



Joint Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery
of The American Association of Neurological Surgeons
and Congress of Neurological Surgeons
22 South Washington Street, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068-4287

SHORT CUTS

John P. Laurent, MD, Editor

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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*

Status Approved

The Executive Committee of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) has accepted the Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery of The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) as a joint section of both organizations. This acceptance is contingent on a few book-keeping changes in the bylaws. These bylaw changes have been published on pages 2-3 in this issue of *Short Cuts*. A joint section status more thoroughly fulfills the mission of the Section to be a vehicle for the continuing education of all neurosurgeons who participate in the care of children with neurological and neurosurgical diseases. We expect that the bylaw changes will be implemented at the business meeting in Pasadena, and we appreciate the work that Lee Sutton, MD, has done to facilitate this process.

CPT Coding System Assessed

Arthur Marlin, MD, began an assessment of the CPT coding system with specific reference to the appropriateness of these codes to the practice of pediatric neurology and the neurosurgical management of children. This project got underway while Arthur Marlin, MD, was the Section Chairman, and it involves input from a large number of neurosurgeons committed to the care of children.

The coding project has become a joint function of the Pediatric Section and

the American Society of Pediatric Neurosurgeons. A significant number of procedures performed in pediatric neurosurgery are not reflected in the CPT code book, and a larger number are significantly different in scope when performed on children, as opposed to those performed on adults.

Monographs Created

The Section is also involved in the creation of monographs covering conditions commonly encountered in pediatric neurosurgery. The responsibility for the production of these monographs is in the hands of Richard Coulon, Jr., MD.

These monographs are primarily intended to be resources for patients and their families, but could also be helpful to pediatricians and other primary care physicians who serve as gatekeepers for our patients. Manuscripts covering "Chiari Malformations" by Richard A. Coulon, Jr., MD, and "Dandy Walker Malformations" by Andrew Parent, MD, have already been submitted to members of the Section's Executive Council for their input.

Pediatric Section Annual Meeting

The Section's 1995 Annual Meeting will be held at the Ritz Carlton Huntington Hotel in Pasadena, California, December 6-9, 1995. Gordon McComb, MD, and his wife, Rhoda, will be the hosts. Our keynote address as well as the 'Paolo Raimondi Memorial Lecture' will be delivered by Robert Pudenz, MD, and will cover the history of the development of the ventriculoatrial shunt.

1995 CNS Annual Meeting in San Francisco

The pediatric program, anticipating slightly the joint section status, will have a somewhat greater presence than it has had in the past. There will be a full morning session at the Plenary Session devoted to pediatric neurosurgical issues and a full afternoon devoted to updating the education of general neurosurgeons treating children and pediatric neurosurgeons. I wish to thank Timothy Mapstone, MD, who is a member of the CNS Scientific Program Committee and also an active pediatric neurosurgeon, for facilitating this process. This year, the Congress meeting is taking place at the same time and in the same venue that the American Academy of Pediatrics meeting is being held. It is hoped that there will be a significant intermixing of information from these two organizations at this time.

Summary

Finally, as the Pediatric Section approaches joint status, we would like to emphasize that the education of all those who treat children with neurological disorders is one of our highest priorities. We would like to receive input on this subject, as well as from neurosurgeons who care for children (only part-time) as a part of a more general neurosurgical practice. We would like to know what the Section can do to improve your ability as neurologists and neurosurgeons to care for pediatric patients. Your continued interest in the Section is appreciated, and your help in planning the Section's activities is encouraged.

Proposed Amendments—1995

Article II: Membership

Current Bylaws

Section 1.A. Active Member. Active Members shall be neurological surgeons who have been certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery or who are Certificants of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons (Neurosurgery) of Canada, and who are residents of the United States of America or its Territories, or of Canada, at the time of election to membership, who give proof of good professional standing, and who hold unrestricted licenses to practice medicine in the United States of America or its Territories, or one of the Provinces of Canada; unless by unanimous vote of the Board, a specific exception to this rule be deemed advisable.

Proposed Amendments

Section 1.A. Active Member. Active Members shall be neurological surgeons who have been certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery, or who are Certificants of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons (Neurosurgery) of Canada, *or of the Mexican Council of Neurological Surgery, A.C., of the Republic of Mexico*, and are residents of the United States of America, its Territories, or one of the Provinces of Canada *or of the Republic of Mexico*, at the time of election to membership, who give proof of good professional standing, and who hold unrestricted licenses to practice medicine in the United States of America, its Territories, or one of the Provinces of Canada, *or of the Republic of Mexico, and who are actively engaged in the practice of neurological surgery*, unless by unanimous vote of the Board, a specific exception to this rule be deemed advisable.

Explanation

This amendment contains two components: the first permits Certificants of the Mexican Council of Neurological Surgery, A.C., of the Republic of Mexico, to become Active Members; the second stipulates that all applicants

(U.S., Canadian, and Mexican alike) must be practicing neurological surgery at the time of application, as this reflects the true intent of the Active category of membership. Inclusion of Mexican neurosurgeons as Active Members would ensure that the AANS is *truly the* spokesman for North American neurosurgery.

Article II: Membership

Current Bylaws

Section 1. F. International Associate. International Associates shall be individuals who reside beyond the United States of America and Canada, and who do not qualify as Active (Foreign) Members. They should be proposed and chosen because of their national and international recognition, devotion, and contribution to neurological science.

Proposed Amendment

Section 1.F. International Associate. International Associates shall be individuals who reside beyond the United States of America, Canada, *and the Republic of Mexico*, and who do not qualify as Active (Foreign) Members. *They shall be neurological surgeons who are certified or recognized by the peer process review in their native country.* They shall be proposed and chosen because of their national and international recognition, devotion and contribution to neurological science.

Explanation

By virtue of the amendment to Section 1.A., the Mexican neurosurgeons are eliminated from the International Associates category of membership. This provision also provides greater assurance that candidates for international Associate membership will be of the highest caliber.

Article X: Application and Election to Membership

Current Bylaws

Section 1. Candidates for International

Associate Membership shall be proposed in writing by an International Associate or Active (Foreign) Member and confirmed in writing. The proposal shall be submitted to the Adjunct Subcommittee on International Associate Membership.

Proposed Amendments

Section 1. Candidates for International Associate Membership shall be proposed in writing by an International Associate or Active (Foreign) Member and confirmed in writing by *three AANS Members, at least one of whom shall be an AANS Active, Active (Foreign), or International Associate Member from the applicant's country, or an individual of international stature in that country or geographic region.* The proposal shall be submitted to the Adjunct Subcommittee on International Associate Membership *at least 30 days prior to the Subcommittee's meeting at which the proposal will be considered, and must be accompanied by a curriculum vitae written in English.*

Explanation

Further assurance of high-quality candidates is provided by the increase in the number of confirmants from two to three, one of whom must be from the candidate's country or region, thereby being knowledgeable about the candidate. Provision of a *curriculum vitae* in English which is submitted in a timely manner will facilitate review of the candidate by the Subcommittee on International Associates.

Article XVIII: Order of Business

Current Bylaws

Section 1. The Order of Business of the Annual Business Meeting of the Association shall be as follows:

- A. The Call to Order
- B. The Reading and Approval of the Minutes
- C. Unfinished Business
- D. Reports of the Officers and Committees
- E. Election and Report of

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