American Academy of Audiology Style Guide

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GENERAL WRITING GUIDELINES

- Avoid wordiness.
- Avoid overly fancy words.
- Avoid overly complex sentence structure.
- Avoid sexist language: chair (not chairman), representative, or senator (not congressman)
- Particularly in consumer-oriented material, use person-first language when referring to persons with disabilities. For example, rather than “hearing-impaired patient,” use “patient who is hearing impaired” or, preferably, “patient with a hearing impairment” to emphasize that the patient is a person first and—secondarily—has a disability.
- Use the active, not passive, voice whenever possible.
  
  Passive: The bill was passed by Congress. Active: Congress passed the bill.

- Avoid the use of please in calls to action.

  For more information, please contact the Academy.

- Reread and revise as necessary.

ABBREVIATIONS

- American Academy of Audiology: the Academy. Use of the abbreviation AAA should be limited and more in use with the annual conference, see specifics later in this guide.
- American Academy of Audiology Foundation: AAA Foundation, AAAF, the Foundation
- American Academy of Audiology Inc. Political Action Committee: AAA Inc. PAC
- American Board of Audiology®: ABA; Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification: PASC®; Cochlear Implant Specialty Certification: CISC®; Certificate Holder-Audiology Preceptor: CH-AP
- AAA Annual Conference; AAA 2019 or specified year.
- fourth-year externship, not 4th-year externship
- Spell out nonstandard abbreviations at first use: ABR (auditory brainstem response).
- Avoid the use of periods in academic and professional designations such as AuD, CAE, CMP, CFRE, EdD, MA, MD, MSc, PhD, ScD. Within a sentence, the credentials are followed by a comma: John Smith, AuD, writes…
Before referring to someone as Dr., specify which doctoral degree an individual has earned, preferably as an abbreviation immediately following his or her name.

- No periods in acronyms (HAT, NICU, OSHA) and initialisms (AAA, JCIH).
- U.S. when used as an adjective, United States when used as a noun.
- Write out the full state name in the “About the Author” section of AT articles. In the reference lists, use the two-letter abbreviation.
- She or he (not s/he or she/he).
- The Hearing Journal: *Hear J* (In italics)*
  
  *Full list of journal abbreviations available*
- Spell out the names of months.
- Use “and” in place of the ampersand symbol (&).
- When following an Arabic numeral, certain scientific abbreviations (dB, Hz) do not need to be spelled out.

**CAPITALIZATION**

- Headings/titles: Capitalize every word except prepositions of four letters or fewer (on, in, up, down, upon, etc.); articles (a, an, the); the words to and as; and the conjunctions but, and, or, for, and nor. Capitalize all verbs regardless of length, including “is” and “are.”
  - audiology, audiologist
  - the American Academy of Audiology, the Academy
  - American Academy of Audiology Foundation, AAA Foundation, AAAF, the Foundation
  - American Board of Audiology® (ABA), the board
  - Board Certified in Audiology®, board certified
  - the Deaf community, the Deaf culture, persons who are deaf
  - the Publications Committee, the committee
  - Founders Day, founder James Jerger
  - Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology, a fellow
  - the Board of Directors, the board
  - the U.S. Congress, the Congress, congressional, member of Congress
  - Senator Tim Johnson, Senator Johnson, the senator
  - Illinois State, state of Illinois
  - President Feeney, the president
  - Michael Valente, chair of the Publications Committee
• the Medicare Hearing Health Care Enhancement Act of 2007, the direct access bill
• federal
• the Capitol Hill office, the main office
• winter, spring, summer, fall
• internet, web
• website
• cochlear implant
• hearing aid
• speech-in-noise

• Generational terms: baby boomer, gen X, gen Y, millennial
• Hashtags: Use capital letters for proper nouns only.
• E-mail addresses: Use capital letters only when case sensitive.
• Web addresses: Case (uppercase and lowercase) should always be preserved in case-sensitive addresses, regardless of context. Addresses are not case sensitive.
  • When using the URL in marketing material or titles and headings, use capital letters: www.AmericanBoardofAudiology.org, www.AAACConference.org, etc.
  • When using the URL within text, lowercase may be used: www.aaaconference.org.
• For Dutch surnames beginning with van, van der, or similar particles, the particles are lowercased when used with first names (Rafael van der Vaart), but the first particles are capitalized when the surnames are used without the first names (Dr. Van der Vaart).

