FACULTY

Dee Adams Nikjeh, PhD, CCC-SLP, is an expert in health care coding systems, compliance requirements, and billing practices for the field of speech-language pathology. She co-chairs ASHA's Health Care Economics Committee, the American Medical Association's Relative Value Update Committee/Health Care Professionals Advisory Committee and is an expert witness in the field of speech-language pathology for the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Division-Fraud Section. Nikjeh's professional career in the field of communication sciences and disorders spans four decades as a clinician, supervisor, researcher, educator, mentor, consultant, and advocate of the profession. She has served on ASHA's Legislative Council and the Executive Board of the Council of State Association Presidents. She is an ASHA Fellow and a past-president of the Florida Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists.

Financial Disclosures:
- U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, Expert Witness
- Financial compensation from ASHA for this presentation

Nonfinancial Disclosures:
- ASHA Health Care Economics Committee Co-Chair
- AMA Relative Value Update Committee (RUC) member
- AMA RUC Health Care Professional Advisory Committee Review Board Co-Chair

Shannon Butkus, PhD, CCC-SLP, has a diverse background as a speech-language pathologist. She earned her PhD in Health Care Economics through the School of Public Health at Texas A&M University and is a member of ASHA’s Health Care Economics Committee. She has more than 15 years of experience in professional practice and has owned a pediatric private practice for more than a decade. During her work in private practice, Butkus has spent considerable time as an advocate for patient benefits and provider reimbursement rates at the state and national level. She has provided legislative briefings, collaborated with state health officials on the development of policies for the provision of therapy services to children enrolled in the Medicaid program, and worked with insurance companies on the implementation of alternative payment models. Over the course of her professional career, Butkus has developed a love for teaching and currently presents on a variety of topics including Medicaid, professional advocacy, clinical documentation and writing for medical necessity, and the use of data to track provider practice patterns.

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- None