

# MD/DC SOHN NEWS

Maryland/DC Chapter of Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nurses

SPRING 2018

## Top stories in this newsletter



## Community Outreach



## March 23rd Annual Spring Conference



## Local Chapter Meetings



## Reviews of SOHN Lectures by our mem- bers



## President's Message

## Message from the President

Vinciya Pandian MSN, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC

Dear SOHN MD/DC Chapter Members and Friends

Our Chapter is truly flourishing! Membership has increased from 36 to 42 and we are being productive maintaining a society strongly dedicated to the constant endeavor of promoting the highest professional standards of Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck nursing for the better and safer care of the patient. These successes wouldn't be possible without each one of your dedication and constant efforts. Your time and commitment helps the Chapter make a huge difference in our Otolaryngology nurses' community and beyond as evidenced by the high quality educational activities and constant participation in community activities that showcase the role of ORL nursing. Thank you for your continued support.

One unique event that brought us together to celebrate this year was the ORL nurses' day when we joined together both in person and videoconferencing. ORL nurses near and far are being active in this chapter via videoconferencing. More exciting activities have been planned for the upcoming year and we hope that you will continue to participate and lead.

As each one of you work hard at your jobs to support your family, take a moment to think of the families of your patients. Studies have shown that the most important need for families to have is information and then the need to visit their loved one. While caring for your patients, consider being proactive in involving their families in your plan of care. Keep them informed and reassure them by actively involving both patients and families in decision-making and self-management. It will help you to develop a trusting therapeutic relationship and improve patient satisfaction.

I would be most interested in your experiences in being part of the MD/DC chapter and how it has helped you to continue as a powerful ORL nurse. Please email me at [vpandia1@jhu.edu](mailto:vpandia1@jhu.edu) to share how you would like to see the chapter can help you with your endeavors. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to improving and advancing care of the ORL patients and their family members!



## Welcome New Members

Julie Caprio, Erin Pamseth

# Tammy Preddy      Leslie Lee

## Jacqueline Cassidy

## **Samantha Pettie**

## MD/DC 2017-2018 Officer / Committee members

President – Vinciya Pandian  
Vice President – Marybeth Hartlove  
Treasurer – Carol Maragos  
Budget and Finance Committee – Carol Maragos  
Secretary – Micaela Fritz  
Membership – Barbara Gottschalk and Cynthia Fox  
Education & Annual Conference Committee – Karen Ulmer  
Communication – Melinda DeSell  
Website – Vinciya Pandian  
Nominating Committee – Amanda Cullison, Melissa Barofsky

### Upcoming chapter educational events:

September 12, 2018

Topic: TBD

Presenter: TBD

Location: University of MD Medical Center/GBMC



November 3, 2018

Topic: Case Presentations

Presenter: Melissa, Nina, Carol

Location: George Washington University

January 9, 2019

Topic: Journal Club

Presenter: Karen Ulmer

Location: Hackerman Patz

March 29, 2019

Topic: Annual Spring Meeting

Location: Greater Baltimore Medical Center

May 8, 2019

Topic: Business Meeting

Location: Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

### Upcoming community Outreach: TBA

### Upcoming National Events

42<sup>nd</sup> Annual SOHN Congress Meeting

October 5-8, 2018

Location: Atlanta, Georgia

American Academy of OHNS Congress

October 7-10, 2018



### Deadlines for Applications

July 1, 2018: Annual Board Meeting Guest Attendee  
Application Deadline

July 1, 2018: Chapter Excellence Award Applications  
Deadline

July 1, 2018: Clinical Excellence Award Application  
Deadline

July 1, 2018: Honor Award Applications Deadline

July 1, 2018: Scholarship Applications Deadline

July 1, 2018: Forming Chapter Bylaws Deadlines



## Accomplishments/Kudos



- ◊ Melissa Barofsky is recipient of SOHN Cynthia Mabry Lectureship this year
- ◊ Melissa Barofsky is now a CORLN
- ◊ Vinciya was inducted in to the Sigma Nu Tau Entrepreneurship Society
- ◊ Vinciya now has her MBA
- ◊ Laurie Turner is nominated for Baltimore Magazine Nursing Excellence Award

## Community Outreach



Karen Ulmer: Annual Cancer Awareness day: oral screenings, provided information on oral cancer, doing a self-oral assessment, tobacco awareness/cessation at GBMC employee health fair.



Sue Rudy: Health Fair: screened 44 patients on 3/24 (Health fair cosponsored by American Diversity Group and the National Hispanic Medical Association at the National Harbor Convention Center).



