

**American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology**  
**Report to the Intersociety Pathology Council**  
**March 13, 2016**

There are currently 555 members of AAOMP. This total includes 362 fellows, 173 members and 85 who are retired from active practice and hold Emeritus status.

The PECOS system has been one of the most frustrating issues for practicing laboratory oral and maxillofacial pathologists, as claims are being denied if referring dentists are not registered in the PECOS system. As many dentists are not Medicare providers, they often see no reason to be registered simply for the purpose of referral. This issue impacts all pathology laboratories, as no pathology laboratory providing Medicare services can bill Medicare for biopsies referred by non-PECOS-registered dental or physician providers. With CMS requiring providers that write prescriptions for Medicare patients to register we thought that some of our problems would be solved. However, in November 2015 Rep. Kenny Marchant (R-Texas) introduced the ADA-supported Protecting Seniors Access to Proper Care Act (H.R. 4062), which would repeal the requirement that dentists who treat Medicare beneficiaries either enroll in or officially opt out of Medicare in order for their patients to continue to receive their Medicare Part D benefits. CMS delayed enforcement of the provision until June 1, 2016.

John Kalmar, DDS, PhD is AAOMP liaison to CAP. He presented at the CAP sponsored National Pathology Organization Meeting in January 2016 highlighting the CMS Statutory dental exclusion (section 1862 (a) (12) not changed by Congress since 1980 requesting support petitioning CMS to consider edits. Medicare dental coverage isn't decided by the necessity or value of dental care but the anatomy structure on which the treatment is done and the kind of service offered.

Medicare definition: *Structures which directly support all teeth means a periodontium, which involves the gingivae, cementum of the teeth, the bone of the alveolar (that is, tooth sockets and alveolar process), and the periodontal membrane.*

We are currently requesting bids from web designers to revamp our website. The goal is for it to become more interactive to the individual. This will hopefully reduce the amount of time the administrative staff spends on requests including CME documentation and dues.

The AAOMP has written a position paper on the diagnostic criteria of oral lichen planus. It is currently submitted to the Academy's official journal Oral Surgery Oral Medicine Oral Pathology and is undergoing peer-review.

**AAOMP Annual Meeting, May 20-25, 2016**

The Westin Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

Speakers: Jim Lewis, MD, Jason Hornick, MD, PhD, John Reith, MD  
Keynote seminar by Raja Seethala, MD entitled: "New Salivary Entities"

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Respectfully submitted,

Susan Muller, DMD, MS  
President-elect, AAOMP