



SHORT CUTS



John P. Laurent, MD, Editor

March 1996

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Chairman's Message

*Submitted by Harold L. Rekate, MD,
Chairman, Joint Section on Pediatric
Neurological Surgery of the AANS and CNS*

REVIEW OF THE WINTER PEDIATRIC MEETING

If the assessment forms that were turned in following the 1995 Annual Meeting in Pasadena are to be believed, the meeting hosted by Gordon McComb, MD and his wife, Rhoda, was a complete success. The quality of the presented papers was extremely good, and many were felt to be helpful to the practices of those attending the meeting.

Respondents appreciated the effort that went into the breakfast seminars on "Neuroendoscopy," "Frameless Stereotaxis," and "Surviving Managed Care." As a result of the feedback from those attending, the use of prepared programs such as these to update an area of importance to the attendee, whether it be new technology or economics and politics, will continue to be a part of our annual program.

On behalf of the Section, I wish to thank Dr. McComb for putting on an excellent program. Special thanks also goes to Bruce Kaufman, MD, who maintained proper documentation so that the meeting would be granted CME credit.

The work of the Annual Program Committee has grown considerably in the past few years and consequently

will be restructured as the Annual Program and Continuing Education Committee to ensure close interaction between the meeting planners and those who are responsible for obtaining CME credit for the meeting.

Those of us who are responsible for the planning of the educational programs of the Section cannot over-emphasize the importance of the meeting assessment forms. If we are to make meaningful change or congratulate ourselves on the lack of need for change, we must decide based upon feedback from our members.

CPT CODING QUESTIONNAIRES

Immediate-past chairman, Arthur Marlin, MD, remains the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee to revamp the pediatric neurosurgical sections of the CPT code. Vignettes have been supplied which will deal with the management of hydrocephalus in children, and a whole new set of codes has been formed dealing with neuroendoscopy. A questionnaire will be sent to various knowledgeable neurosurgeons which will help to establish the validity of these modifications, as well as to help establish unit values for the work involved. This is an extremely important

project and deserves all our support. Anyone who would be willing to help in this endeavor by taking the time to fill out these questionnaires (which will take between 12 and 20 hours of effort in a one-week period) should contact Dr. Marlin directly at

Methodist Plaza
4499 Medical Dr., #397
San Antonio, Texas 78229
(210) 615-1218

SECTION PARTICIPATION AT AANS 1996 ANNUAL MEETING

This year's Donald D. Matson Lecture at The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) Annual Meeting will be given by Harold J. Hoffman, MD, on Tuesday, April 30, 1996 at 2:45 p.m., and will be entitled "Separation of Cephalopagus Twins." A special seminar will follow moderated by Derek Bruce, MD, featuring work by Gordon McComb, MD, and David Moss, MD, entitled "Diagnosis and Management of Occipital Plagiocaphaly."

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1996 JOINT SECTION MEETING

The 1996 Annual Meeting of the Joint Section will be held in Charleston, South Carolina on December 3-7 and will be hosted by Bruce Storrs, MD. The 1997 meeting is slated for New Orleans, Louisiana, and the date is tentatively set for December 9-13. The meeting will be hosted jointly by Joseph Nadell, MD, and Richard Coulon, MD. The 1998 meeting will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, and will be hosted by Thomas Luerksen, MD.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Education Committee of the Joint Section, under the direction of Dr. Coulon, is developing two brochures intended for the education of our patients and their referring physicians. The topic of one of the pamphlets is the Arnold-Chiari Malformation (written by Dr. Coulon), and the other pamphlet is on the Dandy-Walker Malformation (written by Andrew Parent, MD). It is intended that these will be available in bulk at a low cost for distribution from the offices of our members. The Section is working with the AANS Publications Committee to produce them.

The primary goal of the Joint Section is educating neurosurgeons in dealing with problems of the management of the child. Therefore, we are planning educational programs of our own at our annual meeting and in conjunction with the AANS Annual Meeting and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) Annual Meeting. We are approaching the other Joint Sections within organized neurosurgery in an attempt to produce joint interactive programs to update the pediatric neurosurgeon in the other subspecialty disciplines within neurosurgery, as well as the general neurosurgeon on the important advances in pediatric neurosurgery that have an impact on their care of children. We would appreciate receiving any suggestions or guidance along the way in achieving these goals.

UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AANS ANNUAL MEETING



AANS/CNS Joint Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Tuesday, April 30, 2:45 PM-5:30 PM

This session will open with a special lecture on the separation of cephalopagus twins which will be followed by a symposium on the diagnosis and management of occipital plagiocephaly and then the Shulman Award Presentation. The Section's Business Meeting will conclude this session.