On March 23rd, we held our Annual Spring Conference at GBMC. There were 34 attendees. This was an excellent learning opportunity of all! Lectures included:

- **Clinical Applications of Oropharyngeal Sonography**, Ray Blanco, MD
- **The Future of Head & Neck Reconstruction**, Ryan Smith, MD and Carol Maragos, CRNP, MSN, CORLN
- **Professionalism: What does this mean to the Art of Nursing?** Deena Hollingsworth, MSN, FNP-BC
- **Maxillofacial Prosthetics: A General Overview**, Ghassan Sinada, DDS
- **What's New in Pediatric ORL**, Marisa Ryan, MD
- **Pain Management after Tonsillectomy**, Grace Tan, MD
- **Research Forum**, Kelly Cunningham, RN, Sara Boisen, RN, Vinciya Pandian, PhD, MSN, ACNP-BC, FAAN
- **OTC Hearing Aids- Implications for our Patients**, Kelly King, AuD, PhD
- **Embracing Social Media in Nursing Practice**, Melissa Borofsky, RN





We celebrated ORL nurses' day at our Annual Business meeting.

We elected new officers.

Secretary – Micaela Fritz

Nominating Committee – Amanda Cullison, Melissa Barofsky

Re-elected Vice President – Marybeth Hartlove



I attended several great talks in Chicago but this was my favorite:

**Session 420 Cranial Nerve Review and Focus on ENT Surgical Complications** by Cristie Roush, DNP GNP-BC CORLN and Bryan Falcione, MS-ACNP-BC presented on 9/11/17.

I really enjoyed this practical anatomy review of cranial nerves seen in the head and neck region. They referenced a great website called Teach Me Anatomy which I am sure I will use in the future.

Here it is: <http://teachmeanatomy.info/>

All 12 of the cranial nerves are in the head and neck area. Tests for these utilize various smells, sight, touch and sensation as well as motion of muscles (facial, shoulder shrug and eye movements).

Over all this was a comprehensive review, great for any surgical otolaryngology nurse or NP.

Submitted by Barbara Gottschalk 11/29/17

## Coding Update, 2017

By Karen Ulmer

What the heck do all those numbers mean? Kim Pollock, RN, MBA, CPC, CMDP is a nationally recognized expert in otolaryngology coding and documentation. She understands the complexity of coding and reimbursement specific to surgeons. She has dedicated this latest portion of her career in improving the revenue cycle for practices.

The ICD-10-CM is used to describe diagnoses, conditions and/or symptoms. It's owned and maintained by the WHO. ICD-10 consists of 3-7 alphanumeric codes, is used to track morbidity and mortality, and was implemented October 1, 2015 in the US. The first character is a letter and refers to the organ system of the diagnosis. Subsequent numbers refer to the category of the disease, etiology of disease, body part affected, severity of illness, and an extension code to increase specificity.

CPT codes are owned and maintained by the AMA. CPT codes reflect care received in a facility: hospital, SNF, etc. New in 2017 are codes to be used by clinicians furnishing telehealth from a distant site. Specific to ORL, are changes in CPT 31575- Flexible laryngoscopy, changes to no longer include moderate sedation for laryngoscopy, bronchoscopy, and esophagoscopy. Clinicians who use CPT codes must review the changes applicable to their practice.

Anticipated are many changes to come in 2018. CPT and Medicare predicted changes include revisions to endoscopic sinus surgery codes and a new endoscopic sphenopalatine ligation code. Also anticipated is CMS changing evaluation and management codes to minimize history and exam requirements.

Medicare also has guidelines for RN and NP billing that clinicians should be familiar with. Advanced practice providers (NPs, CNS, and PA) can bill for services. RNs are considered auxiliary staff, and are not billing providers. There are three paths under which to bill Medicare: Incident to (service is rendered by NP or RN, but billed by supervising physician), Direct (service rendered and billed by rendering provider) and Shared/Split (service rendered by both NP and MD, and typically billed by MD). Very important is the need to document WHO rendered the service, indicate if supervision requirement is met, show the physician's initiation and continued involvement in treatment, be reasonable and necessary, and within the scope of practice of the NP/RN.

An additional proposal is the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA). MACRA establishes a unified approach to quality reporting. It incorporates parts of current quality reporting elements (PQRS, MU, VBM) and attempts to eliminate redundancies and separate reporting requirements. There are 4 strategic goals under quality payment programs: To design a patient-centered approach leading to improved care, develop a program that is meaningful, understandable, and flexible, design incentives that drive delivery system reform principles, and ensure attention to excellence in implementation, effective communication, and operational feasibility.

Coding and documentation requirements are continually changing. It is the requirement of each provider to keep abreast of the changes and their impact on personal practice. Resources and answers to common coding questions can be found at <https://www.karenzupko.com/keepintouch>