Nose news update



American Rhinologic Society - Volume 23:1 Fall 2003



Don Lanza, MD, FARS President

Hooray for an active and involved ARS membership! At this time a record number of members are involved in the day to day functioning of this society. It is this member involvement that has transformed this organization and made it so exciting to be a part of. In this, my last presidential report in Nose News, there are many ARS activities I must share with you. These include reports on CPT codes, Mayo Clinic patents, ARS Awards, and important dates and locations.

First, Fred Kuhn and I were your ARS representatives during a May meeting with members of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Along with AAO-HNS emissaries (Dr. Richard Wasguespack, Dr. David Neilsen, Additionally, the Patient Advocacy Committee continues to work hard over several issues regarding the CPT-code 61795 that describes stereotaxic navigation during sinus surgery. With legal advice from Beth Roberts (Hogan & Hartson), Michael Sillers, MD and Joe Jacobs, MD prepared a request to CMS to add 61795 to their list of appropriate codes used in ambulatory care centers. The decision is pending. Again, this same committee has also worked hard through the AAO-HNS to identify the appropriate practice expense of non-physician work associated with office endoscopy codes. For more information on these activities please see Dr. Sillers', "Patient Advocacy Report" in this issue.

In an unrelated issue, recently, a broad and sweeping "methods patent" was given to the Mayo Clinic for the procedure of topically applying all existing antifungal agents (including macrolides) to treat rhinosinusitis, otitis media, asthma and gastroenterological disease. Some physicians hold that such a patent on a procedure is a violation of the Hippocratic Oath. In an April 29th issue of the Wall Street Journal (WSJ), "Dr. Ponikau insist(ed) that some veteran doctors are stuck in old textbooks and want to keep up demand for sinus surgery. The procedure, which removes sinus tissue to give a patient more breathing room, can cost \$10,000 or more." Many in our ARS membership found this public stance outrageous and defamatory of

ARS 1954-2004: FIFTY YEARS OF RHINOLOGY

New York City, September 17-18, 2004

Teresa Lee, and Dr. Jim Denneny), we met to discuss the future of 31237, the CPT-code for endoscopic polypectomy, biopsy and post-operative debridement. In addition we, the ARS, brought our legal council, Laura Loeb, (from the "FESS mess") to assist with our position. CMS requested this meeting because certain insurers have contacted them complaining that 31237 is too broad and includes many separate procedures. Additionally, Massachusetts Blue Cross/Blue Shield (MBCBS) stated that documentation for proper use of 31237 by otolaryngologists was limited and not consistent with the level of work described in vignettes associated with this code. Thus, CMS is considering a potential split in the CPT code 31237 into G-code which is similar to the S-code in Massachusetts. This S-2343 code currently describes a limited procedure of suctioning in the anterior middle meatus during post-operative endoscopic debridement. During this meeting with CMS, we furnished evidence that 31237 is not being over utilized relative to the number of ethmoidectomies performed annually. We also pointed out that as a result of improved postoperative care associated with 31237, that there could be a decline in operating room revision sinus procedures. This is despite the fact that our patient populations with chronic unremitting sinus disease appears to be growing. Thus, we recommended no change in the existing code. At the conclusion, CMS agreed to investigate and discuss the issues further with the ARS & the AAO-HNS. Currently we hold that the Massachusetts S-code is improperly worded (Nose New Vol. 21:3 pg 6 Summer 2002) and open to misinterpretation by insurers. Furthermore, the 1993 recommendations and surveys were not given appropriate consideration in assigning relative work value to that code by MBCBS. Additionally, listed as a bilateral code, S-2343, does not take into account that a formal and extensive debridement/polypectomy could be carried out on one side while a more limited procedure is performed on the contralateral side.

otolaryngologists who work hard in the best interests of science and their patients. Thus, we believed a response to the WSJ was warranted on not only on behalf of our membership but more importantly for our patients who are mislead to believe that the Mayo Clinic has a developed "a cure" for rhinosinusitis. In this issue of Nose News we present a copy of the ARS letter sent and published in the WSJ in June 2003.

