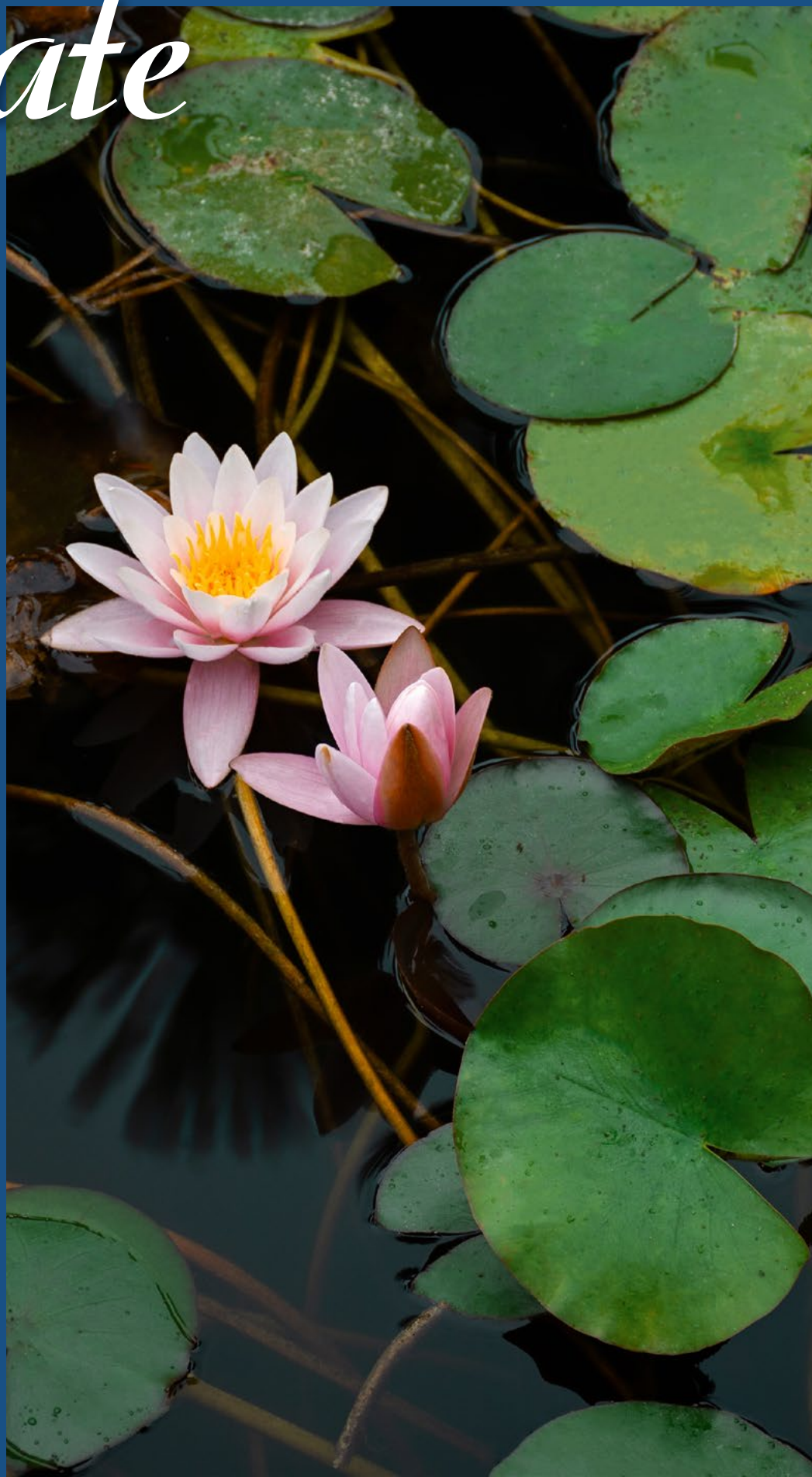


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Update is a publication of the
Society of Otorhinolaryngology
and Head-Neck Nurses, Inc.

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President's Message



Dear SOHN Members,

This edition of the *Update* takes on a slightly different format, focusing primarily on important information regarding our upcoming 50th Annual Congress in Boston. You'll also find details regarding proposed SOHN Bylaw revisions that will be presented for a vote during our Annual Business Meeting at Congress. I encourage all members to review these proposed changes prior to the meeting.

