



Dear ENT Advocacy Network Member:

Legislative and political activity directly affects our practices and our patients. As a leading advocate for otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, we hope you enjoy reading this edition of The ENT Advocate, your premier source of advocacy information for the specialty!

## Lead Story

### Help Us Reach Our Goal: "First 50" Deadline Extended!

Help us fill in the "First 50" logo and reach our goal of garnering **50 \$1,000+ (Chairman's Club) PAC Investors** by making your contribution today! Remember, First 50 Investors will have exclusive access to a 2017 conference call series with high-ranking individuals from Congress and the Administration. **Support this exciting new campaign by [making your contribution](#) by Monday, February 6.\***



## Action Request

### Now Recruiting: PROJECT 535 Coverage for Leadership and "Key" Committees

With Congress and the Administration moving forward with a robust health-related agenda, the AAO-HNS is stepping up its efforts to recruit "key contacts" for PROJECT 535. Our first goal for the 115th Congress is to achieve 100 percent coverage for Members of Congress who are in leadership and/or who sit on one of four "A" Committees, which have jurisdiction for health-related issues—House Energy & Commerce, House Ways & Means, Senate HELP, and Senate Finance. If one of these [Members of Congress](#) is your Representative or Senator, [sign up today](#) to be a key contact via PROJECT 535! Is your Member of Congress not on the list? That's okay! Simply sign up to cover your Member of Congress or contact [legfederal@entnet.org](mailto:legfederal@entnet.org) for more information.

### State Trackers in Action

The AAO-HNS physician-volunteer State Trackers are fully engaged in the 2017 state legislative session, identifying bills that may affect the specialty, including inappropriate scope of practice expansions, restrictions on in-office compounding, and changes to e-cigarette regulations. Are you interested in volunteering as an [AAO-HNS State Tracker](#)? If you want to help ensure your state is fully protected from any legislative surprises, please contact [legstate@entnet.org](mailto:legstate@entnet.org) for more information.

## AAO-HNS Informational Updates



### ENT PAC Hosts U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan

On February 1, the AAO-HNS hosted (via ENT PAC) a physician community event for U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan. Representatives from more than 20 physician/medical specialty groups attended and participated in a robust policy discussion with the Speaker. Topics included: Quality/Data/EHRs; healthcare reform; regulatory relief; and medical liability reform. Many thanks to our ENT PAC Investors who enabled our specialty to have a "seat at the table" with Speaker Ryan.

## Register & Book Your Hotel Today: AAO-HNS/F 2017 Leadership Forum & BOG Spring Meeting

Deadlines are approaching for the [AAO-HNS/F 2017 Leadership Forum & BOG Spring Meeting](#), March 10-13. Book your hotel stay before the room block closes on February 8 and register by March 1!



## AAO-HNS/F 2017 LEADERSHIP FORUM & BOG SPRING MEETING

MARCH  
10-13  
ALEXANDRIA, VA

### Other Updates

#### Cabinet Confirmation Process Slowed in U.S. Senate

The Senate's process for confirming U.S. Representative Tom Price, MD, to serve as Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) was delayed this week when Democratic members of the Senate Finance Committee blocked the vote to advance the nomination by refusing to participate in the hearing. To bypass this procedural tactic, Republicans opted to suspend the normal rules and vote despite the absence of their Democrat colleagues. Dr. Price is expected to be confirmed by the full Senate in the near future.

#### AAO-HNS Comments on FDA Guidance Re: Conditions for Sale for Air Conduction Hearing Aids

On January 31, the AAO-HNS submitted [comments](#) to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding its recent guidance document outlining changes to requirements associated with the sale of hearing aids. Specifically, the AAO-HNS reiterated its conditional support for establishing a "basic" and/or over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aid, noting the importance of providing consumers with comprehensive information outlining medically treatable causes of hearing loss.

#### AAO-HNS Attends USP Stakeholder Roundtable

On February 2, the AAO-HNS attended a meeting hosted by the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) regarding in-office allergy immunotherapy (AIT) compounding by physicians. The meeting focused on identifying strategies for supporting best practices and guiding the efforts of the USP Expert Committee in its revision of Chapter 797 relating to sterile preparations.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Cordes, MD  
BOG Legislative Affairs Committee Chair  
and the AAO-HNS Legislative Advocacy Team

For more information, contact [govtaffairs@entnet.org](mailto:govtaffairs@entnet.org). Don't forget to bookmark *The ENT Advocate*!

If you no longer wish to receive important legislative and political updates via *The ENT Advocate*, please reply to this email with CANCEL ADVOCATE in the subject line.

*\*Contributions to ENT PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Contributions are voluntary, and all members of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Federal law prohibits ENT PAC from accepting contributions from foreign nationals. By law, if your contributions are made using a personal check or credit card, ENT PAC may use your contribution only to support candidates in federal elections. All corporate contributions to ENT PAC will be used for educational and administrative fees of ENT PAC, and other activities permissible under federal law. Federal law requires ENT PAC to use its best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation, and the name of the employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.*

American Academy of Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery  
1650 Diagonal Road, Alexandria, VA 22314-2857  
Phone: 1-703-836-8444 | Fax: 1-703-683-5100