On a much more positive note, congratulations belong to, Marc A. Tewfik, B.Sc. and his co-authors for their excellent bench research project "Nitric Oxide and Collagen Expression in Allergic Upper Airway Disease," which was recognized with the ARS Research Award at the COSM in Nashville. The Cottle Award, oriented towards clinical research, will be issued at the start of the Annual Business Meeting in Orlando along with The International Rhinology Research Award. The deadline for manuscripts to be received for these awards is August 1st, 2003. Congratulations also belong

to Joel R. Perloff, MD (Univ. of PA) & Alex G. Bien, MD (Univ. of Nebraska) for receiving The ARS Resident Research Grants, for their research proposals called "Evaluation of Biofilms in Chronic Rhinosinusitis" and "Nasal Mucosal Sensitivity in Young and Old", respectively. Each was valued at \$8,000.00. At COSM, the ARS nominating committee (cont'd)



Annual Meeting, Orlando, September, 2003

Your ARS

Donald C. Lanza, M.D. President

James A. Hadley, M.D. President-Elect

Paul H. Toffel, M.D. Immediate Past President

> Fred Kuhn, M.D. Past President

Joseph Jacobs, M.D. First Vice President

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Marvin P. Fried, M.D. Secretary

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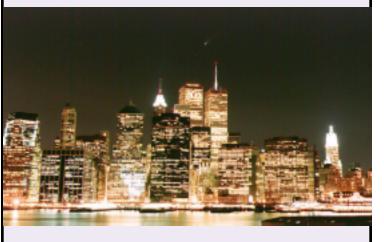
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MAKE PLANS NOW!



50th Anniversary ARS Meeting

September 17-18, 2004 New York Hilton, New York City Honored Guest: David W. Kennedy



Do you want to stay at the fore-front of rhino-logic knowl-edge?

Are you are concerned about patient advocacy issues such as 31237 a n d 61795?

FOR YOUR PATIENTS-FOR YOU

Join at www.american-rhinologic.org today

JOIN THE ARS

WHAT'S AHEAD?

August 1, 2003

September 20, 2003

October 23-26, 2003

November 1, 2003

December 6, 2003

December 15, 2003

April 30, 2004

September 17-18, 2004

Deadline for Cottle Award Submission

ARS Fall Meeting, Orlando, FL

IRS/ISIAN Seoul, South Korea

Abstracts Due, Spring Meeting, 2004

ARS Winter Board Meeting, NYC

CORE Grant Letter of Intent Due

ARS Spring Meeting, Phoenix, AZ

ARS Golden Anniversary Fall Meeting, NYC



The American Rhinologic Society would like to thank Gyrus ENT for partnering with the ARS Newsletter for 2003

PRESIDENT'S LETTER (CONTINUED)

DONALD LANZA, MD, FARS

motioned for Drs. Steven Marks and Winston Vaughan to become members of the Board of Directors on September 21st. Howard Levine, MD was proposed to become the next 2nd Vice President and chair of the Committee on Committees.

at the Peabody Hotel in Orlando, Florida. Jim Hadley, reports that our International Guest of Honor, will be Professor Claus Bachert, from Belgium. Prof. Bachert has advanced research on staphylococcus superantigens to determine if they could play a significant role in causing and sustaining chronic rhinosinusitis.

The entire annual meeting will benefit from an Audience Response System and you can register for the meeting on-line at www.american-rhinologic.org. The Cottle awards and International Rhinology Research Awards will be named at the conclusion of the scientific session on Saturday, Sept. 20th, 2003.

The ARS' 2nd Annual CME Dinner Symposium entitled, "The Inflammatory Pathway in Chronic Rhinosinusitis Pathophysiology: Present and Future Therapeutic Considerations", is hosted and moderated by Joe Jacobs, our 1st Vice President. We will have presentations by Drs. Dan Hamilos, Jens Ponikau and Brad Marple. It will be held at 6 pm at the Peabody Hotel on Saturday Sept 20th. Again, we are fortunate to have this evening fully funded by an unrestricted educational grant from Merck & Co. Inc. Seating will be limited and offered on a first come, first serve basis (with preference to our ARS members) through our online "special event registration" module.

This year's Annual ARS meeting will be held Saturday, September 20th



Anniversary Celebration from Sept. 17-18th, 2004 at the Hilton New York, NYC when David W. Kennedy, will be our society's Honored Guest.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our members for your continued support of this organization. (Anticipate your dues notices for the fiscal year 2004 to be received in November 2003....Yuk!). Additionally, if you are not a member, but are practicing rhinology and believe in the direction of this society we need your support. You can join by obtaining a membership application at our website www.american-rhinologic.org.