SOHN welcomes 11 new members into our organization in June and July from 10 different states. Welcome to Amanda Perry, Kelly Yale-Suda, Kelsie Gleason, Lisa Merritt, Oliver Walters, Sherilyn Laberinto-Lassio, Deborah Cramer, Elise Lubin, Kerry Saanen, Mariella Garza and Peggy Smith.

We are excited to have you within the organization.

As Congress approaches, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our Congress Planning Committee, faculty, reviewers, volunteers, and our Executive director and Affinity team. Their countless hours of planning and unwavering commitment have created what promises to be an exceptional educational experience.

I truly cannot wait to welcome you to Boston as we celebrate SOHN's 50th Anniversary. This year's program features outstanding evidence-based educational sessions, innovative hands-on skills courses, inspiring keynote speakers, health policy experts, cutting-edge research, poster presentations, and invaluable opportunities to connect with colleagues and our industry partners. Together, they have helped create what I believe will be one of the finest Congresses in SOHN's history.

In addition to an outstanding educational program, we have planned many special events to celebrate SOHN's remarkable 50-year legacy. We are honored to welcome many of our Past Presidents and recognize the leaders whose vision and dedication have shaped our organization over the past five decades. Congress will begin with a Welcome Reception on Thursday evening where you can register and mingle with colleagues with a special cheer. We look forward to celebrating our CORLN-certified nurses during a special Certification Recognition Breakfast. We are also featuring an International Panel to share their professional perspectives. The Hands-on Skills opportunities are outstanding. Based on member feedback, we are especially excited to introduce three new hands-on skills experiences: **Advanced Pediatric Office-Based Procedures for APRNs and PAs, Hands-on Pediatric Otoscopy: Building Essential Ear Assessment Skills, and Dizziness Decoded: Vestibular Assessment and Clinical Decision-Making.** And back by popular demand are many of our most popular hands-on workshop offerings, including Pharmacology Day, Advanced Otoscopy Skills, Scoping Skills, and the Tracheostomy & Laryngectomy Skills Lab.

Here's to celebrating 50 years of excellence—and to building the next 50 years together. I look forward to seeing you in Boston!

Warmly,

Wendy Lord Mackey, DNP, MSN, APRN-BC, CORLN, FAAN
President 2026–2027

Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nurses
Ear, Nose and Throat Nursing Foundation

Registration is Open for the 50th Annual SOHN Congress!



Register Today!

Feel free to print and post this poster or share with colleagues!

Committee Chair Updates

Bylaws Committee

Proposed SOHN Bylaws Revisions – Notice to the Membership

Each year, the SOHN Bylaws Committee carefully reviews our governing documents to ensure they continue to support the mission, growth, and long-term health of our organization. This year's review has resulted in several important proposed revisions designed to strengthen SOHN and position us for the future.

The primary focus of these proposed changes is to better align our membership categories with today's evolving healthcare workforce. Most notably, the revisions broaden the definitions of our Associate and Student membership categories, reinforcing our commitment to being an inclusive, welcoming organization for all professionals and students who contribute to otolaryngology care.

For your review, we have included a summary table comparing the current bylaws with the proposed revisions. A complete copy of the current SOHN Bylaws is also available on the SOHN website.