FORMAT

• Do not separate sentences with more than one space. Only one space after all punctuation.
• It is unnecessary to title an introductory section “Introduction.” Introductory sections do not require a title.
• Use bulleted lists unless the number of items is important, in which case use numbered lists. For bulleted lists, do not use a colon after a verb or preposition. Do
you use a colon after “following,” “as follows,” and “to. Lowercase letters enumerate the second level of items in a numbered list.

1.
2.
   a.
   b.
3.

About the Author

This section should consist of one sentence containing the author’s academic credentials (typically limited to highest degree[s]), title, affiliation (institution and location), and current volunteer activity for the Academy. The “FAAA” designation is not necessary. Board certification may be included. A second sentence may be added that contains pertinent professional information demonstrating the author’s authority on the topic of the article.

John Smith, PhD, is a professor of audiology in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Some University, Anytown, State.

Jane Johnson, AuD, is an audiologist at Big City Hearing in Big City, State. Johnson specializes in pediatric diagnosis and rehabilitation.

Figures and Tables

Figures

- Captions should follow sentence-style capitalization and be followed by a period.
- Captions should appear under figures.
- Each part of a multipart figure should be labeled with a capital letter as such: A, B, C, etc.

Tables

- Titles should follow headline-style capitalization and not be followed by a period.
• Titles should appear above tables.
• Headers should follow sentence-style capitalization.

Text Citations

• Text citations of references should appear in author-date format.
• Citations are ideally placed at a natural pause in the text, usually just preceding a punctuation mark at the end of a clause or sentence.
• A list of multiple citations should be ordered chronologically. If more than one citation in the list is from the same year, those citations should be ordered alphabetically.
• If a source has been accepted for publication but not yet published, “Forthcoming” should be used in lieu of the year of copyright.

One author:
(Author surname, Year of copyright)
(Jerger, 2009)

Two authors:
(First author surname and Second author surname, Year of copyright)
(Jerger and Jerger, 2009)

Three or more authors:
(First author surname et al, Year of copyright)
(Jerger et al, 2009)

Specific page(s):
(Author surname, Year of copyright, p[p]. Page number[s]).
(Jerger, 2009, p. 10)

Personal communications (e-mails, letters, phone conversations, in-person conversations, etc.) should be cited as follows:
Dr. David Myers (pers. comm., May 14, 2010), founder of the Let’s Loop America campaign, describes the new technology that is desirable to both consumers and hearing professionals alike.

Multiple citations:
(McCaslin, 2008; Jacobson, 2009; Jerger, 2009)

Reference List

• References provide the bibliographic information of the author’s sources.
- There should be no comma between the author’s last name and the first initial, Jerger J.
- Multiple authors look like: Jerger J, Jerger J.
- List up to six authors. If there are more than six authors, list the first three followed by “et al.”

**Book:**
Author surname First and any other initials. (Year of copyright) *Book Title*. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher.

**Book chapter:**
Author surname First and any other initials. (Year of copyright) Chapter title. In: *Book Title*. Place of publication: Publisher, pp. Page range of chapter.

**Magazine or journal article:**
Author surname First and any other initials. (Year of copyright) Article title. *Magazine or PubMed Journal Title Abbreviation* Volume number(Issue number): Page range of article.

