prevent granulation formation.

A subglottic suction catheter is attached to the outside of the inner cannula and ends at the level of the fenestration. Suctioning options include continuous suction at 20 mmHg or intermittent suctioning via the suction line cap. The inner cannula can be removed and the subglottic suctioning line flushed with normal saline to clean between uses. An external flow source can be attached to the suction line to verify airflow to the upper airway prior to use of the speech cannula.

The Blom® speech cannula has 2 valves that re-direct air allowing ventilator dependent patients with an inflated cuff to communicate. During inhalation, the flap valve opens at the distal end of the inner cannula and the bubble valve expands into the fenestration preventing air escape into the upper airway. During exhalation, the flap valve closes, the bubble valve collapses, and air is directed up through the fenestration and vocal cords to allow for speech. The LPV cannula provides patients with spontaneous respiration an alternative communication option. The flap valve opens during inspiration and remains closed during exhalation directing air around the outer cannula to the vocal cords. It is used with the Blom® non-fenestrated uncuffed tracheostomy tube.

The various features of the system are achieved by changing the inner cannula to that supporting the feature desired, unlike other tubes that require an entire tracheostomy tube change. All cannulas have a standard 15mm connector. A "telephone-jack" style lock assures secure placement of the inner cannula and reduces inadvertent disconnects.

The Blom® Tracheostomy Tube System is manufactured by Pulmodyne®, and distributed in Maryland by Tri-anim®.

Website: <http://www.pulmodyne.com/?action=products&productid=30>



### KUDOS TO OUR MEMBERS

**Article Published:** Carol Maragos –published an article: Maragos, C. S. (2009). Improving quality of life with FESS, OR Nurse 2009, 3(6), 24-29.