Current Bylaws	Suggested Revisions
SECTION 1: MEMBERSHIP Membership in this Society shall be a privilege and shall be contingent on compliance with requirements as specified in these bylaws. SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES Categories of membership in this Society shall be: Chapter Member, Full; Member at Large, Full; Chapter Member, Associate; Member at Large, Associate; Retired Chapter Member, Full; Retired Member at Large, Full; Retired Chapter Member, Associate, and Retired Member at Large, Associate; Student Member. A. Chapter members: A registered professional nurse or a licensed practical or vocational nurse with an interest in Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing living in an area where a chapter exists. 1. Full: A registered professional nurse with an interest in Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing. 2. Associate: A licensed practical or vocational nurse with an interest in Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing. 3. Retired: A registered nurse (Full) or licensed practical nurse/ vocational nurse (Associate) over the age of 62 who is retired from the health care industry with an interest in Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing. This category is also inclusive of the registered nurse or licensed practical nurse/ vocational nurse who is totally disabled and unable to work in the health care industry. B. Member at large: An Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nurse living in an area where a chapter does not exist. 1. Full: A registered professional nurse with an interest in Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing. 2. Associate: A licensed practical or vocational nurse with an interest in Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing. 3. Retired: A registered nurse (Full) or licensed practical nurse/ vocational nurse (Associate) over the age of 62 who is retired from the health care industry with an interest in Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing. This category is also inclusive of the registered nurse or licensed practical nurse/ vocational nurse who is totally disabled and unable to work in the health care industry. 4. Student Member: A pre-licensure nursing student with an interest in Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing. They will be non-voting members.	SECTION 1: CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP The Organization shall consist of the following categories of membership: 1. Full Members 2. Associate Members 3. Student Members 4. Retired Members SECTION 2: FULL MEMBERSHIP A. Eligibility Full Membership shall be open to individuals who are licensed nurses (Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, or equivalent) with an interest or practice in otolaryngology or related specialty. B. Rights and Privileges Full Members shall: 1. Have the right to vote on all matters brought before the membership; 2. Be eligible to hold elected office; 3. Be eligible to serve as chairs of committees; 4. Serve on committees and task forces; 5. Receive all benefits of membership as determined by the Board of Directors. SECTION 3: ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP A. Eligibility Associate Membership shall be open to individuals who have a professional interest in otolaryngology or related specialties, but who are not eligible for Full Membership; including but not limited to physician associates, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, physicians, Licensed Practical Nurses and other allied health professionals. B. Rights and Privileges Associate Members shall: 1. Be eligible to serve on committees, task forces, and advisory groups; 2. Be eligible to serve in appointed (non-elected) roles as determined by the Board; 3. Be eligible to serve as vice- chairs of committees; 4. No voting rights on matters of governance unless otherwise specified by the Board of Directors; 5. Not be eligible to hold elected office; 6. Receive such benefits of membership as determined by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3: REPRESENTATION A. Full members shall be eligible to hold office, serve on elected or appointed committees and exercise delegate power. B. Associate members shall be eligible to serve on appointed committees. C. Retired members shall be eligible to serve on elected or appointed committees.	SECTION 4: STUDENT MEMBERSHIP A. Eligibility Student Membership shall be open to individuals enrolled full time in an accredited nursing or health professional educational program. B. Rights and Privileges Student Members shall: 1. Be eligible to serve on committees or in designated student representative roles; 2. Receive such benefits of membership as determined by the Board of Directors; 3. Not have voting rights; 4. Not be eligible to hold elected office. SECTION 5: RETIRED MEMBERSHIP A. Eligibility Retired Membership shall be open to individuals who were previously eligible for Full or Associate Membership and are no longer actively practicing in their professional role. B. Rights and Privileges Retired Members shall: 1. Retain voting rights; 2. Not be eligible to hold elected office unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors; 3. Be eligible to serve on committees, task forces, and advisory roles; 4. Receive such benefits of membership as determined by the Board of Directors.
SECTION 5: DUES A. Annual national membership dues in this Society shall be determined by the Board of Directors subject to ratification by the House of Delegates. B. Chapter Dues: 1. 60 days prior to the member's renewal date an annual dues bill for chapter and national dues will be sent to each member. The member shall complete the form and return it together with chapter plus national dues to the treasurer by January 1. A late penalty will be charged for those dues received after January 1. When the dues are received the form will be processed, and a check for the amount of chapter dues forwarded to the chapter treasurer on a biannual basis. 2. Membership application forms for new members shall be sent annually, and as may be needed, to the chapter president or treasurer from the national treasurer. After the application has been processed by Headquarters, and a check for the amount of the chapter dues forwarded from the national treasurer to the chapter. C. Member dues: Renewal notices shall be sent to members at large by national treasurer in the same manner as for chapter members. National and chapter dues will be due by January 1st. D. Delinquency and reinstatement: 1. Any member whose dues are not received by March 1st shall be removed from the membership roster and all privileges of the Society are withdrawn. 2. Reinstatement will require application as a new member and payment of current dues.	SECTION 6: DUES A. Annual national membership dues in this Society shall be determined by the Board of Directors subject to ratification by the House of Delegates. B. Renewal notices shall be sent to members by SOHN headquarters and are due by January 1st. C. Delinquency and reinstatement: 1. Any member whose dues are not received by March 1st shall be removed from the membership roster and all privileges of the Society are withdrawn. 2. Reinstatement will require payment of current dues.

In accordance with the SOHN Bylaws, these proposed revisions have been reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors to move forward for consideration by the membership.