**Online magazine or journal article:**
Author surname First and any other initials. (Year of copyright) Article title. *Magazine or PubMed Journal Title Abbreviation* Volume number(Issue number): Page range of article. URL.
Site content:
Author Name. (Year of copyright or year of access if no copyright date is given) Title of content. Title or Owner of the Site. URL (accessed Month Day, Year). If no author is named, the owner of the site is considered the author. American Academy of Audiology. (2010) Assistive listening and alerting devices. How’s Your Hearing? Ask an Audiologist. www.howsyourhearing.org (accessed July 4, 2010).

Notes

- Notes are numbered sequentially using Arabic numerals.
- The notes section appears at the end of an article.
- Note numbers are superscripted in body text but not in the notes section itself.
- A note number in body text should be placed as close as possible to the text it refers to and immediately after any punctuation marks (one exception: before a dash). For ease of reading, the note number is ideally placed at the end of a sentence.

NAMES AND TERMS

- The terms hearing health-care provider and hearing health-care professional denote both audioprosthologist and audiologist and therefore should not be used as synonyms for audiologist.
- To ensure fair use of a trademark, such as a product name, apply these guidelines:
  a. Use the trademark only if the trademarked product cannot be easily identified without it.
  b. Use the trademark no more than is needed to identify the product.
  c. Do not use the trademark in such a way that implies the trademark holder’s sponsorship or endorsement.
Trademark symbols (™, ®): Use in titles, headings, graphic uses, and on first use in body text. Omit after the first use in body text. Note that superscription of the registered trademark symbol (®) is not possible on the web.
- Do not use logos in body text.
- At the first mention of a person, include full formal name and degrees. Thereafter, use only the surname.
- For a list of commonly used acronyms, see Appendix.

*Academy Products and Services*

*HearCareers (in running text)*

*Academy Awards*

Jerger Career Award for Research in Audiology
Samuel F. Lybarger Award for Achievements in Industry
International Award in Hearing
Humanitarian Award
Marion Downs Pediatric Audiology Award
Clinical Excellence in Audiology Award
Early-Career Audiologist Award
Outstanding Educator Award
Honors of the Academy

*Academy Grants*

[New Investigator Research Grant]
[Student Investigator Research Grant]
[Student Summer Research Fellowship]

*American Academy of Audiology Foundation Awards and Grants*

Hearing Aids, Clinical Protocols, and Patient Outcomes Student Research Grant
Vestibular Research Grant
James and Susan Jerger Award for Excellence in Student Research
Student Research Forum Award

*Meetings*

- As of June 2017, AudiologyNOW!, the Academy’s annual conference, will be referenced as AAA (space) ____ and the appropriate year.
  1. AAA 2018
  2. For example, “At AAA 2018, the Academy’s annual conference and exposition, Amy Miedema will be presenting.”
  3. If you do not want to reference a specific year, simply say, “At the Academy’s annual conference and exposition…”

- Academy Research Conference (ARC)
• Jerger Future Leaders of Audiology Conference (JFLAC)
• Audiology Career Enhancement (ACE) Symposium or ACE after initial reference
• Whereas conferences titles are not italicized or placed in quotation marks, conference themes are placed in quotation marks: “Research and Clinical Practice: Integration Through Communication.”

Organizations

• American Academy of Audiology Foundation.
• The registered trademark symbol (®) must follow the name American Board of Audiology and the designation Board Certified in Audiology when they appear along with the American Board of Audiology logo.
• Use complete names rather than abbreviations at first use: American Academy of Audiology (Academy), American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The abbreviation, in parentheses, should immediately follow the complete name and will be used throughout the remainder of the text.
• Use complete names of manufacturers and companies upon first use, e.g., Starkey Laboratories Inc., not Starkey. Thereafter, use shortened name.

Titles of Works

• Chapters, articles, and other parts of complete, stand-alone publications, as well as events, presentations, conference themes, and songs are placed in quotation marks: “Washington Watch,” “Turn It to the Left®.”

