COVID-19 PRESENTATIONS

One of the highlights of our upcoming 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting will be a series of late-breaking presentations with ties to the COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to both current and future practice models for otolaryngologists. This year’s virtual format is more conducive to the inclusion of last-minute information and expansion of our Panel Presentations beyond what has traditionally been possible at live meetings. We are confident that the five presentations listed below will bring immediate and long-term value to you in your practice.

The Current Status of COVID-19 Testing, Transmission, and Immunity
Sunday, September 13, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
This panel, moderated by Ken Kazahaya, MD, MBA, Chair of the Infectious Disease Committee, will feature an epidemiologist, a virologist, and our Opening Ceremony keynote speaker, Joel Selanikio, MD. They will review the current status of testing, including types of testing, availability, reliability, and potential future testing options. The group will also discuss the different strains of the coronavirus and the effect of mutation on transmission and severity of disease, as well as the development and effectiveness of immunity. They will also offer their thoughts on the upcoming winter and spring as it relates to disease penetrance.

The Future of Telemedicine in Otolaryngology
Sunday, September 13, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Our Telemedicine Committee was reactivated last year and has had an extremely active first year under the leadership of Chair, Douglas M. Hildrew, MD, also the moderator of this panel. The pandemic necessitated an urgent adoption of telemedicine by otolaryngologists, who as a group were relatively inexperienced using the technology. The panel will review lessons learned from that experience as well as look into the future use, need for improved technology, how telemedicine fits into existing and future payment systems, and how it can increase access to specialty care.

The Future of Otolaryngology Practice
Monday, September 14, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
The “Future of Otolaryngology” Task Force, chaired by Gavin Setzen, MD, has been extremely active during the pandemic and provided our membership with timely updates and resources such as “Guidance for Return to Practice for Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.” The Task Force has also been looking at all aspects of current practice, both how the pandemic has changed practice now and ways to help shape how they will evolve in the future. The panel will review their thoughts on how future practice models will look, including consolidation, the future of the regulatory and payment environment, and the future of education and training and workforce issues.

Wellbeing: It’s Time for a 360° Approach
Tuesday, September 15, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Physician stress and burnout has been a recognized problem for the past several years and has received a great deal of attention and study. This year the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent social unrest have acted as multipliers to the pre-existing conditions facing physicians and the entire healthcare team. Jo A. Shapiro, MD, will moderate this panel as they take a full 360° look at the situation and how effective intervention can help mitigate symptoms and improve your health during this troublingly uncertain time.

Shifting Sands: The COVID-19 “Science” that Informs ENT Practice in the Fog of War
Monday, September 14, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
The healthcare crisis precipitated by the rapid spread of COVID-19 created the need for timely information across the medical community worldwide. This resulted in an avalanche of “scientific publications,” all with the intent of informing colleagues and improving care. Not all these publications were “created equal” in terms of scientific rigor and accuracy. C.W. David Chang, MD, Co-chair of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Committee, will moderate a panel that takes a critical look at the literature produced and the process necessary to assess the value. They will also look at alternative pathways that may be more effective in future times of need.