



MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY - HEAD & NECK SURGERY

# NEWSLETTER

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## *Message from the President*

It's that time of year again. The temperatures are dropping, the leaves are starting to change and, of course, football season is just around the corner. Watching "Swamp Kings" on Netflix had me thinking about one of my favorite sports quotes of all time, "Talent wins games, but teamwork wins championships." (Michael Jordan, 1994)

As I embark on my presidency for the MSO, I wanted to commend our past leadership and all our members for creating one of the top specialty-based organizations in the Commonwealth – a true example of teamwork generating success. On the following page are some of the many MSO activities from the past year and goals we hope to achieve this upcoming year. We have been very fortunate to have so many members work behind the scene to help contribute to MSO's mission and we hope to carry this momentum forward by engaging more members in our to participate in our many events and platforms.

I encourage all of you to join or renew your membership and help our team become stronger than ever. Practicing medicine is now more challenging and complicated than ever before. We need our organization to be active, to be strong and to be heard. We look forward to having you on the team!



## Advocacy

- Scheduled meetings with representatives from BC/BS and Point 32 representing the interests of Otolaryngologists and discussing updates regarding procedural codes, certification/prior authorization process and reimbursement policies.
- Participated in the Massachusetts Medical Society's House of Delegates, Committee on Interspecialty and the Medicare Contractor Advisory Council.
- Continued efforts to pass the Hearing Aid Bill through the Massachusetts State Legislature. This Bill now has sponsors from both the House and Senate and we will continue to gather more support from co-sponsors through the help of our lobbyists and MSO members.
- The proposed Modifier-25 Bill would prohibit insurers from inappropriately reducing physician reimbursement when this modifier is used. The MSO provided written testimony in support of this bill at the public hearing and submitted a letter of support to the Health Care Finance Committee. Currently this Bill is sponsored in both the House and Senate and is awaiting a public hearing on September 12th.

## Education

- In April this year, the MSO sponsored a *Business of Medicine* course in Boston for our young physicians and trainees to learn practical and essential tools to help launch their professional life. Dr. Jeffrey Brown coordinated the participation of dynamic speakers who offered great tips on contract negotiations, health insurance, billing and coding and malpractice and disability insurance. This well-attended seminar received very positive feedback from our future generation of Otolaryngologists.
- Every November, the MSO sponsors an educational seminar for our members. Please do mark the evening of Thursday, November 2nd on your calendar to join us for the MSO Fall Educational Meeting at the Harvard Faculty Club in Cambridge. The theme this year will be, "Does Common Practice Translate to Best Practice?" We will have 3 separate panels of experts tackling various common Otolaryngology patient-based problems to bridge the gap between *what is typically done* to *what should be done*.

## Networking

- This summer, in lieu of our annual Boston Red Sox game outing, the MSO hosted a Summer Social at the Empire Restaurant in Boston in July. Friends and colleagues from all generations were able to gather and enjoy a beautiful evening with great food and drinks. As part of the evening, the MSO donated meals to the Boston Rescue Mission, which feeds homeless veterans from Greater Boston.
- Keeping connected is a core objective for the MSO. This year, we will work on improving communication while developing new ways for members to interact with each other through our website and social medial platforms. Creating online discussion forums and a centralized "ENT" calendar are some of the proposed changes that will be evaluated. Stay tuned...

**MSO Summer Social was a  
great success in Boston!**

**JULY 22ND, 2023  
EMPIRE RESTAURANT**