Pediatric Interest Breakfast Seminars

Treatment of Pediatric Spinal Cord Injuries (#107)

Monday, April 29, 7:30 AM-9:30 AM

Moderator: Dachling Pang, MD
 Panelists: John A. Grant, MD, Marion L. Walker, MD, Timothy B. Mapstone, MD, Joseph R. Madsen, MD

This seminar will include the peculiar biomechanics of the juvenile spine; the pathophysiology and pathomechanics of the pediatric spinal cord and vertebral column injuries; their clinical presentations and radiographic features; and guidelines for management of different lesions. Attendees will learn to understand the biomechanics of the juvenile spine and the pathophysiology of spinal cord and vertebral column injuries.

Pediatric Brain Tumors (#203)

Tuesday, April 30, 7:30 AM-9:30 AM

Moderator: Robert A. Sanford, MD
 Panelists: Bruce A. Kaufman, MD, Karin M. Muraszko, MD, Harold Hoffman, MD, Alan R. Cohen, MD

This seminar will discuss new techniques in the management of pediatric brain tumors. Attendees will be able to assess the use of chemotherapy; discuss the staging of pediatric brain tumors; and be familiar with the use of frameless stereotaxy in the management of pediatric brain tumors.



**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JOINT PEDIATRIC SECTION OF THE AANS/CNS
DECEMBER 6, 1995**

The meeting was called to order by Harold Rekate, MD. Minutes of the previous meeting were presented and approved. The Treasury Report showed we had a total worth of \$189,266. The amount in the General Operating Fund is \$71,582. The Shulman Award Fund is \$57,037 and the Matson Award Fund is \$60,586.

The annual meeting report was given by Gordon McComb, MD, who advised that with 200 members being registered, this would be a very successful meeting.

Committee reports follow:

The Committee working on Family Education Pamphlets reported that there were two 25–50 page pamphlets under development on Arnold-Chiari and Dandy-Walker. Publishing costs would be between \$5,000 – \$8,000 and members would pay \$1.00 each for copies of these.

The Membership Committee approved the following new Section members:

- Mark Dias, MD
- Ronald Wilson, MD
- David Adelson, MD
- David Jimenez, MD
- Ian Pollack, MD
- Douglas Brockmeyer, MD
- Joel Winer, MD
- Mark Luciano, MD

- Sten Hakanson, MD
- John Zovickian, MD
- Jeffrey Wisoff, MD
- Thomas Pittman, MD
- Michael Muhonen, MD
- Robert Simonds, MD
- Laurence Kleiner, MD
- Rosemaria Gennuso, MD
- John Miller, MD
- Ira Abbott, MD
- Michael Partington, MD
- John Ruge, MD
- Steven Schneider, MD
- Karin Bierbrauer, MD
- Antonio Prats, MD

The CME Credit Sub-Committee led by Bruce Kaufman, MD, presented educational goals and an approved mission statement. Also presented were changes to the By-laws to be presented to the AANS and CNS.

At the request of the Section's Head Injury Guidelines Committee, headed by Tom Luerssen, MD, the disbursement of approximately \$3,000 to match the Trauma Section's contribution to support publication of *Guidelines for Severe Head Injuries in Children* was approved.

Neurosurgery On-Call Committee headed by Mark Dias, MD, did not report.

CPT Reform Committee was pre-

sented by Dr. Rekate since Arthur Marlin, MD, was not present. It was reported that more members were needed in order to facilitate the reformation of CPT codes.

The Nominating Committee recommended Rick Abbott, MD, and Joe Piatt, MD, for 2-year terms as members-at-large.

The Rules and Regulations Committee appointed Alan Cohen, MD, as Chairman.

New Business: Robin Humphreys, MD, recommended to the Executive Committee that a distinguished service award be made available to all individuals that had contributed to *Pediatric Neurosurgery*. Dr. Rekate assigned an Ad Hoc Committee to review this process.

Discussion was held concerning the host city and whether to use resort areas for the meetings in the host city. This was tabled.

Terence Myles, MD, was approved as the New Membership Chairman. The CME Credit and Annual Program and Medical Education Committee will be headed by Dr. Kaufman with Rick Boop, MD, as Co-Chairman.

Meeting was adjourned.

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**MINUTES FOR THE BUSINESS MEETING
JOINT PEDIATRIC SECTION OF THE AANS/CNS
DECEMBER 6, 1995**

Submitted by John P. Laurent, MD

This meeting was called to order by Harold Rekate, MD. The format, content and approvals were as stated above in the Executive Committee Meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

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Joint Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery
of The American Association of Neurological Surgeons
and Congress of Neurological Surgeons
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