> As I close, I have many to thank. Thanks go to Marshall Strome, MD (Chair, Otolaryngology, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation) for being supportive of the time I have needed to fulfill my presidential responsibilities this year. Thanks belong to Drs. Jonas Johnson, Jennifer Derebery, and David Nielsen of the AAO-HNS and Dr. Bruce Gordon and Jami Lucas of the American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy for increasing their collaborative efforts with our society. Again, I would again like to thank Drs. Fred Kuhn, Mike Benninger, and Charlie Gross for nominating me to this role as President for the ARS. I would also like to thank the members of the ARS board for their wisdom, enthusiasm, excellent work, and responsiveness. Specifically, I would like to thank Drs. Daniel Becker and Bill Bolger, whose substantial efforts on the Membership Committee and By-laws Committee (respectively) might otherwise go unnoticed. Thanks also go to Brent Senior, editor of this

newsletter, for effectively delivering our ARS messages to you.

Lastly, but by no means least, I'd like to thank Dr. David Kennedy for his continual support and mentorship which over the years has made a huge difference in my career. He involved me in the ARS as one of his consultants to the BOD during his ARS presidency in 1992. I would like to thank Dr. Loring Pratt, who has been my mentor since our first meeting in 1984. My greatest appreciation and admiration, however, go to my wife Suzanne and sons, Douglas and Andrew for the sacrifices they have made and the support they have given me towards the success of this Presidential year. Thank you!

See you in Orlando for a great meeting!

At the beginning of this Dinner Symposium, the "Presidential Service Awards" will be granted to those "who selflessly were devoted above and beyond the call" towards the advancement of this society. These will go to Martin J. Citardi, MD (Information Technology Committee) and to Marvin P. Fried, MD (Secretary). At the conclusion of the evening, I will "hand off the baton" to my successor James A. Hadley, MD. This is a particularly special time for the history of our society, since Jim's father, Richard B. Hadley (deceased) was also a President of the ARS in 1967. I wish Jim Hadley the best of success during our 50th anniversary.

The deadline for abstract submission to our COSM 2004 meeting in Phoenix at the Marriot Dessert Ridge is November 1st. These can only be submitted online at www.american-rhinologic.org. Mark your calendar for our Golden

American Rhinologic Society Annual Meeting September 20, 2003

Peabody Hotel, Orlando

Donald C. Lanza, MD, FARS

President American Rhinologic Society

James Hadley, MD, FARS

President-elect, Program Chair American Rhinologic Society

Claus Bachert, MD

Ghent University, Belgium Honored International Guest

Register at www.americanrhinologic.org

Event

We invite you all to the Fall Annual meeting of the ARS. Florida in September will be an excellent time to review the progress of the ARS. The Fall ARS Annual Meeting will be held at the Peabody Hotel in Orlanda, Florida on September 20, 2003.

The Program Committee is pleased to present the papers selected through rigorous review process. The competition for presentation at the annual meeting remains strong and excellent papers were changed to poster presentations for review.

This year, I am pleased to announce the International Guest Speaker to be Professor Dr. Claus Bachert, from Ghent, Belgium. Dr. Bachert is an internationally recognized expert in evaluation of the inflammatory process in the nose. He will present his data on Inflammatory mediators in rhinosinusitis to bring us all up to date in the current controversy of inflammatory vs infectious etiology of rhinosinusitis.

Patient advocacy issues and socio economics will be reviewed by a panel from the Patient Advocacy Committee chaired by 2nd VP, Michael Sillers

The ARS will highlight the day with the evening gala dinner CME event sponsored again by Merck. This presentation will discuss chronic rhinosinusitis and will feature presentations by Dr. Daniel Hamilos, and Dr.Brad Marple.