Web Addresses

• If http://www begins a web address, http:// is not needed.
• A trailing backslash is not needed at the end of a web address that consists only of a domain name: www.audiology.org not www.audiology.org/.

NUMBERS

• Spell out numbers one through nine. Use Arabic numerals for numbers 10 and greater.
• Spell out numbers that begin a sentence.

  Fifteen thousand audiologists attended AAA 2019 in Columbus.

• In number ranges, separate the numbers using an en dash (a mark that is a little longer than a hyphen): October 27–31, 1967–1968, pp. 330–341. Do not abbreviate the second number in the range.
• Do not include cents in round-number dollar amounts: $100.
• Commas should be used before the hundreds digit beginning with 1,000. Years and page numbers do not require commas.
• Phone or fax numbers: 703-790-8466, x1031. For domestic numbers, it is not necessary to include a 1 before the area code or to place the area code in parentheses. International numbers are preceded by a plus sign and the country code, for example, +44 to call the United Kingdom. The plus sign represents any numbers that are required from the country of origin; in the United States, the numbers 011 are required in order to call outside the country.
• Numbered lists in running text should be written with (1) Arabic numerals, (2) numbers enclosed in parentheses, (3) short items separated by commas, and (4) long items separated by semicolons.
• Write out %: 26 percent (not 26%), nine percent
• Ordinals should not be superscripted.

Dates and Times

• January 1, 2009
• January 2009 (no comma)
• spring 2009
• 10:27 pm, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, 10:00 am–2:15 pm, 12:00 am to 6:00 am, 6:30–8:30 pm
• Do not use ordinals in dates: June 23 (not June 23rd), October 1 (not October 1st).
- September 11, 2001, may be referred to as 9/11.

**PUNCTUATION**

**Apostrophe**

- Do not use contractions except in the rare circumstance when an informal tone is needed.
- No apostrophes in decades or plural abbreviations such as 1980s, AuDs
- Possessives
  - Singular: add ’s
    - the audiologist’s practice, Drew Brees’s son
  - Plural: add ’
    - the audiologists’ practice, the Brees’ son

**Colon**

- Use a colon following a complete sentence to introduce an example or series of examples.
  - AuDs can find employment in a variety of work settings: schools, hospitals, private practice, and so on.
- Use a colon to introduce quoted material of more than one complete sentence.

**Comma**

- Use a comma to separate items in a series, including the conjunction preceding the final item in the series: Jim, Fred, and Jerry.
- Do not use commas around restrictive relative clauses (i.e., when the clause is essential to the meaning of the sentence).
  - Inside our ears are hair cells that send hearing signals to the brain.
  - Use commas around nonrestrictive relatives clauses (i.e., when the clause is not essential to the meaning of the sentence).
  - These hair cells act like blades of grass in your lawn, which can bend, break, and die out if you walk across them too much or stomp on them too hard.
Use a comma between independent clauses (a group of words that can stand alone as a complete sentence) that are joined by a coordinating conjunction (and, but, for, nor, yet, or).

Hearing difficulties often go unrecognized by the sufferer, and most people wait seven to ten years before seeking help.

Commas should be used following long introductory clauses.

Although hearing problems are commonly associated with the normal aging process, more than half of all hearing-impaired persons younger than 65.

Commas should be placed around appositives.

Patrick Feeney, the president, has made research a priority during his term.

Dash

Em dashes ([Ctrl] [Alt] + minus sign on the number pad) are used for emphasis (and should be used sparingly)

Audiology is one of the best professions to practice—perhaps the very best!

En dashes ([Ctrl] + minus sign on the number pad) are used in ranges of numbers or between page numbers.

Dashes should not be preceded or followed by spaces.

Parentheses

Parentheses enclose material that is not essential.

A parenthetical may be a complete sentence but should not have an initial capital letter or final period when it appears within another sentence.

Period

Periods are acceptable immediately following web addresses: www.audiology.org.