This notice serves as the official notification that the proposed bylaw amendments will be presented for a vote by the membership during the SOHN Annual Business Meeting held at the 50th Annual Congress in Boston on October 11, 2026.

We encourage all members to review the proposed revisions prior to the meeting. If you have any questions or would like clarification regarding any of the proposed changes, please contact SOHN Headquarters at info@sohnnurse.com.

National Education Committee

***Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.* –Chinese proverb**

...And we are celebrating the treasure of 50 years of SOHN!

2026 has been a very busy year for the National Education Committee. SOHN presented an engaging and insightful virtual Spring Seminar Series, advancing nursing knowledge for over 100 SOHN members. The Congress Planning Committee, under the leadership of our 2026 Congress Planning chair Sarah Holdsworth, has an exciting, engaging, and innovative program planned to advance your ORL nursing knowledge and skills. This year's Congress will celebrate SOHN's 50 years of legacy, innovation, and ORL nursing excellence... and we hope you will join the celebration in Boston October 8-11. Six exciting and engaging hands-on skills labs are planned. Additions to our growing skills lab offerings include a new vestibular skills lab and an office-based pediatric skills lab. Use the following link to access the Congress agenda, registration link, and other exciting details. <https://sohn.memberclicks.net/50th-annual-congress>

SOHN is currently amid our re-accreditation cycle with the ANCC. Our taskforce (Wendy Mackey, Maria Colandrea, Sharon Jamison, Laurie Newton, Vinciya Pandian and Karen Ulmer) has drafted our Self-Study document, which illustrates the intentional planning SOHN puts into each of our NCPD activities.

SOHN's virtual visit, an online evaluation with an ANCC appraiser team to verify, clarify and amplify the information provided in our Self-Study is scheduled for early August.

Take advantage of the education resources available on the SOHN website. Six "Tracheostomy/Laryngectomy Modules" are available for purchase... either individually or as a discounted "bundle" rate. There is also a "stand alone" module to aid you in diagnosing and treating patients with a chronic cough. Log in to the SOHN website as a member and then search under the "Professional Development" tab for the "SOHN Online Learning Center."

Please also remember to take advantage of the resources on the Nurse Planner resource page on the SOHN website! You will need to log in to the SOHN website as a member, and under the "Resources" tab, select "Nurse Planner." The 2026 versions of the SOHN education forms are uploaded to the website. *NOTE: there is a new activity planning template that is required for all SIG and chapter education activities. The new template combines several of our "old" forms into one streamlined document. Once we get used to using it, I think (hope!) that we will find it makes our NCPD documentation a bit easier. One major addition to the new template is that Nurse Planners/SIG leaders need to include an established nursing competency (and cite the source!)

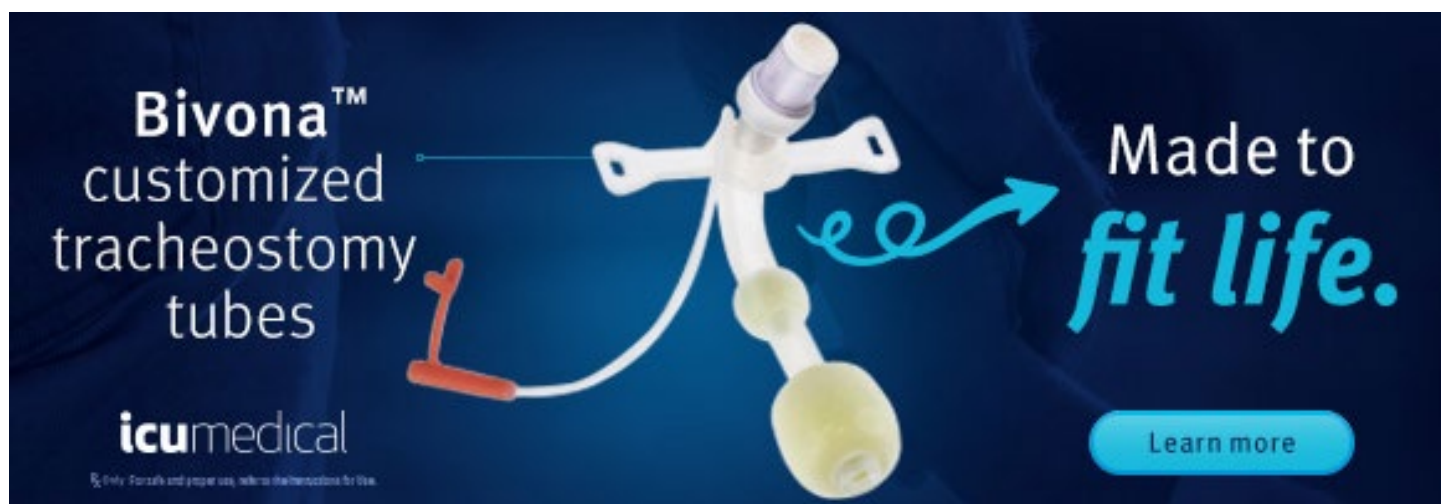
that aligns with each education activity. For your convenience, there is a new resource on the Nurse Planner Resource Page that lists many of the established competencies broken out into topic areas. Also included is a selection of resources related to nursing competencies. Please use these updated forms for all your chapter/SIG education activities. You can access the nurse planner resource page on the SOHN website: login to your SOHN account and click on <https://www.sohnnurse.com/nurse-planner>. The new "Nurse Planner Tutorial" is also posted on the Nurse Planner resource page. Reminder that all chapter nurse planners and SIG leaders will need to view the tutorial and complete the post-test (ANCC requirement).