Jim Hadley, MD, FARS President-Elect and Program Chair

Presenters, Moderators & Discussants Time 8:00 Introductions and Meeting Agenda Lanza & Hadley **Surgical Techniques** Richard Orlandi & Stilianos Kountakis Surgical Revision of the Obliterated Frontal Sinus Joseph Han 8:05 Management of the Inferior Turbinate in Chronic Sinusitis Peter J. Catalano, MD, FACS 8:12 8:19 Three Wall Orbital Decompression: Results Using Image Guided Surgery and Lateral Orbitotomy Howard L. Levine, MD Comparison of Traditional Craniofacial Resection and Minimally 8:26 Invasive Endoscopic Resection of Anterior Skull Base Neoplasms Pete S. Batra, MD 8:34 Discussion James Stankiewicz & Howard Levine Endonasal Surgery of Juvenile Nasopharyngeal Angiofibroma Metin Onerci Endoscopic Frontal Sinusotomy: A Six Year Experience Thianchai Tangsujarittham, MD Endoscopic Sphenopalatine Artery Ligation for Epistaxis: Clinical 8:53 Allison C. Ford, MD Race and Gender Differences in Frequency of Skull Base Erosion 9:00 in Allergic Fungal Sinusitis John M. DelGaudio, MD 9:07 Discussion **Medical Outcomes** Joe Jacobs & Kathy Yaremchuk 9:14 Outcomes of the Extended Endoscopic Approach for Management of Inverted Papilloma Gehua Zhang, MD Correlation Between Preoperative Symptom Scores, Quality of Life Questionnaires and Staging with Computed Tomography in Patients with Chronic Rhinosinusitis Peter John Wormald 9:28 Correlation Between CT Scores and Symptomatic Improvement After Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Dewayne T. Bradley, MD 9:35 Patterns of Fungal Infections in Patients with Cystic Fibrosis Sarah Wise, MD 9:42 Discussion

9:45 Break with Exhibitors

10:15	Invited Guest lecture ARS Guest of Honor Prof Dr. Claus Bachert	James Hadley
	Immunology of Rhinosinusitis - from mediators to classification	Claus Bachert, MD
10:45	Questions and Discussion	
11,00	Basic Science and Rhinology	Brent Senior & Peter J. Wormold
11:00	Immunohistologic findings suggest a key role of Cox-2 in nasal	In Control MD
11:07	polyposis	Jan Gosepath, MD
11:14	Analysis of Innate Immune Mediators in Sinonasal Mucosa	Andrew P. Lane, MD
11.14	Endoscopic Biopsy of Human Olfactory Epithelium as a Source of Viable Neural Stem Cells	Welby Winstead, MD
11:21	Discussion	Weiby Winstead, MD
11:26	Evidence of Bacterial Biofilms on frontal Recess Stents in Patients	
11.20	with Chronic Rhinosinusitis	J. Perloff, MD, J. Dutton & T. Tami
11:33	Acute Exacerbations of Chronic Rhinosinusitis (AECS) after	or origin, may or added a minam
	Endoscopic Sinus Surgery are Infectious and Caused by Staphylo-	
	coccus Aureus and gram-Negative Agents	Abdulmohsen Hussain, MD
11:40	Discussion	
11:45	Poster Moderators Review and Comments	
12:00	American Rhinologic Society Business - all ARS Members invited	
	to attend	Lanza & Hadley
	Issues Confronting the Practicing Rhinlogist	
12:30	Luncheon Symposium Sponsored by Abbott	
	Antimicrobial Update in Rhinology: Perspectives from the Sinus &	M: 1 10 B : MB
	Allergy Health Partnership	Michael S. Benninger, MD
	Discussion and Audience Response Questions	
1:30	Adjunctive Medical and Surgical Techniques Effect of Saline Irrigation on Symptoms After Endoscopic Sinus	
1.50	Surgery: A Randomized, Controlled Clinical Trial	J. Pinto, M. Desrosiers & B. Marple
1:37	Environmental Air Fungal Load and Anti-microbial Nasal Sprays	Donald P. Dennis, MD
1:44	The Role of Mitomycin-C in Preventing Synechia and Stenosis After	Abtin Tabaee
	Endoscopic Sinus Surgery - A Long Term Follow-Up	Abiiii labaee
1:51	Effect of Estrogen on Olfactory Neuron Connections to the Olfac-	Samuel G. Shiley
	tory Bulb	Samuel St. Stilley
1:56	Discussion and Audience Response Questions	
2:01	The Use of Acoustic Rhinometry in Evaluation of the Obstructive	L. Morris, D. Leopold & J. DelGaudio
	Sleep Apnea Patient	Matthew A. Kienstra
2:08	Effects of the Nasal Muscles on the Nasal Airway	
2:15	Analysis of Possible Cross-Contamination with the Venturi Atom-	Joseph M. Scianna, MD
0.00	izer System	
2:22	Discussion and Audience Response Questions	
2:27	Utilization and Efficacy of Hyaluronic Acid - Carboxymethylcellulose (HA-CMC) wafer in Prevention of Synechiae Reformation in the	N. A. Calcan, D. Harrana, S. D. Karra
	Clinic Setting	N. A. Cohen, P. Hwang & R. Kern
2:34	Platelet gel in lieu of Packing for Endoscopic Sinus Surgery	Jay M. Dutton, MD
2:41	Discussion and Audience Response Questions	Jay W. Dutton, MD
2:45	Break with Exhibitors	
3:15	Panel Discussion: Patient Advocacy Issues	Michael Sillers
	Discussion and Audience Response Questions	
	Radiographic Evaluation	
4:10	Radiographic Variation of Nasofrontal Recess Anatomy	A. Beningfield, R. Casiano & E. Vining
4:18	Regions of the Sinus CT Scan that Predict Symptoms	Eric H. Holbrook, MD
4:26	Three-Slice Computerized Tomography for Diagnosis	Can Alper Cagici
4:34	Analysis of Methods to Assess Frontal Sinus Extent in Osteoplas-	
	tic Flap Surgery: Transillumination vs. Six Foot Caldwell vs. Image	0 1.1.1. - 1.1.
4.40	Guidance Discussion and Audience Response Questions	Christopher T. Melroy, MD
4:42 4:50	Discussion and Audience Response Questions Presentation of Awards for Research and Posters	Allen Coider
5:00	Closing remarks	Allen Seiden
5.00	Ologing remarks	Lanza & Hadley

