Pre-conference Workshops:

FEEs Workshop

Hands-On FEES Simulation Stations

This session will use a station-based format in which small groups of approximately 15 participants rotate through simulation stations, each staffed by an ENT provider and a speech-language pathologist. At each station, the team will review a patient case with the group, after which a clinician (physician, medical student, or advanced practice provider) will pass an endoscope through a mannequin to simulate a fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES). During the scope pass, a corresponding video will be played for the group to observe and interpret. Following the video, the station leads will facilitate a discussion of relevant anatomy, the feeding plan, and the clinical significance of the findings, with an emphasis on the collaborative roles of the ENT provider and SLP in conducting and interpreting a FEES evaluation. Each station will run for 25 minutes before groups rotate to the next station.

Learning objectives:

1. Discuss how to assess the swallow in setting of FEES procedure
2. Identify and develop steps needed to create a safe feeding plan
3. Describe anatomical markers and how it affects the swallow in specific patient situations
4. Discuss indications for FEES and when you would not do it in this patient population
5. Discuss the importance of team based dynamics of FEES procedure

Pediatric Audiology Summit

Pediatric audiology is facing a growing workforce challenge. Across clinical, academic, and training settings, there is increasing concern about shortages of pediatric audiologists, declining student interest in pediatric practice, and uneven access to pediatric-focused clinical training experiences. As demand for pediatric hearing healthcare continues to grow, many clinical settings are experiencing increasing strain without a sufficient pipeline of future professionals prepared to enter the specialty — with direct implications for timely access to care for infants and children nationwide. To date, there has been limited

opportunity to bring key stakeholders together in a structured setting to collectively examine these challenges and develop coordinated solutions. The SENTAC Pediatric Audiology Summit will convene national stakeholders for dialogue and action planning focused on the future of the pediatric audiology workforce, culminating in a published Summit Report and the establishment of ongoing cross-organizational partnerships.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Identify key national trends and barriers contributing to shortages in the pediatric audiology workforce.
2. Compare current institutional, academic, and organizational initiatives addressing pediatric audiology workforce shortages, and recognize remaining gaps in the pipeline.
3. Formulate collaborative strategies and priorities to strengthen recruitment, training, and retention within pediatric audiology.

Investing in Your Growth, Balance, Performance

This session focuses on personal and professional development for clinicians navigating the demands of a career in healthcare. Topics will address strategies for continued growth, maintaining work-life balance, and optimizing performance both professionally and personally. Attendees will gain practical tools and perspectives to support long-term well-being and sustained success in their careers.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Identify strategies to support continued personal and professional growth throughout a clinical career.
2. Describe practical approaches to maintaining work-life balance and preventing burnout.
3. Apply techniques to enhance personal well-being and professional performance in daily practice.

Panels

Panel 1: Innovations in Patient Access Panel

Description: This interdisciplinary panel will bring together otolaryngology providers and a speech-language pathologist to discuss innovative strategies they have implemented within their own practices to improve patient access to care. Panelists will share real-world examples, including workflow and scheduling innovations, telehealth expansion, and the integration of artificial intelligence tools, to increase access for pediatric patients. The session will conclude with a moderated discussion and audience Q&A.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Identify innovative, real-world strategies used by ENT and SLP providers to improve patient access to care.
2. Describe current and emerging applications of artificial intelligence in expanding access to otolaryngology and speech-language pathology services.
3. Evaluate the feasibility of adapting one or more access-improvement strategies presented by panelists to their own clinical practice or institution.

Panel 2: A Crowded House or a Big Tent? Integrating New Types of Proceduralists into the Pediatric Airway Space

This session will explore the evolving landscape of pediatric airway care as new types of proceduralists increasingly participate in procedures traditionally performed by otolaryngologists. Speakers will discuss the drivers behind this shift, the potential implications for training, scope of practice, and patient safety, and how the field can approach this change collaboratively rather than competitively. The session will conclude with a discussion of strategies for integrating new proceduralists into the pediatric airway space in a way that prioritizes quality of care.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the trends driving the expansion of proceduralists involved in pediatric airway care.
2. Discuss the implications of this expansion for training, scope of practice, and patient safety in pediatric airway procedures.

3. Identify strategies for fostering collaborative, rather than competitive, integration of new proceduralists into the pediatric airway space.

