



November 2022

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Dear Colleagues,

My name is Robert Hong and I am an otologist/neurotologist and partner at Michigan Ear Institute. It is my honor and privilege to serve as your president of the Michigan Otolaryngologic Society (MOS) this year. I would also like to acknowledge my fellow officers of the MOS who will be serving with me this year: Joseph Seymour, MD (president-elect), Bianca Siegel, MD (secretary-treasurer) and Eleanor Chan, MD (program chair).

This year, I plan to build upon the momentum generated by our outgoing president, Tamer Ghanem, MD, PhD, in creating enthusiasm within and building upon the foundation of our great society. In particular, there are two initiatives that I am spearheading which I believe will be of benefit to us all:

The first is a benefit that will be exclusive to MOS members that seeks to match ENT physicians who wish to practice otolaryngology in Michigan with MOS members who are looking to hire otolaryngologists. On the MOS website (<https://www.michiganoto.org>) in the "Member Portal," our society has established a "Forum and Job Listings" page that will allow any MOS member looking to hire an otolaryngologist to post their job listing on the MOS website. Separately, we have also created a password-protected "Job Applications" section that will allow any ENT physician (3rd year resident and above) who hopes to practice in Michigan to indicate their interest. This will serve as a valuable resource for MOS members looking to hire, as they can potentially reach out to interested physicians as early as their 3rd year of residency. Finally, at the MOS summer meeting, we plan on hosting a job fair where MOS members will have a time and space to interview job applicants, further highlighting the efforts of the MOS to bring together otolaryngologists in Michigan.

The second is that I am placing the Michigan Otolaryngologic Society at the forefront of efforts to bring mandated neonatal testing for CMV (cytomegalovirus) to the state of Michigan. As many of you may be aware, CMV is the most common infectious cause of hearing loss in newborns. With recent medical advances, if CMV is detected early enough, antivirals can be administered that can improve hearing outcomes in these newborns. Unfortunately, newborn CMV testing is lackluster in Michigan, leading to many missed opportunities to prevent hearing loss in infants. A number of states have passed legislation to require CMV testing in newborns, and I believe that Michigan should step up and have a similar mandate. I together with Dr. Bianca Siegel (MOS secretary-treasurer) will be co-chairing the MOS CMV Taskforce comprised of otolaryngologists representing the leading children's hospitals in Michigan to develop appropriate guidelines for CMV testing for our state. With these guidelines in hand, we will formally engage other stakeholders to build a coalition in support of our efforts, with the ultimate goal of passing legislation mandating CMV testing in newborns in Michigan. To further highlight these efforts, I have invited Dr. Megan Pesch, President of the National CMV Foundation and Director of the Congenital CMV Follow-up Clinic at the University of Michigan, to be our guest speaker for our upcoming MOS meeting on January 25, 2023. I hope you will join us for this inspiring evening.

This is an exciting time for otolaryngology in Michigan! I encourage all of you to publicize our initiatives to your colleagues and encourage them to sign-up and/or renew their memberships in the MOS. If you would like to learn more about our initiatives or become personally involved, or have any other concerns or suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at rhong@michiganear.com.

Respectfully yours,

Robert Hong, MD, PhD  
President, Michigan Otolaryngologic Society

Please mark your calendar for the 2023 MOS meeting dates:

- January 25, 2023- The Westin Southfield Detroit- Dr. Megan Pesch, President of the National CMV Foundation and Director of Congenital CMV Follow-up Clinic at University of Michigan
- April 26, 2023- The Westin Southfield Detroit
- July 14-16, 2023- The Highlands at Harbor Springs/The Inn at Bay Harbor
- October 25, 2023- The Westin Southfield Detroit