

the **KSHA** *Communicator*

a publication of the
Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association

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PDPM and PDGM: The SLP Pathway to Post Acute Care Success

Renee Kinder, MS, CCC-SLP, RAC-CT
KSHA StAMP

For speech-language pathologists (SLPs) practicing within the post-acute care spectrum, spring will bring intensified planning for the upcoming payment models which will impact the Medicare Part A benefit.

Effective October 1, 2019, skilled nursing SLPs will see the implementation of the Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM) and for those in the home health setting, January 1, 2020, will bring the onset of the Patient Driven Groupings Model (PDGM).

What can SLPs do now to ensure a successful transition into these payment models which shift the focus from volume to patient characteristic?

Step One: Increase the knowledge of your scope, expertise and the need for SLPs to be involved in the interdisciplinary coding of the Minimal Data Set and OASIS, which are the key determiners for the future of reimbursement for these settings.

We now have an opportunity from day one of the stay to speak clinically about the individuals we are serving. We have the chance to speak across the entire interdisciplinary team (IDT) about functional levels tied to data-analyzed portions of the MDS and OASIS for which historical claims show significant

trending for certain clinical categories that are specific to disciplines.

Remember these areas were determiners in how the models were built.

The specific areas impacting SLP case mix for the PDPM model include Section C: Cognitive Patterns BIMS and Staff Interview; Section K: Swallowing and Nutritional Status; and Section I: Active Diagnoses.

Within PDGM, SLP services are specifically tied to clinical categories of musculoskeletal and neuro/stroke.

Step Two: Take charge of the conversation between shifting from volume to value and clarify your unique benefit as an SLP in relation to the specific PDPM and PDGM clinical categories.

Skilled therapists are required to provide care that is evidenced-based, is complex and sophisticated, that does not use medical diagnosis as a primary determinant and that is provided at the appropriate frequency and duration.

Step Three: Provide reminders that definition for accessing a continued level of skilled care following the acute care stay under the Medicare Part A benefit will not change under PDPM. Additionally, the definition for home-

President's Message: A Legacy of Service

Kelly A. Kleinhans, PhD, CCC-SLP

KSHA President



Each year on the Friday morning of Convention, at the very early hour of 7:00 am, the KSHA president hosts the Annual Membership

Forum. This is quite a serious endeavor to inform members of everything the board has been working on for the last 12 months, all before the sun rises and the professional development for the day gets under way. I always wondered, who gets out of bed to do this? Your leadership team broke from tradition this year and instead of all 20 board members standing at the podium and reading their reports, we invited the membership to sit and chat with various KSHA board members based on their area of interest. I was pleasantly surprised the early risers took direction associated with the new seating arrangement without complaint. We began the session by sharing some big ticket items with the entire group. The most important issues were discussed in individual groups.

We had about 20 tables full of KSHA members interested in a myriad of topics such as the salary supplement bill, health care setting specific issues and even the state of higher education in Kentucky. I was under a lot of pressure to make sure everyone had access to our lobbyist and other members of the leadership team to get the information they were seeking.

Everyone was asking great questions, and there was good engagement with board members who have been working behind the scenes to advocate for KSHA members and manage the business of the association. I was checking in with every table, moving quickly from topic to topic, when I came upon a table with three members huddled together talking in a serious tone. I politely interrupted and asked,

"Tell me, are there any issues of concern here?" These women looked at me like a deer in the headlights, frozen for the moment. The stare and silence became awkward, so I offered a prompt, "Is there anything I can help with?" The three women burst into a collective laughter and confessed. They were not really talking about the current issues. Rather, the three old friends were reminiscing about the many past Conventions they had been a part of. Calculations were flavored by births of children to determine their history of attending KSHA Conventions, which probably went back 40 years or more. Yes, the new format for the Annual Member Forum was a big success, however, I was reminded that Convention is about so much more than professional development.