Panel 3: When Care Is Out of Reach: Ethical Dilemmas in Pediatric Access to Care

Healthcare professionals regularly face situations where the right course of action isn't clear-cut. This session explores the core principles of medical ethics (autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice) and how they apply to everyday clinical practice. Through case-based discussion, participants will examine common ethical challenges such as informed consent, confidentiality, shared decision-making, and resource allocation. The session offers practical frameworks for analyzing dilemmas, communicating effectively with patients and families, and making well-reasoned decisions that uphold professional standards and patient trust.

Learning Objectives: By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the four foundational principles of healthcare ethics and explain how they guide clinical decision-making.
2. Identify common ethical dilemmas in clinical practice, including issues of informed consent, confidentiality, and conflicts of interest.
3. Apply a structured ethical decision-making framework to analyze and resolve challenging patient care scenarios.

Panel 4: Beyond Hearing: Recognizing Mental Health Needs and Supporting Patients and Families

An interdisciplinary conversation for hearing health care providers on recognizing concerns, responding with compassion, and connecting patients and families with appropriate support.

Learning Objective:

1. Identify mental health concerns during Audiology and ENT encounters
2. Utilize practical approaches to communicating with children and families in need of support
3. Identify appropriate referral pathways to patient and family support services.

Keynote Speaker

Join us for a keynote that's equal parts hilarious and eye-opening. Comedian DJ Demers shares the true story of life with a hearing disability, from misheard conversations and awkward moments to the triumphs and lessons along the way. Through humor and honest storytelling, he gives a rare, personal view of what it means to navigate a hearing world, and what clinicians, families, and communities can do to help. You'll leave laughing, inspired, and seeing your patients' experiences in a new light.

Learning Objectives

1. By the end of this session, participants will be able to:
2. Describe the everyday social, emotional, and communication challenges faced by individuals living with a hearing disability.
3. Identify practical strategies that clinicians and caregivers can use to improve communication and support for patients with hearing loss.
4. Recognize the role of humor, resilience, and personal storytelling in building empathy and strengthening patient-centered care.

Abstracts

Abstracts 1: Contemporary Challenges in Pediatric Rhinology and Head & Neck Surgery

This session will feature oral abstract presentations addressing current challenges and advances in pediatric rhinology and head and neck surgery. Presenters will share original research on diagnosis, surgical technique, and outcomes across a range of pediatric rhinologic and head and neck conditions. The session will conclude with time for audience questions and discussion following each presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Summarize recent research findings related to pediatric rhinologic and head and neck surgical conditions.
2. Identify emerging diagnostic and surgical approaches presented in the abstract session.
3. Evaluate how the research presented may inform clinical decision-making in pediatric rhinology and head and neck surgery.

Abstracts 2: Cochlear Implants & Implantable Hearing Technology

This session will present original research on cochlear implants and other implantable hearing technologies used in the pediatric population. Presenters will discuss advances in candidacy criteria, surgical techniques, device technology, and outcomes. The session will include audience discussion following each presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe recent advances in cochlear implant and implantable hearing technology for pediatric patients.
2. Summarize outcomes data presented regarding pediatric cochlear implantation and implantable hearing devices.
3. Discuss how emerging implantable hearing technologies may impact clinical practice.

Abstracts 3: Family-Centered Care, Counseling & Special Populations

This session will showcase abstract presentations focused on family-centered care, counseling approaches, and considerations for special populations within pediatric otolaryngology and audiology. Presenters will share research and clinical experience addressing the needs of children and families across diverse backgrounds and circumstances. Time for audience discussion will follow each presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Identify strategies for delivering family-centered care and counseling in pediatric practice.
2. Describe considerations relevant to special populations encountered in pediatric otolaryngology and audiology.
3. Discuss approaches to improve communication and shared decision-making with patients and families.

Abstracts 4: Genetics, Etiology & Emerging Therapies in Pediatric Hearing Loss

This session will present original research related to the genetics, etiology, and emerging therapeutic approaches for pediatric hearing loss. Presenters will share findings on genetic testing, underlying causes of hearing loss, and novel treatment strategies under investigation. The session will conclude with audience questions and discussion.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe current understanding of genetic and other etiologic contributors to pediatric hearing loss.
2. Summarize emerging therapeutic approaches presented for the treatment of pediatric hearing loss.
3. Discuss the potential clinical implications of genetic testing and novel therapies in pediatric audiology and otolaryngology practice.