Ellipses
- Use an ellipsis (three periods in a row) with no spaces on either side to indicate missing text.

**Quotation Marks**

- All punctuation, with the exception of semicolons, should be placed inside quotation marks.
- Single quotation marks are used around a quotation within a quotation.
- Quotations of five lines or more should appear as block quotations. Block quotations do not use quotation marks but are indented and separated by hard returns from the text preceding and following.
- See also “Titles of Works” section above.

**Semicolon**

- The semicolon separates items in a series when the items are very long or contain commas.
- The semicolon separates two closely related independent clauses (i.e., complete sentences).

**SPELLING**

- Use *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th edition. If a word has alternative spellings, use the first listed. Do not use British-English variants.
- Eliminate the hyphens between prefixes and root words whenever possible: cosponsor, coworker, subcommittee, preconvention, nonmember, nonprofit.
- Computer file formats should be referred to by name, not extension: PDF, not .pdf; Word, not .doc; Excel, not .xls; WAV, not .wav; PowerPoint, not .ppt
- acknowledgment
- app
- audiological, not audiologic
- child care
- data (plural), datum (singular)
- e.g., (no italics) = for example
- i.e., (no italics) = that is
- earbud, earmuff, earplug
- e-mail, e-newsletter, e-commerce
- fund raise, fund-raiser, fund-raising,
- health care, health-care policy
- hard of hearing
- hearing aid, hearing aid fitting (no hyphen)
- hearing impaired
- it’s = it is; its = belonging to it
- judgment
- keyword
- Listserv (capitalized)
- log in (noun), log-in (verb)
- long-term (adjective), long term (noun)
- master’s degree
- member-at-large
- online
- on-site
- on demand
- payer, not payor
- resume, not résumé
- smartphone
- tele-audiology
- telehealth
- telemedicine
- videoconferencing
- website, web page
Appendix A. Commonly Used Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACRONYM</th>
<th>FULL NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAAF</td>
<td>American Academy of Audiology Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AADB</td>
<td>American Association of the Deaf-Blind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAFP</td>
<td>American Academy of Family Physicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAMI</td>
<td>Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAO-HNS</td>
<td>American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAP</td>
<td>American Academy of Pediatrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS</td>
<td>American Auditory Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABA</td>
<td>American Board of Audiology®</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACAE</td>
<td>Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADA</td>
<td>Academy of Doctors of Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRQ</td>
<td>Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMA</td>
<td>American Medical Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMS</td>
<td>association management system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APA</td>
<td>American Psychological Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APC</td>
<td>ambulatory payment classification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APD</td>
<td>auditory processing disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APE</td>
<td><em>Audiology Practice Essentials</em> [Academy product]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARA</td>
<td>Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARO</td>
<td>Association for Research in Otolaryngology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA</td>
<td>Acoustical Society of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASACOS</td>
<td>Acoustical Society of America Committee on Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASAE</td>
<td>American Society of Association Executives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASHA</td>
<td>American Speech-Language-Hearing Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASHA HCEC</td>
<td>ASHA Health Care Economics Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT</td>
<td><em>Audiology Today</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATA</td>
<td>American Tinnitus Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVI</td>
<td>Auditory-Verbal International Inc.®</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVT</td>
<td>auditory-verbal therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAA</td>
<td>British Academy of Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEO</td>
<td>banquet event order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHI</td>
<td>Better Hearing Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLS</td>
<td>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAA</td>
<td>Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAE</td>
<td>Certified Association Executive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAH</td>
<td>critical access hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAOHC</td>
<td>Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPCSD</td>
<td>Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPD</td>
<td>central auditory processing disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCC-A</td>
<td>Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEC</td>
<td>Council for Exceptional Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CED</td>
<td>Council on Education of the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEU</td>
<td>continuing education unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF</td>
<td>conversion factor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHHC</td>
<td>Congressional Hearing Health Caucus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CID</td>
<td>Central Institute for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CISC®</td>
<td>Cochlear Implant Specialty Certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLEAR</td>
<td>Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMS</td>
<td>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CODA</td>
<td>Children of Deaf Adults International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPOP</td>
<td>Certification Program for Otolaryngology Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPT®</td>
<td>Current Procedure Terminology [owned by AMA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVB</td>
<td>convention and visitors bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCMP</td>
<td>Described and Captioned Media Program [National Association of the Deaf]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHHA</td>
<td>Deaf and Hard of Hearing Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHI-S</td>
<td>Dizziness Handicap Inventory—Screening Version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRF</td>
<td>Deafness Research Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAP</td>
<td>Exhibitor Advisory Panel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHDI</td>
<td>Early Hearing Detection and Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETS</td>
<td>Educational Testing Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAAA</td>
<td>Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDA</td>
<td>Food and Drug Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAO</td>
<td>Government Accountability Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPCI</td>
<td>geographic practice cost indices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCPAC</td>
<td>Health Care Professionals Advisory Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCPCS</td>
<td>Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.E.A.R.</td>
<td>Hearing Education and Awareness for Rockers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEI</td>
<td>House Ear Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHIE-S</td>
<td>Hearing Handicap Inventory for the Elderly—Screening Version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHS</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIA</td>
<td>Hearing Industries Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIPAA</td>
<td>Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLAA</td>
<td>Hearing Loss Association of America [formerly SHHH]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRSA</td>
<td>Health Resources and Services Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IACET</td>
<td>International Association for Continuing Education and Training</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IAEE  International Association of Exhibitions and Events [formerly IAEM {International Association for Exhibition Management}]
ICD-9  *International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision* [diagnosis codes]
IDEA  Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IDTF  Independent Diagnostic Testing Facility
IEP  Individualized Education Program
IHS  International Hearing Society [hearing aid dealers]
IPPE  initial preventative physical examination [“Welcome to Medicare” exam]