Coming together at Convention facilitates communication with each other that empowers us to collaborate, network, inform, advocate and, of course, to reconnect with old friends. Moving out from behind the podium facilitated sharing, member to member sharing and member to board member sharing. For KSHA, this collective information exchange is absolutely essential to maintain a robust association that will enable KSHA to serve you in meaningful ways.

It may be easier to earn continuing education credits in an online format, but that arrangement only provides for the exchange of information. Attending the Annual KSHA Convention is a member benefit that extends beyond professional development. We hear from members across the Commonwealth and regardless of practice setting speech-language pathologists and audiologists are increasingly being asked to do more with less, comply with new regulations and meet burdensome productivity requirements. It is easy to feel alone

or isolated when we are extended throughout the day or week in the work environment. It can be frustrating when peripheral work setting issues remove us further and further from patient or student care.

Attendance at the Annual KSHA Convention provides you with access to other members and resources including updates from KSHA, exclusive access to talented speakers from across the nation all in one location, time to chat about discipline specific issues, up-to-date legislative information, career guidance for students getting ready to graduate and, new this year, help to become your own advocate.

As KSHA members, we are united in our desire to represent and empower Kentucky speech-language pathologists and audiologists. What we do is not always sexy or the stuff that makes headlines, but it is work that enables all citizens of the Commonwealth to have a voice. Your participation in KSHA, your state association, is invaluable. Your insights, ideas and an eye for innovative solutions will strengthen our collective voice.

Like my three new friends I met at the Annual Member Forum, I had fun at Convention. I had many conversations with former students and long-time friends. In the coming months I will nurture my new relationships. Some will develop into good friendships and others professional relationships. I value all these relationships as they each contribute to my personal and professional development. I also look forward to attending the Annual KSHA Convention 10 or even 20 years from now and look forward to reminiscing with those I care about as we count the years built on the shared experience of attending the 2019 **Empowerment of You** KSHA Convention.

Thank you for joining us this year. See you next year!

2019 KSHA Convention Student Poster Competition

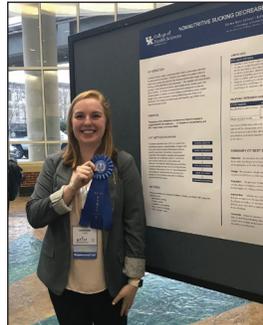
Dr. Joneen Lowman
Vice President of Education



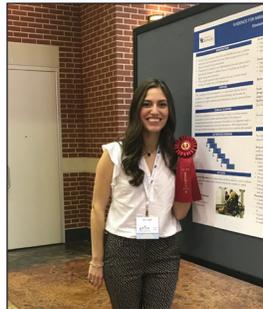
The KSHA Poster Session provides a venue for students and professionals to showcase their research and clinical work. The

informal nature of the session also promotes interaction between KSHA attendees and the poster presenters. Each year, this forum for the exchange of information has grown, and this year was no exception. A total of 26 students, representing four different universities, presented posters, as well as four professionals. The posters covered a range of topics across disorders, populations and settings.

As part of the Poster Session, KSHA sponsors the KSHA Student Poster Competition. Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in a speech-language pathology program at an institute of higher education are eligible to compete for first, second and third place. KSHA wishes to congratulate the 2019 KSHA Student Poster Competition winners:



1st Place - Emma Kate Calvert, University of Kentucky, *Nonnutritive Sucking Decreases NICU Length of Stay in Preterm Infants*



2nd Place - Lizzie Thomas, University of Kentucky, *Evidence for Animal Assisted Therapy in People With Non-Fluent Aphasia*



3rd Place - Anna Higgins, University of Kentucky, *Effectiveness of Spaced Retrieval Therapy Used for Patients With Dementia*

Thank you to the judges who graciously gave of their time to review student posters.

Dr. Lauren Bland – WKU
Dr. Karen Coulter – MSU
Dr. Donna Goodlett-Collins – BU
Dr. Rhonda Mattingly – U of L
Dr. Jade Robinson – EKU



Join the KSHA conversations on social media or email us!