LISTENING TO OUR MEMBERS

AUDIENCE RESPONSE: A SAMPLING OF RESPONSES FROM THE SPRING ARS MEETING

WINSTON VAUGHAN, MD, FARS CHAIR, EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Audience utilized the Audience Response System at the Spring Meeting of the ARS in Nashville: A sampling of

questions and responses follows addressing issues raised in papers presented, current patient advocacy issues and future directions for rhinology and the ARS

How can we improve the program?

- * 33 %: additional instructional courses
- * 28 %: more panel discussions
- * 16 % : as is

Do you know the 1997 diagnostic criteria for chronic sinusitis?

- * 79 %: yes
- * 21 %: no / unsure

Have studies on bone inflammation changed your practice?

- * 65 %: no
- * 15 %: changed use of both antibiotics and surgery
- * 16 % changed use of antibiotics

Use of endoscopy in the management of inverting papilloma:

- * 4%: diagnostic only
- * 18% endoscopic resection of small lesions
- * 27% resection of moderate-to-large lesions
- * 52 % nearly all lesions

Resident training in Rhinology is excellent (23 %), very good (42%), adequate (23 %), and poor (7 %)

Fellowships should: be accredited by ARS (46 %), develop

leaders (40 %), focus more on research than surgery (15 %)

ARS should educate the public by: development of office handouts etc. (37%), more media presence (32 %), consult a marketing company (22 %), or improve website (10 %).

ARS research should focus more on basic science (54 %) or outcome studies (32 %)

What % of FESS cases do you charge 31237?

- * 30 % responded 0 20 % of cases
- * 16 % = varying %'s between 20 80 %.
- * 54 % = 80 -100 %

How many postoperative debridements do you perform in each patient?

- * 1 2 times: 49%
- * 3 4: 35%
- * 4 5: 6%
- * do not perform: 6%

How many postoperative debridements do you perform on each patient who undergoes FESS? 6% 1.0 49% 2.1-2 35% 3.3-4 6% 4.4-5 3% 5.> 5

Do you use these criteria in your clinical practice for the dianosis of chronic rhinosinusitis?

	Rhinology and FESS?
10%	1. Improve Web Site
32%	2. Position ENT's in the media more
37%	3. Develop office handouts, videos etc.
2251	4. Consult a marketing company

Do you utilize 31237 beyond 30 days?

