

Dear ENT Advocacy Network Member:

February 14, 2020

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!

AAO-HNS Leads Effort to Oppose Audiology Direct Access Legislation

The Academy recently [spearheaded letters strongly opposing federal legislation](#) (H.R. 4056/S. 2446) that

AAO-HNS Provides Expert Opinion on Seven Evidence Reviews

Following an extensive review process by multiple AAO-HNS Committees and the Physician Payment Policy (3P) Workgroup, [the AAO-HNS submitted responses to seven new Blue Cross Blue Shield Association \(BCBSA\) Evidence Street reviews](#): Implantable Bone-Conduction and Bone-Anchored Hearing Aids, Cochlear Implant, Eustachian Tube Balloon Dilation, Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery for Chronic Rhinosinusitis, Middle Ear Implantable Hearing Aids, Steroid-Eluting Sinus Stents, and Treatment of Tinnitus. The updated 2020 otolaryngology evidence summaries, which will be published by BCBSA in March, will be used by member plans to determine coverage policies.

AAO-HNS Continues Advocacy on Balloon Ostial Dilation for Treatment of Chronic Rhinosinusitis

On February 5, [the AAO-HNS sent comments](#) to Blue Cross Blue Shield's Federal Employee Program (BCBS FEP) opposing their medical policy designating balloon ostial dilation (BSOD) as experimental/investigational. The comment letter highlights the AAO-HNS/F Position Statement and Clinical Consensus Statement on BSOD, as well as provides extensive literature support demonstrating the procedure is consistent with the standard of care.

First 50 Extended- Monthly Payment Option Available

We are so close! Help us reach our go04 Tf1 0 0 15(o)-8(se)13(!)-4()-4(H)5(e)-8(l)26(p)-8()17(u)-8(s)-4(r)7(e)13(a)-8

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