Footprint in Frankfort

Kelly A. Kleinhans, PhD, CCC-SLP
KSHA President



Your KSHA leadership team has been collaborating with our lobbyist, Kate Wood Hall, to promote the

professions and ensure speech-language pathologists and audiologists have a voice on relevant legislative issues. Representing KSHA members, I have met with multiple members of the general assembly to tell our stories and ask for support for HB 168. Being

in the position of association president brings with it some degree of influence, but consistently legislators ask, “what do my constituents say?” Grassroots lobbying, your visits or calling and writing your legislator is the most influential method to advance our legislative agenda. You have the power to make a difference in your district and at the state level because of your expertise and passion. Contact your legislator this month, thank them for their service, educate them about your profession, and let them know

KSHA can be a resource on all matters associated with human communication disorders. We want you to be successful with your advocacy efforts so please reach out to us. We can help you prepare for a meeting with a legislator or help you write a letter or email.



One Yard Short

Kelly A. Kleinhans, PhD, CCC-SLP
KSHA President



As I reflect on our efforts to pass HB 168, aka the salary stipend bill, I am reminded of the iconic image of Tennessee Titan, Kevin Dyson, on the final play of Super Bowl XXXIV. He was tackled just shy of the end zone in the last seconds of the game. We too came so close to victory. HB 168 made it to the Senate but the legislative calendar was not on our side.

It has been a remarkable year advocating for HB 168. KSHA leadership and members met with legislatures, wrote letters and phoned in messages of support for the bill. As a result of our advocacy action HB 168 passed through the Kentucky House of Representatives without a single dissenting vote. This is a huge accomplishment analogous to making it to the big game. We cannot let the momentum slow. We are asking you to stay engaged with your legislators and help them understand why this issue is important to you, your school system and your students.

KSHA will continue to focus on helping legislators understand the value of speech-language pathologists and audiologists in providing care to thousands of Kentuckians across practice settings.

Thank you for your work this legislative session.

Young Professionals: It is Never Too Early to Give Back to Your Profession!

Tommy Evans, AuD, CCC-A
2019 KSHA Convention Co-Director and ASHA Advisory Councilor (Audiology)



It is that time of year where so many graduate students are completing their last clinical placement, graduating and looking forward to beginning their careers as audiologists and speech-language pathologists. It is rightfully a time to be excited, but what often gets lost in this transition from graduate school to one's career, are the ways that a young professional can give back to their profession.

The fields of speech-language pathology and audiology, particularly audiology, are small in comparison to other health care related professions, which means there is a smaller pool to pick from when it comes to professional engagement and leadership. Our fields are in dire need of increased diversity and younger professionals to step up, volunteer and lead the initiatives that make and sustain our professions.

I completely understand the confusion that many young professionals face with being pulled in different directions. From should I get my CCCs, to which national or state organization should I belong to. It is truly a confusing time for young graduates and, unfortunately, many graduates are having to make decisions about these types of things before they are ready. Also, many young professionals are being influenced by social media platforms, both positively and negatively. Some of these challenges and confusion is causing many young professionals to not join reputable organizations and/or volunteer when perhaps they would have otherwise.

I am not writing this article to influence you on the above, yet I am challenging

young professionals to inquire about and volunteer in some capacity in a state or national organization. It doesn't matter if it is KSHA, AAA, ASHA, ADA or some other related group that I am forgetting to mention. That is not the point. The point is that our professions need young, talented and inspired individuals to take leadership roles in audiology and speech-language pathology. There are multiple committees and boards on both the state and national level that need fresh perspectives, especially in the areas of advocacy. You can find more information by simply going to the various websites that represent our professions or by reaching out to any board member at KSHA. We would be happy to help you.

My second challenge may be the toughest and that is to be critical of what you see or read on social media in regards to our professions. Most of the information is great for networking and obtaining information, but some information is misleading and not founded on factual events or details. I would encourage you to do your own research and find which group or organization fits you best. It does not matter which one you belong to, but make it a point to belong to something that is going to benefit our awesome professions.

