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The goal of the GDTF is to rank, prioritize, and vet topics to panels that develop clinical practice guidelines or clinical consensus statements (CCS). The GDTF is comprised of a range of individuals within otolaryngology, including 11 specialty societies and AAO-HNS leadership (See roster on page 3).

### AAO-HNS Guidelines Usage Summary from the National Guideline Clearinghouse

(8/1/09 through 7/30/10)

- AAO-HNS guidelines had 51,512 page views over the past 12 months
- Our “average” guideline gets about 1,000 page views monthly
- Breakdown by guideline:
  - Acute otitis externa: 13,490 page views
  - Adult sinusitis: 12,323 page views
  - BPPV: 12,042 page views
  - Cerumen: 9,610 page views
  - Hoarseness (listed since 4/10): 4,047 page views

### Highlights from GDTF Meeting on May 24, 2010, at AAO-HNS, Alexandria, VA

AAO-HNS would like to thank Sandra Z. Lewis, PhD, Assistant VP, Health Science and Policy, American College of Chest Physicians, for speaking at the meeting. Dr. Lewis outlined conflict resolution and other challenges that may impact guideline development. The Executive Committee of the American College of Chest Physicians Antithrombotic Guidelines developed a strategy to address the issue of conflict of interest.

The strategy is composed of three key principles:

1. Highlighting intellectual and financial conflicts of interests of all guideline panel members
2. Methodologists without important conflicts of interest should have primary responsibility for chapter development
3. Experts with important conflicts of interest can collect and interpret evidence; however, they may not be involved in developing recommendations.

The GDTF will consider these principles as we continue to streamline the guideline development process.

In addition, Drs. Lewis and Rosenfeld presented on the Guidelines International Network and their work in the field of guideline development.

### Multidisciplinary Clinical Practice Guideline: Tonsillectomy in Children

The guideline was peer-reviewed by 42 external reviewers from 7 disciplines. Five hundred-sixty-nine comments were received, including 367 suggestions related

to the content, of which two-thirds were incorporated. The guideline was unanimously approved by the AAO-HNS/F Board of Directors and is under additional peer review by the journal. The guideline will be published in January 2011 as a supplement of *Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery*. A miniseminar on this topic will be presented at the 2010 AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, from 9:30 am to 10:20 am.

**The guideline panel consists of:** Reginald F. Baugh, MD; Sanford M. Archer, MD; Ron B. Mitchell, MD; Richard M. Rosenfeld, MD, MPH; Raouf Amin, MD; James J. Burns, MD; David H. Darrow, MD, DDS; Terri Giordano MSN, CRNP, CORLN; Ronald S. Litman, DO; Kasey K. Li, MD, DDS; Mary Ellen Mannix, MRPE; Richard H. Schwartz, MD; Gavin Setzen, MD; Ellen R. Wald, MD; Eric Wall, MD, MPH; Gemma Sandberg, MA; and Miles M. Patel, MS

### Specialty-Specific Clinical Practice Guideline: Indications for Polysomnography for Sleep-Disorder Breathing prior to Tonsillectomy in Children

The final literature search was completed by members of the Cochrane Group in May 2010. All in-person meetings are now complete and work continues on an advanced draft of the guideline. In September, the key action statements and evidence profiles will be shared with the AAO-HNS Board of Directors and the draft guideline will undergo Guideline Implementability Appraisal (GLIA). The guideline is expected to go out for peer review in September and submitted for publication in November.

**The guideline panel consists of:** Peter S. Roland, MD; Lee J. Brooks, MD; Norman R. Friedman, MD, DABSM; Jacqueline Jones, MD; Tae W. Kim, MD; Siobhan Kuhar, MD, PhD; Ron B. Mitchell, MD, MPH; Richard M. Rosenfeld, MD, MPH; Michael D. Seidman, MD; Stephen H. Sheldon, DO; Stephanie L. Jones, BS; and Peter J. Robertson, MPA

## Future Guideline Products

### Clinical Consensus Statement: CT Imaging Indications for Paranasal Sinus Disease (Fall 2010)

The CCS will be chaired by Gavin Setzen, MD, staffed by Miles Patel, MS, and panel construction will begin in the fall of 2010. John Rhee, MD, MPH, will serve as the consultant due to his prior experience with clinical consensus statements. In addition, individuals from ARS, AAOA, and ASPO will be solicited for panelists, who will provide expertise from their respective specialties. The CCS is scheduled to be developed in 6 months and will be submitted to *Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery* for publication.

### Multidisciplinary Clinical Practice Guideline: Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss (Summer 2010)

The guideline will be chaired by Robert Stachler, MD, staffed by Peter Robertson, MPA, and panel construction will begin in the fall of 2010. Richard M. Rosenfeld, MD, MPH, and Seth Schwartz, MD, MPH, will work as consultants on the guideline. The topic will be developed as a multi-specialty guideline.

### Clinical Consensus Statement: Tracheostomy Care (Winter 2010/11)

This topic was found to be important due to a high prevalence of the procedure, but is best presented through a CCS, since the only evidence may be expert opinion. Children and adults will be included (literature review on adults already performed).