*JAAA*  *Journal of the American Academy of Audiology*

JCIH  Joint Committee on Infant Hearing
MCO  managed care organization
MedPAC  Medicare Payment Advisory Commission [independent congressional agency]
MMA  Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003

MPFS  Medicare Physician Fee Schedule
NAAHP  National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions
NACIQI  National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity [U.S. Dept. of Education]

NAFDA  National Association of Future Doctors of Audiology
NAICS  North American Industry Classification System
NBASLH  National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing
NBC-HIS  National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences
NCCA  National Commission for Certifying Agencies
NCD  National Coverage Determinations
NCHH  National Campaign for Hearing Health [DRF]
NCI  National Captioning Institute
NCSA  National Cued Speech Association
NCSB  National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

NHCA  National Hearing Conservation Association
NIDCD  National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
NIH  National Institutes of Health
NIHL  noise-induced hearing loss
NOCA  National Organization for Competency Assurance
NQF  National Quality Forum
OIG  Office of the Inspector General
OPM  U.S. Office of Personnel Management
OPPS  Outpatient Prospective Payment System
OSHA  Occupational Safety and Health Administration
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAC</td>
<td>political action committee [but the American Academy of Audiology Inc. Political Action Committee]</td>
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<tr>
<td>PASC®</td>
<td>Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCMA</td>
<td>Professional Convention Management Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCP</td>
<td>primary care physician</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCPI</td>
<td>Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>PEAC</td>
<td>Practice Expense Advisory Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>PQRS</td>
<td>Physician Quality Reporting System</td>
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<tr>
<td>RUC</td>
<td>Relative Value Scale Update Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>RVU</td>
<td>relative value units</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC</td>
<td>Standard Occupational Classification</td>
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<tr>
<td>SGR</td>
<td>sustainable growth rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>TITTL</td>
<td>“Turn It to the Left” [Academy Foundation song]</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNHS</td>
<td>universal newborn hearing screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>USTAG</td>
<td>United States Technical Advisory Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>WFD</td>
<td>World Federation of the Deaf</td>
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