Abstracts 5: Voice, Airway & Laryngeal Challenges

This session will feature abstract presentations addressing challenges in pediatric voice, airway, and laryngeal disorders. Presenters will share original research on diagnosis, management, and outcomes for children with these conditions. Audience discussion will follow each presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Summarize current research findings related to pediatric voice, airway, and laryngeal disorders.
2. Identify diagnostic and management strategies presented for these conditions.
3. Discuss how the research presented may influence clinical practice in the evaluation and treatment of pediatric airway and voice disorders.

Abstracts 6: Advances in Pediatric Audiology: Assessment, Practice, and Outcomes

This session will present original research related to advances in pediatric audiologic assessment, clinical practice, and patient outcomes. Presenters will share findings on evaluation techniques, service delivery models, and outcome measures relevant to pediatric hearing healthcare. The session will include time for audience questions and discussion.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe recent advances in pediatric audiologic assessment and clinical practice.
2. Summarize outcomes data presented related to pediatric audiology services.

3. Discuss how the research presented may inform improvements in pediatric audiologic care.

Abstracts 7: Advances in Pediatric Feeding, Swallowing, and Aerodigestive Management

This session will showcase original research addressing advances in the evaluation and management of pediatric feeding, swallowing, and aerodigestive disorders. Presenters will share findings related to diagnostic approaches, treatment strategies, and multidisciplinary care models. Audience discussion will follow each presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Summarize current research related to the evaluation and management of pediatric feeding, swallowing, and aerodigestive disorders.
2. Identify multidisciplinary strategies presented for the care of children with feeding and swallowing difficulties.
3. Discuss how the research presented may inform clinical approaches to aerodigestive management.

Abstracts 8: Surgical Outcomes and Complications in Pediatric Otolaryngology

This session will present original research examining surgical outcomes and complications across a range of pediatric otolaryngology procedures. Presenters will share data on complication rates, risk factors, and strategies for improving surgical safety and outcomes. The session will conclude with time for audience questions and discussion.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Summarize research findings related to surgical outcomes and complications in pediatric otolaryngology.
2. Identify risk factors associated with complications presented across the featured studies.
3. Discuss strategies to improve surgical safety and outcomes in pediatric otolaryngology practice.

Challenging Cases 1: Neonatal, Prenatal & Congenital Head and Neck Disorders

This session will present challenging cases involving neonatal, prenatal, and congenital head and neck disorders in pediatric patients. Presenters will review case details, diagnostic workup, and management decisions, highlighting complexities specific to this patient population. The session will include audience discussion of diagnostic and management approaches.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the clinical presentation of neonatal, prenatal, and congenital head and neck disorders discussed.
2. Evaluate diagnostic and management strategies used in the cases presented.
3. Discuss the multidisciplinary considerations involved in caring for neonates and infants with congenital head and neck conditions.

Challenging cases 2: Pediatric Sleep Surgery and Upper Airway Obstruction

This session will present challenging cases involving pediatric sleep surgery and upper airway obstruction. Presenters will discuss diagnostic evaluation, surgical decision-making, and outcomes for complex cases within this population. Audience discussion will follow each case presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize clinical features and diagnostic findings associated with complex pediatric upper airway obstruction.
2. Evaluate surgical and non-surgical management strategies discussed in the cases presented.
3. Discuss factors influencing decision-making in challenging pediatric sleep surgery cases.

Challenging cases 3: Diagnostic Dilemmas in Pediatric Hearing Loss

This session will present challenging cases illustrating diagnostic dilemmas encountered in pediatric hearing loss. Presenters will review complex case histories, diagnostic testing,

and decision-making processes used to arrive at a diagnosis. The session will conclude with audience discussion of the cases presented.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize diagnostic challenges commonly encountered in pediatric hearing loss evaluation.
2. Evaluate diagnostic testing strategies used to address the dilemmas presented in the featured cases.
3. Discuss approaches to resolving diagnostic uncertainty in complex pediatric hearing loss cases.

3.1 Middle Ear, Temporal Bone & Otologic Surgery

This session will present challenging cases involving middle ear, temporal bone, and otologic surgical conditions in pediatric patients. Presenters will discuss diagnostic evaluation, surgical planning, and outcomes for complex otologic cases. Audience discussion will follow each case presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize complex otologic and temporal bone conditions presented in the featured cases.
2. Evaluate surgical planning and decision-making strategies used in the management of these cases.
3. Discuss outcomes and potential complications associated with complex otologic surgery in children.

