

KANSAS HEARING SOCIETY, Inc.
2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Hilton Garden Inn, Topeka, KS.
March 6th & March 7th, 2025

To AI or Not to AI, That Is the Question

Thursday 12:00 pm: Registration Opens

Thursday 1:00 – 3:00pm: Brian Taylor, Au.D. WSA. Signia Research, Development & Training. Demystifying Artificial Intelligence in Hearing Aids. This course will identify the key advancements in AI technology integrated into modern hearing aids and explain how AI algorithms adapt to wearers' listening environments and preferences. 2hrs.

3:00 – 3:30 Refreshment Break and visit Exhibit Hall

Thursday 3:30 – 4:30 pm: Laura McKinney, B.C.-H.I.S., Miracle Ear.

AI Patient Care. In this course, we will delve into AI in patient care and its relevance to our patients. We will examine what this type of entails, how patients can benefit from it, and consider the potential drawbacks of this more “hands-off” approach. 1hr.

Thursday 4:30 – 5:30 pm: Laura McKinney, B.C.-H.I.S., Miracle Ear.

How to compete with AI care or online care. In this course, we will explore the online care model, detailing what patients can anticipate from remote care, as well as the advantages and drawbacks associated with it. Additionally, we will discuss how we, as professionals, can effectively compete with this hands-off approach and how to enhance the value of our in-person care. 1hr.

Thursday 5:30 – 6:30 pm: Moderator John Lang, B.C., H.I.S. – Miracle Ear; Manufactures Round-Table Discussion. 1hr.

6:30 – 8:30 pm: Visit Exhibitors -Enjoy Cocktail Hour – Sports Items & Hearing Aid Auction.

FRIDAY MARCH 7th

Friday 7:30 am: Registration Opens.

Friday 8:00 – 9:00 am: Irene Wagner, Au.D., CCC-A; Audiology & Hearing Aid Services. A New Look at Hearing Loss and Associated Medical Conditions. Participants will learn of new medical conditions that are related to hearing loss, including diabetes, macular degeneration and HTN. Several other comorbidities will also be discussed. 1hr.

Friday 9:00 – 10:00 am: Peter Mihalick; IHS Health Policy & Advocacy Director. The 2025 Update from The International Hearing Society. Participants will learn important updates about advocacy, and issues IHS is currently involved in that are very relevant to all practitioners in hearing health care. 1hr.

Friday 10:00-10:15 am: Refreshment Break & Manufacturer's Exhibits.

Friday 10:15 – 12:15 am: Robert Cullen, M.D. & Kristen Lewis, Au.D., MidWest Ear Institute, Ks City, Mo; Advancements in Cochlear Implants: Evolving Candidacy, Streamlined Care, and the Role of Artificial Intelligence.

Attendees will be able to identify patients who could benefit from a cochlear implant and will be able to describe how to implement cochlear implants in the ongoing hearing health care of their patients! And finally, Members will be able to identify programming techniques that derive from AI. 2hrs.

12:15 – 1:15 pm: Business Luncheon & Annual Meeting.

1:15 – 1:30 pm: Announcements of Silent Auction Winners.

1:30 – 2:30 pm: Cheryl Wehler, M.D. KU School of Medicine; Defining Cognitive Decline and Understanding the Various Types of Dementia.

Members will be able to understand the terminology of “cognitive decline” and identify signs of cognitive decline. Attendees will also learn of the different types of dementia as well as understand where to best refer patients who may need diagnostic work-up. 1 Hr.

2:30 – 3:00 pm Conference Ends