

HONORS AND AWARDS

Winter 2023



Dr. Diana Bigler received the MCG Exemplary Teaching Award to recognize faculty and residents who have made a significant contribution in undergraduate and graduate medical education at MCG in the past year.



Dr. Sarah Hodge has become a Fellow Member of the American Neurotology Society. Dr. Hodge completed a two-year Otology/Neurotology fellowship at the prestigious House Ear Clinic in Los Angeles, California.



Dr. Heather Koehn received the MCG Exemplary Teaching Award to recognize faculty and residents who have made a significant contribution in undergraduate and graduate medical education at MCG in the past year. Dr. Heather Koehn and our pediatric otolaryngology division were featured in two news segments about the [important of vocal health](#) and [her work with cleft palate](#) for Children's Hospital of Georgia.



Dr. Stil Kountakis received the Hellenic Rhinologic Society's "Honoris Causa" award in recognition of his distinguished career and outstanding contributions to Rhinology in Athens, November 18, 2022. He was the Guest of Honor at the 20th Panhellenic Congress of Rhinology and Facial Plastic Surgery, November 18-20, 2022, Athens, Greece.



Dr. Gregory Postma was a visiting professor and invited keynote speaker at the 6th Congress of the European Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery Society on October 31, 2022 in Milan Italy, where he presented "Stop Using Large ETTs! A Plea for Sanity in Airway Management" along with "Optimal Treatment of Zenker's Diverticulum and CP Muscle Dysfunction," and "TNE in Neuromuscular Diseases." Dr. Postma was also invited to the International Medical Student Conference in Novi Sad, Serbia where he gave three lectures on "Introduction to ENT," "Airway Management," and "Management of Dysphagia" in November 2022.



Brian Shirley, DNP, CPNP successfully defended his doctoral dissertation on November 18, 2022, earning his Doctorate in Nursing Practice.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Tatarian J, Byrd K, Male HJ, Lin TL. Central nervous system involvement in adult acute myeloid leukemia patients. *Leuk Res.* 2022 Jul;118:106882. doi: 10.1016/j.leukres.2022.106882. Epub 2022 Jun 2. PMID: 35667128.

Devarakonda AK, Falco JJ, Kountakis SE, Reyes C. Topical nasal medication distribution: A cadaver-based simulated quantitative method. *Int Forum Allergy Rhinol.* 2022 Nov 21. doi: 10.1002/alr.23105. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36409548.

Orabi NA, Behnke J, Reyes C, Ramadan HH, Makary CA. Effect of absorbable nasal packing saturated with ciprofloxacin and dexamethasone following endoscopic sinus surgery: A prospective cohort study. *Int Forum Allergy Rhinol.* 2022 Nov 22. doi: 10.1002/alr.23114. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36413477.

Howell RJ, Ekbohm D, Kasperbauer J, Tabangin M, Altaye M, Wahab S, Belafsky P, Postma G; Prospective outcomes of cricopharyngeal hypertonicity (POUCH) collaborative. Cricopharyngeal muscle dysfunction and hypopharyngeal diverticula (e.g., Zenker): A multicenter study. *Laryngoscope.* 2022 Sep 14. doi: 10.1002/lary.30387. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36102298.

Kamal AN, Dhar SI, Bock JM, Clarke JO, Lechien JR, Allen J, Belafsky PC, Blumin JH, Chan WW, Fass R, Fischella PM, Marohn M, O'Rourke AK, Postma G, Savarino EV, Vaezi MF, Carroll TL, Akst LM. Best practices in treatment of laryngopharyngeal reflux disease: A multidisciplinary modified delphi study. *Dig Dis Sci.* 2022 Aug 22. doi: 10.1007/s10620-022-07672-9. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35995882.

Smith DH, Falco JJ, Devarakonda AK, Holmes TW, Shirley B, Prosser JD. Cystic fibrosis exacerbations treated with medical therapy with and without concurrent sinus surgery. *Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngol.* 2022 Oct;161:111249. doi: 10.1016/j.ijporl.2022.111249. Epub 2022 Jul 30. PMID: 35932623.

Swift WM, Churnin IT, Hamdi OA, Strumpf AM, Koehn HA, Cottler PS, Daniero JJ. A simple and reproducible in vivo rabbit phonation model for glottic insufficiency. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.* 2022 Jun 28;1945998221107813. doi: 10.1177/01945998221107813. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35763368.

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