Challenging cases 4: Voice, Airway & Laryngeal Function

This session will present challenging cases related to pediatric voice, airway, and laryngeal function. Presenters will review diagnostic evaluation, treatment decisions, and outcomes for complex cases within this population. The session will include audience discussion of the cases presented.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize complex presentations of pediatric voice, airway, and laryngeal dysfunction.
2. Evaluate diagnostic and treatment strategies discussed in the featured cases.
3. Discuss factors influencing clinical decision-making in complex pediatric airway and voice cases.

4.1 Complex Aerodigestive Care & Interdisciplinary Management

This session will present challenging cases requiring complex aerodigestive care and interdisciplinary management. Presenters will discuss diagnostic evaluation, treatment planning, and the coordination of care across multiple specialties. Audience discussion will follow each case presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the complexity of aerodigestive conditions requiring interdisciplinary management.
2. Evaluate collaborative care strategies presented in the featured cases.
3. Discuss the roles of various specialties involved in the management of complex aerodigestive cases.

Challenging cases 5: Airway Reconstruction, Tracheostomy & Complex Aerodigestive Management

This session will present challenging cases involving airway reconstruction, tracheostomy, and complex aerodigestive management in pediatric patients. Presenters will review diagnostic evaluation, surgical decision-making, and long-term management strategies. The session will conclude with audience discussion of the cases presented.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize indications for airway reconstruction and tracheostomy in complex pediatric cases.
2. Evaluate surgical and management strategies discussed for complex aerodigestive conditions.
3. Discuss long-term care considerations for children with complex airway needs.

Challenging Case 6: : Rhinology, Neck Infection & Inflammatory Disease

This session will present challenging cases involving pediatric rhinologic conditions, neck infections, and inflammatory disease. Presenters will discuss diagnostic evaluation, treatment decisions, and outcomes for complex cases within this population. Audience discussion will follow each case presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize clinical features of complex rhinologic conditions, neck infections, and inflammatory disease in children.
2. Evaluate diagnostic and treatment strategies discussed in the featured cases.
3. Discuss factors influencing management decisions in complex rhinologic and infectious/inflammatory cases.

Challenging cases 7: Cochlear Implants & Complex Hearing Rehabilitation

This session will present challenging cases involving cochlear implantation and complex hearing rehabilitation in pediatric patients. Presenters will review candidacy evaluation, surgical considerations, and rehabilitation strategies for complex cases. The session will include audience discussion of the cases presented.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize complex candidacy and surgical considerations for pediatric cochlear implantation.
2. Evaluate rehabilitation strategies discussed for children with complex hearing needs.
3. Discuss factors influencing outcomes in complex pediatric cochlear implant and hearing rehabilitation cases.

Challenging cases 8: Tumors, Masses & Rare Pathology

This session will present challenging cases involving tumors, masses, and rare pathology encountered in pediatric otolaryngology. Presenters will review diagnostic evaluation,

treatment decisions, and outcomes for complex and unusual presentations. Audience discussion will follow each case presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the clinical presentation of rare and unusual head and neck pathology in children.
2. Evaluate diagnostic and treatment strategies discussed in the featured cases.
3. Discuss multidisciplinary considerations in the management of pediatric tumors and rare pathology.

Challenging cases 9: Surgical Complications, Trauma & Vascular Challenges

This session will present challenging cases involving surgical complications, trauma, and vascular challenges in pediatric otolaryngology. Presenters will discuss diagnostic evaluation, management decisions, and outcomes for complex and high-risk cases. The session will conclude with audience discussion of the cases presented.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize risk factors and clinical features associated with surgical complications, trauma, and vascular challenges in pediatric otolaryngology.
2. Evaluate management strategies discussed for the featured complex cases.
3. Discuss approaches to minimizing risk and optimizing outcomes in high-risk pediatric otolaryngologic cases.

Challenging cases 10: Pediatric Dysphagia Across the Continuum of Care

This session will present challenging cases illustrating the management of pediatric dysphagia across the continuum of care. Presenters will review diagnostic evaluation, treatment planning, and care coordination for complex feeding and swallowing cases. Audience discussion will follow each case presentation.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the range of clinical presentations of pediatric dysphagia across different care settings.
2. Evaluate diagnostic and management strategies discussed in the featured cases.
3. Discuss care coordination strategies for children with dysphagia across the continuum of care.