Committee membership is a great way to advance your ORL professional growth! The NEC would welcome your participation and input... helping us to ensure that SOHN continues to grow and meet the needs of our members. We are actively recruiting new co-chairs for the adult day of the Spring Seminar as well as congress planning committee members. Please contact SOHN (info@sohnnurse.com) or Karen Ulmer (fandkulmer@gmail.com) if you are interested or would like more information.

Sincerely,

Karen Ulmer, MSN, RN, CORLN

Accreditation Provider Program Director



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Health Policy and Advocacy Committee

Katie Murphy, RN, President of the Massachusetts Nurses Association, will deliver the Health Policy keynote at SOHN's 50th Annual Congress. Murphy leads the largest union and professional association of registered nurses and healthcare professionals in Massachusetts, representing 26,000 members across 85 healthcare facilities. Before her election as President in 2020, she served on the

MNA Board of Directors for over a decade and has spent even longer advocating for nurses, healthcare workers, and patients. She has also held appointed and elected office in Framingham, MA, and serves on local, statewide, and national commissions and committees spanning labor, healthcare, and policy. Murphy brings decades of firsthand clinical experience to her advocacy, including her work as a Registered Nurse

in the Special Pathogens Unit at Brigham and Women's Hospital during the pandemic and her continued role in the Medical ICU today. She holds an Associate of Science in Nursing from Vermont College, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Boston University, and a Master of Science in Nursing from Framingham State, and is certified as a Critical Care Nurse.

Practice and Research Committee

Dear Colleagues,
The Practice and Research Committee is excited to share updates concerning current projects and upcoming opportunities for participation with SOHN Practice and Research. Our committee continues to work closely with the AAO-HNS Guideline Taskforce. SOHN is proud to add our endorsement to the upcoming publication for Clinical Practice Guideline Update for Bell's Palsy. Jaclyn Wirkus, DNP, APRN, CORLN represented SOHN on the CPG development phase, while Jessica Holly, DNP and Tiffany Ellis, DNP both served as reviewers of the proposed guideline update. Be on the lookout for the update in coming months.

We are tallying the results of the SOHN Membership Survey completed earlier this year. We look forward to sharing these results with you at the annual congress meeting this October. We appreciate the feedback you provided so we can better understand your needs and interests to shape the future direction of our committee and society. Finally, we invite all members interested in getting involved with our committee to join us at our next in-person meeting during the upcoming SOHN Congress meeting in Boston. It will be a wonderful opportunity to network and share ideas. The committee is also sponsoring an exciting Research Workshop session. This will be an interactive group

where participants will bring their current practice issues to brainstorm and work with research committee members to develop the beginning stages of a quality improvement project. No experience is required. We would love to have your participation to work towards practice changing innovations, SOHN Journal publications, and congress podium and poster presentations in 2027!
We look forward to connecting in person in Boston for the 50th anniversary celebration!
Warm regards,
Tiffany Ellis, DNP, ANP-C, CORLN
Chair, Research and Practice Committee

Specialty Interest Group (SIG) Committee

Upcoming SIG Sessions		
Allergy/Sinus SIG	August 11, 7-8pm EST	Expanding the Role of Xylitol and Non-Antibiotic Therapies in Chronic Rhinosinusitis Management
APRN SIG	December 2, 7-8pm EST	Twelve Steps to Maximizing Your Professional Development

We also look forward to SIG networking at Congress in Boston. Stay tuned for more details.