We cannot assume that someone else will take leadership roles in our profession. It is up to you to be a part of changing the landscape in our professions. All you have to do is sign up, give some of your time, get involved and stay engaged.

Congratulations on your graduation and we wish you nothing but success in the start of your careers. Thanks for joining the wonderful professions of audiology and speech-language pathology.

KSHA Convention 2019 Honors and Awards



Kelly Kleinhans poses with Bethany Berry the 2019 Johanna B. Hancock Awardee.



Emerging Leaders from UK, UofL, WKU, Brescia, EKU and MSU join KSHA President Dr. Kleinhans and KSHA Past-President Dr. Smith and honored speaker Dr. Wadia for leadership training.



KSHA Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Kate Wood Hall and Honors of the Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association was awarded to Renea Sageser.



Kelly Kleinhans congratulates PACE Setter Award winner Dr. Robert Marshall for his prolific contributions to the field of aphasia. Dr. Marshall is a professor at the University of Kentucky.



Kelly Kleinhans and Stanley-Steckel Scholarship recipient Renee Brown, University of Louisville.



KSHA-ASHA Foundation Award for Clinical Achievement was awarded to Dr. Joneen Lowman pictured with Kelly Kleinhans.

PDPM and PDGM

Continued from pg. 1

bound status will not change under PDGM.

If you have an individual coming to your community for skilled care and therapy is the skilled need, then therapy must and should be delivered.

As a reminder, the requirements for accessing the Medicare Part A benefit are below.

Care in a SNF is covered if all the following four factors are met:

- The patient requires skilled nursing services or skilled rehabilitation services, i.e., services that must be performed by or under the supervision of professional or technical personnel (see §§30.2 - 30.4); are ordered by a physician and the services are rendered for a condition for which the patient

received inpatient hospital services or for a condition that arose while receiving care in a SNF for a condition for which he received inpatient hospital services

- The patient requires these skilled services on a daily basis (see §30.6).
- As a practical matter, considering economy and efficiency, the daily skilled services can be provided only on an inpatient basis in a SNF. (See §30.7.)
- The services delivered are reasonable and necessary for the treatment of a patient's illness or injury, i.e., are consistent with the nature and severity of the individual's illness or injury, the individual's particular medical needs and accepted standards of medical

practice. The services must also be reasonable in terms of duration and quantity.

Step Four: Remain keenly aware of the other value based spectrum initiatives being initiated in conjunction with PDPM and PDGM. They include: quality reporting, value based purchasing and for skilled nursing facilities the implementation of the critical element pathways embedded within the state survey process.

In closing, plan early for the changes to come, remember the impact and value of your skill, learn to clearly articulate the need for SLP engagement and get excited about the opportunity for a fresh start.

STAR Report

Renea Sageser, MS, CCC-SLP



Supercalifragilistic-expialidocious. If I could use a word that sums up this past year as the STAR it would be this word. This word means extraordinarily good and wonderful.

Over the past few years, I have been representing the state of Kentucky as the STAR for ASHA. What does that mean, you ask? Basically, my job is to work with the state government to address reimbursement issues regarding Medicaid for speech-language pathologists and audiologists. Let me just tell you that this has not been an easy task. It has been a very trying task that has taught me patience, perseverance and grit.

There were times that I wanted to quit and give up. I had little faith that the state would make these changes. Our changes were small in the overall picture but to us they seemed so daunting. Over the past few years we have been working diligently with our lobbyist Kate Wood Hall. Together, we have been able to educate the state on important regulation changes. We have been able to witness the changes of one new regulation that will have a major impact on all therapy professions not just audiology or speech-language pathology. We worked on