- * Yes, but rarely 44 %
- * No 33 %
- * Yes, more than twice 11 %
- * Yes 11 %

For 31237, 26% preferred a cap on # of times the code could be used vs. 74% preferred development of two codes for major or minor debridement

What % of cases do you utilize computer aided surgery?

- * 22% used 76 -100 % of the time.
- * 5%: 75 51 %
- * 80%: 50-26 %
- * 39% 25 1%
- * 16 percent did not use or was not available.

Would you perform FESS w/ a limited CT scan?

- * 80 % no
- * 20 % yes.

PATIENT ADVOCACY:

61795 REVISITED

MIKE SILLERS, MD, FARS CHAIR, PATIENT ADVOCACY COMMITTEE



The patient advocacy committee continues to work to enhance our ability to provide state-of-the-art care to our patients. The most recent issue has been the exclusion of 61795 from the list of CMS approved procedures performed in an ambulatory surgical center (ASC). Since this was exclusively a neurosurgical code prior to January 2000, it did not appear on the list. The implications of this are that the ASC would not be reimbursed for a facility fee for 61795. This omission does not affect the professional fee. However, as

most of us have learned, large capital purchases by surgery centers are generally not considered unless there is a measurable cost benefit to the facility. The ARS through its legal counsel has petitioned CMS to include 61795 on the list of approved procedures for an ASC. The basic argument was that since this is an add-on code, and the CPT codes to which it is typically linked were on the list, 61795 should be included. The formal letter that was submitted to CMS May 27, 2003, will be posted on the ARS website.

The practice expense (PE) component of all but the 90-day global period codes have been submitted to CMS. Their proposed rule should be available in June 2003. The final rule will be published in November or December 2003. The PE component of the 90 day global CPT codes will be presented to the Practice Expense Advisory Committee (PEAC) in January of 2004. Since reimbursement dollars are fixed, the final rule including all CPT codes may result in some adjustment of the values of CPT codes presented in this year's final rule.

Finally, Don Lanza and Fred Kuhn represented the ARS at a recent meeting with CMS regarding 31237. CMS has considered several options to reduce what they believe to be "over utilization". Data was presented to suggest otherwise, and CMS has agreed to investigate and continue communication with the ARS and our Academy.

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September 20, 2003, Orlando Peabody Hotel

The Second Annual ARS CME Dinner:

The Inflammatory Pathway in Chronic

Rhinosinusitis: Present and Future Considerations

Joe Jacobs, MD, FARS, Moderator

Speakers: Dan Hamilos, MD, Jens Ponikau, MD, Brad Marple, MD

Register Today! www.american-rhinologic.org, GoTo "Special Event Registration"

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American Rhinologic Society Marvin P. Fried, MD, FACS Department of Otolaryngology Montefiore Medical Center 3400 Bainbridge Avenue Third Floor Bronx, NY 10467



Upcoming Rhinology Meetings and Courses

Charleston Sinus Course September 5-6, 2003

Medical University of South Carolina Contact: Nichele 843-792-6012

Rhinofest 2003: 17th Biennial Course October 9-12, 2003

Mayo Clinic, University of Buffalo, and Graz University Contact: Tracy 507-284-1729

Advanced Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Courses October 23-25, 2003

Georgia Nasal and Sinus Institute Contact: Shirley Johnson 912-350-7365

Endoscopic Sinus Surgery October 24-26, 2003

Univeristy of Pittsburgh Contact: maplek@msx.upmc.edu

Advances in Endscopic Management of Nasal and Sinus Disorders November 6-8, 2003

Cleveland Clinic Foundation Contact: Anne Monreal 216-444-4949

Carolina Course in Sinus Surgery and Facial Plastic Surgery April 2-3, 2004

University of North Carolina Contact: Elizabeth 919-966-3342

Current and Advanced Techniques in FESS July 21-24, 2004

St. Paul's Sinus Center, UBC, Vancouver Contact: Luke 604-822-6434

If you would like to have your upcoming rhinology meeting noted here, simply provide the editor with pertinent information: newsletter@american-rhnologic.org

The American Rhinologic Society does not endorse these meetings but simply provides this list as a service to its members

American Rhinologic Society Newsletter
Editorial Office
University of North Carolina, CB 7070, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7070
Editor: Brent A. Senior, MD, FACS
FAX: 919.966.7941
Email: newsletter@american-rhinologic.org

www.american-rhinologic.org