Awards and Scholarship Committee

Celebrating Excellence at SOHN Congress

One of the most meaningful traditions of our Annual Congress is the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the incredible individuals who make SOHN such a remarkable organization. From clinical excellence and volunteer service to research, education, and leadership, Congress provides an opportunity to honor the achievements and contributions of our members while inspiring the next generation of otolaryngology nurses.

Award Nominations Are Open

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized?

Nominate a colleague...or nominate yourself!

Anyone may submit a nomination, and we encourage you to help us recognize the outstanding individuals who make a difference every day.

Nominations are currently being accepted for:

- Clinical Excellence Award – Honoring a member who exemplifies outstanding clinical expertise, compassionate patient care, and professionalism while serving as a role model for others.
- Honor Award – Recognizing members whose sustained volunteer service, leadership, and dedication have strengthened SOHN and advanced our profession.
- Outstanding Service Award – SOHN's highest service honor, recognizing extraordinary leadership and lasting contributions to the Society.

Nomination Deadline: August 11, 2026

Complete award information, eligibility requirements, and nomination forms are available on the SOHN website.

Recognition is one of the greatest gifts we can give our colleagues. Take a moment to celebrate those who inspire you through their leadership, compassion, service, scholarship, and commitment to excellence. Together, we continue to build a stronger SOHN community by recognizing the remarkable people who make it possible.

Wendy Mackey

Awards Committee Chair

Celebrate 50 Years of Excellence in ORL Nursing

Join the \$50 for 50 Years Campaign!

Together, we honor our legacy, support today's professionals, and build the next 50 years of excellence.

Thank you to the following individuals for your contributions:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| • Ann Luther | • Kim Pollock |
| • Carolyn Waddington | • Linda Calandra |
| • Deena Hollingsworth | • Linda Marks |
| • Denise Wood | • Lisa Lever |
| • Erin Ross | • Maria Colandrea |
| • Helene Krouse | • Sarah Holdsworth |
| • Jaclyn Wirkus | • Sharon Jamison |
| • Kari McConnell | • Wendy Mackey |



Help us reach our goal and [donate today!](#)

Certification Examination in Otorhinolaryngology And Head-Neck Nursing



Next Testing Dates

Application Deadline- September 2, 2026

Testing Window- October 3-17, 2026

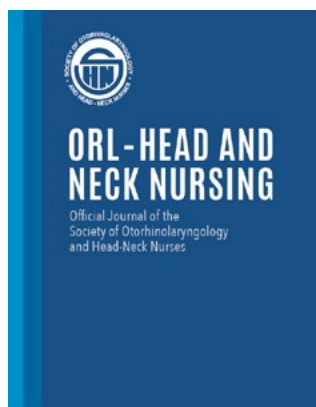
For more information: [NCBOHN](#)

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Core Curriculum for Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing – 3rd Edition



This text is designed to be used by ORL-HN nurses. The book provides an overview of all aspects of nursing practice for the patient with an otolaryngologic problem or abnormality. It provides a foundation of knowledge for generalist and advanced practice nurses working in every ORL-HN practice setting. In addition, it serves as a basic text for students, nurses, administrators and nurse educators.

The newest edition includes updated content, new chapters, and is accessible by electronic download only. That means minimal wait times to receive your electronic copy, easier accessibility, the ability to search for key terms and phrases, and the ability for purchasers to print out as needed.

Purchase the Core Curriculum Textbook – 3rd Edition

SOHN / ENT NF 2026 Dates & Deadlines

Poster Submission September 1, 2026 Research and EBP Practice Grants..... Open Year-Round
Midwinter Attendee Application..... November 1, 2026

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming SOHN / ENT NF Events

Spring and Congress Meetings

Paid Event – All Members are Invited to Attend

50th SOHN / ENT-NF Annual Congress and Nursing Symposia Oct 8th–11th

Annual Business Meetings

All Members are Invited to Attend

- October 11th (Congress)

SOHN Board Meetings

Board Members and Invited Committee Chairs Only

- October 7th (Congress)

Editorial Board Meetings

Board Members Only

- November 17th

Health Policy and Advocacy Committee Meetings

All Members are Invited to Attend

- August 25th
- October 9th (Congress)