this regulation for years. Honestly, I thought it would never change and had little faith in our system. In the regulation it stated that therapists had to complete documentation within the same day. Same day ... are you kidding me? I have four kids and let me tell you, after 5:00 pm, I must put on my mommy hat and taxi hat. Some days that meant that I would stay up after putting them to bed to go back to work and finish documentation. I know we have all been there, but pushing midnight to get the final note signed was hectic if you had a new evaluation and 12 patients that day. I'm sure the quality of the documentation was not to par all the time, as you can imagine. So, after numerous attempts to get this changed with failed efforts, we compelled the state to change the same-day documentation to 48 hours. Hallelujah! This was such sweet and good news to our therapists. We could finally get our lives back. I know 48 hours is still such a short time, but it is better than same day. Heck ... I probably would have settled for 24 hours but we will keep it where it is with a smile on our face and complete documentation within a timely period.

Clinical Fellow (CF) – We have all been there if we are a speech-language pathologist. As a business owner, we love hiring CFs. We can train them to be the therapists we want within our

practice. However, a few years ago the state made an error in regulations stating that CFs, if billing straight Medicaid, would be paid at a much lower rate than a licensed speech-language pathologist. This was a huge issue for small providers billing straight Medicaid. So, what did we do? We put on our big girl/boy pants and shoes and went to the state with a grin on our face and begged them to change the regulation. We educated them on the reasoning and why it was important to take this out of regulations. Again, I am ecstatic to report that new regulations are forthcoming regarding taking CF reduction for services off Medicaid fee schedules. CFs will bill directly underneath their supervisors for services rendered under the Medicaid system to ensure that reimbursement is the same across the board and not reduced rate based on a CF certification.

So, as you can see, these past few months have been extremely Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious - extraordinarily good and wonderful for our profession. We are *Setting the PACE* and I'm blessed and excited to be a part of this ride. I want to challenge each of you to have GRIT in whatever you do to *Set the PACE* for the state of Kentucky and our profession. I can assure you that your GRIT, too, will pay off.

Congratulations to KSHA Members Who Are ASHA ACE Award Winners

The following ASHA members and /or certificate holders were presented the Award for Continuing Education (ACE) by the Continuing Education Board. The ACE is a formal recognition of professionals who have demonstrated their commitment to lifelong learning by earning 7.0 CEUs (70 contact hours) within a 36-month period. Join KSHA in congratulating Kentucky's SLPs and AUDs who earned their ACE awards by December 2018!

Susan Brown

Jill Kobak

Debra Suiter

Lisa Hill

Courtney Nuckols

Susan Thomas

Melissa Jaco

Heather Sitzler

Michele Zaparanick-Brown

On Behalf of the Members of the Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Thank you Chairwoman Regina Huff, District 82! We appreciate your voice and leadership to secure fairness and parity for speech-language pathologists and audiologists working in Kentucky public schools.

KSHA WOULD ALSO LIKE TO APPLAUD THE 2019 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR VOTING FOR HB 168:

Steven Rudy, 1 · Richard Heath, 2 · Randy Bridges, 3 · Lynn Bechler, 4 · Larry Elkins, 5 · Chris Freeland, 6 · Suzanne Miles, 7 · Walker Thomas, 8 · Myron Dossett, 9 · Dean Schamore, 10 · Rob Wiederstein, 11 · Jim Gooch Jr, 12 · Jim Glenn, 13 · Scott Lewis, 14 · Melinda Gibbons Prunty, 15 · Jason Petrie, 16 · Steve Sheldon, 17 · Tim Moore, 18 · Michael Meredith, 19 · Patti Minter, 20 · Bart Rowland, 21 · Wilson Stone, 22 · Steve Riley, 23 · Brandon Reed, 24 · Jim DuPlessis, 25 · Russell Webber, 26 · Nancy Tate, 27 · Charles Miller, 28 · Kevin Bratcher, 29 · Tom Burch, 30 · Josie Raymond, 31 · Tina Bojanowski, 32 · Jason Nemes, 33 · Mary Lou Marzian, 34 · Lisa Willner, 35 · Jerry T. Miller, 36 · Jeffery Donohue, 37 · McKenzie Cantrell, 38 · Russ A. Meyer, 39 · Nima Kulkarni, 40 · Attica Scott, 41 · Reginald Meeks, 42 · Charles Booker, 43 · Joni L. Jenkins, 44 · Stan Lee, 45 · Al Gentry, 46 · Rick Rand, 47 · Maria Sorolis, 48 · Thomas Huff, 49 · Chad McCoy, 50 · John Bam Carney, 51 · Ken Upchurch, 52 · James Tipton, 53 · Daniel Elliott, 54 · Kim King, 55 · Joe Graviss, 56 · Derrick Graham, 57 · Rob Rothenburger, 58 · David Osborne, 59 · Sal Santoro, 60 · Savannah Maddox, 61 · Phillip Pratt, 62 · Diane St. Onge, 63 · Kimberly Poore Moser, 64 · Buddy Wheatley, 65 · Ed C. Massey, 66 · Dennis Keene, 67 · Joseph Fischer, 68 · Adam Koenig, 69 · John Sims Jr, 70 · Travis Brenda, 71 · Matthew Koch, 72 · Les Yates, 73 · David Hale, 74 · Kelly Flood, 75 · Ruth Ann Palumbo, 76 · George Brown Jr, 77 · Mark Hart, 78 · Susan Westrom, 79 · David Meade, 80 · Deanna Frazier 81 · Jeff Hoover, 83 · Chris Fugate, 84 · Tommy Turner, 85 · Jim Stewart III, 86 · Adam Bowling, 87 · Cherlynn Stevenson, 88 · Robert Goforth, 89 · Derek Lewis 90 · Cluster Howard , 91 · John Blanton, 92 · Chris Harris, 93 · Angie Hatton, 94 · Ashley Tackett Laferty, 95 · Kathy Hinkle, 96 · Bobby McCool, 97 · Danny Bentley, 98 · Rocky Adkins, 99 · Terri Branham Clark, 100

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Brock & Goodlett-Collins Named 2020 Convention Co-Chairs!

A Message From the 2020 Co-Chairs

***Tis the months before KSHA
And all through the state,
We are tirelessly toiling to build a great slate.***

***Oh Wait, Did we mention?
Tina and Donna are the Co-Chairs of the
2020 Convention.***

***New speaker, new topics, students' posters
to preview.
Yoga, Zumba, a morning run, too.***

***Don't forget the fight for the Golden brain,
Trying to compete with students is a real
brain drain.***

***NSSLHA Gives is an idea to consider.
Donating some money from the highest
bidder.
Perhaps to care for an abandoned liter?***

***Come February you will all agree
This KSHA Convention is your cup of tea,
Come one, come all, you just got too see,
KSHA 2020 will rock, it's our guarantee.***

Tina Brock, MA, CCC-SLP, is a speech-language pathologist with 25 years of experience. She currently works for the Boone County School District in Northern Kentucky, as well as having a private practice. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Berea College and her master's degree in communication disorders from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU). She is a member of ASHA and the Specialty Interest Division 11, Administration and Supervision. She has previously served on the KSHA Executive Council as secretary, treasurer and SEAL. She currently serves on the Scholarship Committee. She has also co-directed six KSHA Conventions since 2008, as well as served on the committee for the pediatric track for the 2019 Convention. She has presented with colleagues on several topics for KSHA, including school-based strategies, normal development for infants and toddlers, supervision and recently presented with colleagues on supervision at the 2018 ASHA Convention.

Donna Goodlett-Collins, MS, CCC-SLP, is assistant professor/clinical coordinator of academic education at Brescia University in Owensboro, Kentucky. She received her bachelor's degree from Spalding University and her master's degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine. In addition to teaching at Brescia, she is also a speech-language pathologist in the in-patient rehabilitation unit at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital. Previously, she served as chair of the Scholarship and Grants Committee and looks forward to bringing new ideas, opportunities and fun while serving as co-chair for the 2020 KSHA Convention.

Save the Date

#KSHACon2020
February 19-22, 2020
Lexington, KY

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