## Quality Activities Update

### National Quality Forum (NQF)

The Academy continues to support the work of the NQF. The Patient Safety and Quality Improvement (PSQI) Committee has provided nominations to five NQF steering committees this year: Dr. Setzen to the Imaging Utilization Committee, Dr. Robertson to the Measures Harmonization Steering Committee, Dr. Rahul Shah to the Evaluation Advisory Panel—Evaluation of Performance Measure Use Steering Committee and Dr. Chalian to the Ambulatory Measures Review Steering Committee. In addition, the Academy nominated Dr. Arjmand to the Patient Safety Measures Steering Committee.

- The AMA informed the Academy that the AOE/OME measures had been submitted to the NQF for endorsement as part of the National Voluntary Consensus Standards for Ambulatory Care. Dr. Rosenfeld, as Chair of the original AMA workgroup on the development of these measures, provided commentary at the measures review. As outlined above, Dr. Ara Chalian was the PSQI nominee to the NQF Steering Committee for review of these measures. Five measures were recommended for endorsement; three of the measures were not recommended for endorsement (hearing testing, pain assessment, and diagnostic eval.- assessment of tympanic membrane mobility). The AMA and the Academy continue to support these measures and provided additional commentary regarding their endorsement.

**Representatives:** David W. Robertson, MD; and Jean Brereton, MBA, Senior Director, Research and Quality

### Surgical Quality Alliance (SQA)

The SQA held its second meeting of the year on June 7, 2010, in Washington, DC.

Dr. Lee Eisenberg, Jean Brereton, and Peter Robertson represented the Academy. The SQA welcomed a new chair, Dr. David Hoyt, President of the American College of Surgeons Foundation.

The majority of the meeting focused on the data registry currently under development by the SQA. The goal is to develop a data registry that encompasses common data elements for all surgical societies, which may be further refined to meet the needs of each individual society. In response to ACS/SQA's desire to begin Phase I of the registry by utilizing the Case Log system, a working group has been formed by the AAO-HNS PSQI Committee to identify an initial set of conditions specific to otolaryngology that will aid the SQA's development of the data registry. The initial set of conditions will reflect a majority of our members, and demonstrate the value of a data registry to both the SQA and our members in promoting quality improvement. Dr. Eisenberg will attend a meeting on Phase I objectives with the SQA and ACS leadership in Chicago on August 5, 2010.

**Representatives:** Lee D. Eisenberg, MD, MPH; Raul K. Shah, MD; and Jean Brereton, MBA, Senior Director, Research and Quality

### AMA/PCPI

Dr. Gavin Setzen was nominated to the American Board of Medical Specialties/American Board of Radiology/PCPI Patient Radiation Dose Optimization Advisory Group.

The AAO-HNS supported the nomination of Dr. David Shahian, Society of Thoracic Surgeons, to the at-large seat open on the PCPI.

The first meeting of the working group on Adult Sinusitis measures development will be in October. Dr. Rosenfeld will be

a co-chair of the work group. AAO-HNS submitted six nominees to the work group. The process should take approximately nine months.

**Representatives:** David Nielsen, MD, and Matt Kienstra, MD

### CMS

The Center for Medicare/Medicaid has begun a demonstration project on imaging. This is an opportunity for physician practices to test whether the use of a Decision Support System (DSS) can improve the appropriateness of ordering advanced imaging services using transparent medical specialty society guidelines with no pre-authorization requirement or changes to existing Medicare coverage or payment policies. One of the guidelines utilized by CMS in the development of the demonstration project was the AAO-HNS Adult Sinusitis guideline. We participated in a meeting convened by CMS that outlined what role medical societies will play in the demonstration project.

### GDTF Society Representatives

The GDTF includes experts from appropriate specialties and disciplines. Representatives aid the development of education products including clinical practice guidelines and clinical consensus statements.

**Richard M. Rosenfeld, MD, MPH**

*GDTF Chair*

**David M. Barrs, MD**

*American Neurotology Society*

**Mark S. Courey, MD**

*American Laryngological Association*

**Cindy J. Dawson, MSN CORLN**

*Society of Otorhinolaryngology Head-Neck Nurses*

**Ellen S. Deutsch, MD**

*American Broncho-Esophagological Association*

**Jolene Eicher**

*Association of Otolaryngology Administrators*

**Paul T. Fass, MD**

*Specialty Society Advisory Council*

**Marvin Fried, MD**

*Specialty Society Advisory Council*

**Joseph K. Han, MD**

*American Rhinologic Society*

**Amy C. Hessel, MD**

*American Head & Neck Society*

**Michael E. Hoffer, MD**

*Triological Society*

**Charles F. Koopmann, MD MHSA**

*American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology*

**Timothy S. Lian, MD**

*American Academy of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery*

**Lawrence R. Lustig, MD**

*CORE Representative*

**Robert H. Miller, MD MBA**

*American Board of Otolaryngology*

**David R. Nielsen, MD**

*AAO-HNS*

**Gavin Setzen, MD**

*BOG*

**Robert Stachler, MD**

*American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy*

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### Save the Date

**September 26-29, 2010**

*2010 AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO, Boston, MA*

### Miniseminars:

**Wednesday, September 29, 2010**

**9:30 am – 10:20 am**

*Clinical Practice Guideline: Tonsillectomy in Children*

Presenters: Sanford M. Archer, MD;

Richard M. Rosenfeld, MD, MPH;

Ron B. Mitchell, MD; Reginald F.

Baugh, MD

*Clinical Consensus Statement: Nasal Valve Repair*

Presenters: John S. Rhee, MD, MPH;

Edward M. Weaver, MD, MPH

**October 18-22, 2010**

*Cochrane Colloquium, Keystone, CO*