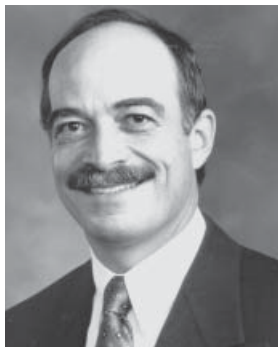


## Washington Advocacy Week 2005: Politics, Process, Payment, and Policy



### What does WAW offer?

Join more than 200 of your colleagues to strengthen our specialty's clout on Capitol Hill on March 5-8, 2005! Washington Advocacy Week (WAW), our annual advocacy meeting, is now enhanced to include advocacy training, practice management training, and selected socioeconomic presentations.

WAW 2005 will provide you with the opportunity to advocate for otolaryngology, obtain CME credits, meet Academy leaders and Members of Congress, and participate in interactive discussions with the Board of Governors about carrier relations issues, AAO-HNS coding and reimbursement resources, and state and federal legislative affairs. Last year Tucker Carlson entertained you as our Key Note Speaker and this year we promise yet another outstanding Celebrity Speaker.

With additional physician fee cuts in Medicare reimbursement, skyrocketing medical liability premiums, and increasing scope of practice battles, we cannot afford to sit back—one person can make a difference and every person should try! Therefore,

our message to Members of Congress will focus on two practice-destroying legislative trends: unrealistic physician fee cuts that threaten the viability of Medicare and the allowance of confiscatory legal fees that threaten the availability of professional liability insurance. During WAW, presentations will be given on how to communicate this message to your legislators and how to educate him or her about the needs of our specialty and patients.

By strengthening our relationship with our Members of Congress we can play a critical role in shaping legislation that directly affects the success of our practices and the specialty. Legislators need to know our concerns and how their decisions impact our patients. WAW will provide you with the tools to build relationships and communicate concerns.

Influential policy makers will present important issues and provide valuable insight to issues that affect your practice and patients. Also learn how your advocacy efforts bring otolaryngology "wins," through delivery of the same message in multiple legislative offices. In addition, WAW offers forums on carrier trends, coding and reimbursement tips, and how to increase practice revenue with valuable practice management advice.

For the second year travel grants will be provided for residents to attend WAW. This provides the next generation of otolaryngologists with the opportunity to become more involved to safeguard the future of our specialty. Advocate or abdicate! If you're not there, you probably don't care! Make an impact by being there to meet with your legislators on Capitol Hill and to meet with your Academy's leadership.

### To register

Registration is free including most meals. For further information, visit our website at [www.entlink.net/meetings](http://www.entlink.net/meetings). Make your plans now to attend Washington Advocacy Week, March 5-8, 2005, Washington Wyndham Hotel, Washington, D.C.—you'll be glad you did!

*Michael Setzen, MD  
WAW Taskforce Chair  
Board of Directors member and Past Chair, BOG*

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