ENT-NF Board Meetings

Board Members and Invited Committee Chairs Only

- August 19
- October 7 (Congress)

Membership Enhancement Committee Meetings

All Members are Invited to Attend

- October 9th (Congress)
- November 24th

National Education Committee Meetings

All Nurse Planners are Invited to Attend

- December 1st

Social Media Committee Meetings

Committee Members Only

- August 25th
- September 29th
- October 27th
- November 24th
- December 29th

Awards Committee Meetings

Committee Members Only

- August 4th

Congress Planning Committee Meetings

Committee Members Only

- August 4th
- August 18th
- September 1st
- September 15th
- September 29th
- October 6th
- November 3rd
- December 1st

Research and Practice Committee Meetings

Committee Members Only

- October 9th (Congress)

Interested in joining a member-only committee? Contact info@sohnnurse.com.

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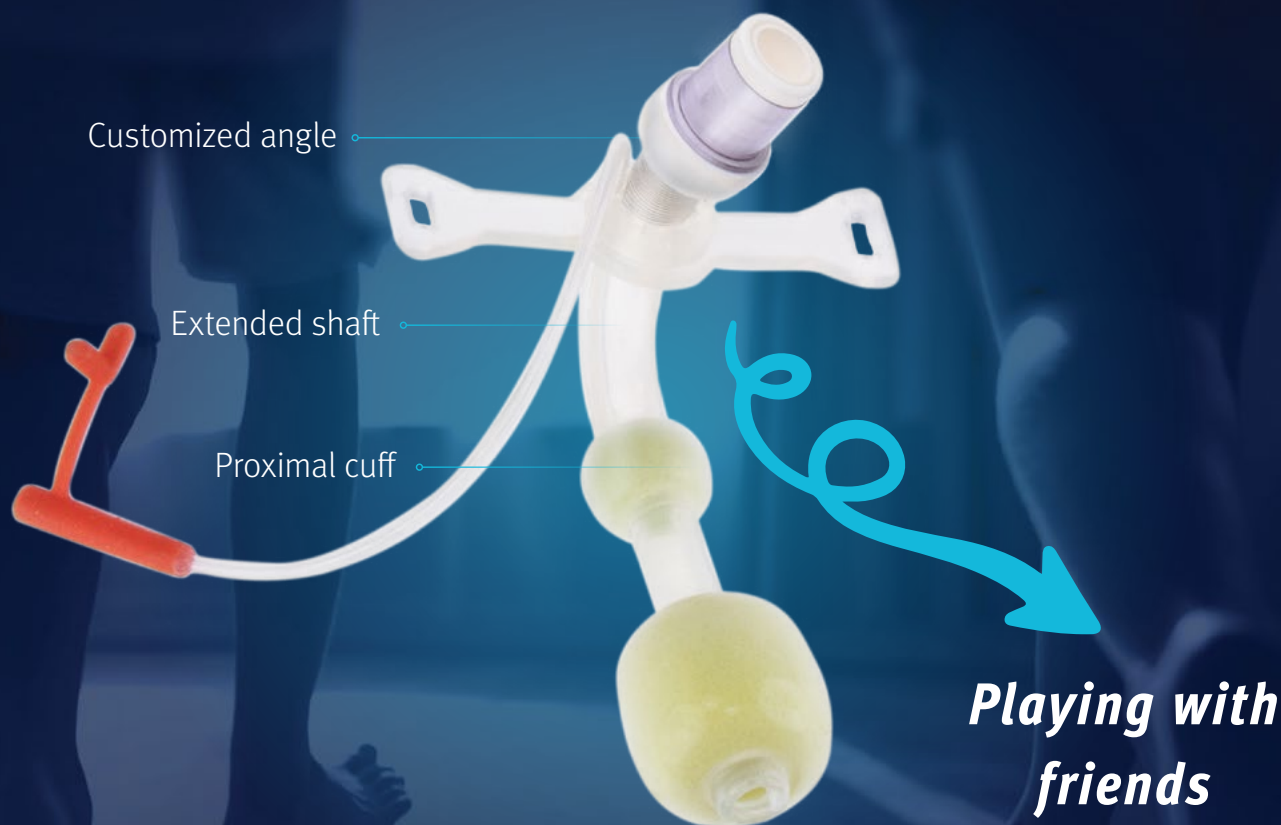


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