



**American Orthotic &  
Prosthetic Association**

# AOPA in Advance

## Breaking News for O&P Professionals

July 27, 2010

Volume 14, Number 15



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### Contact Us

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#### Newsletter Feedback

We invite your comments and questions. Please contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## O&P NEWS

### Winners of the COPL 2010 Research Grants Announced

It is known that comparative effectiveness research will increasingly drive reimbursement levels flowing from Medicare, Medicaid and third party payers. Answers are needed to demonstrate which treatment option, which device, which surgical procedure is going to produce the most patient centered and cost effective outcome. And nobody is going to do that research for O&P. The O&P community has got to take the lead in producing quality research or forever take a back seat when it comes to payments.

The Center for Orthotic and Prosthetic Learning and Outcomes/Evidence-Based Practice (COPL) recommended that the following projects be funded up to \$7,500 each by **AOPA**. The recipients for a set of pilot project research grants for 2010 were:

- A Pilot Study - Outcomes Assessment of Vacuum Assisted Socket Systems submitted by Sam Phillips, Ph.D., CP, (Principal Investigator), Tampa Veterans Research and Education Foundation;
- A Pilot Project - Investigation of Prosthetic Socket Interface Pressure: Effects of Suspension Types and Socket Alignment; submitted by Fan Goa, Ph.D., (Principal Investigator), University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas; and
- A Pilot Project - Exploiting Lower Limb Orthotic Constraint of Movement as a Strategy for Neuromuscular Recalibration submitted by Christopher Hovorka, MS, CPO, LPO, FAAOP (Principal Investigator), School of Applied Physiology, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta.

Concurrent with the research on these projects beginning, final reports from the project grants funded by **AOPA** and awarded in 2009 are due to COPL on December 31, 2010. At that point, the COPL Board of Directors will evaluate the findings and issue recommendations to the **AOPA** Board of Directors on how to position these research results to secure further funding for expanded research.

[Click here to become a member or to find out more information about the COPL.](#)

**AOPA** will keep members updated as to the COPL research developments as they become available.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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### AOPA Board of Directors Nominations Announced

The **AOPA** Nominating Committee, chaired by Immediate Past President Brian Gustin, CP, presented its slate of candidates to assume soon-to-be vacant positions on the **AOPA** Board of Directors. The nominees include:

- Thomas Kirk, Ph.D. (nominated for position of Vice President);
- Eileen Levis (nominated for Director, 1-3 Facilities);
- Kel Bergmann, CPO (nominated for Director, 11-199 Facilities); and
- Michael Hamontree (Nominated for Director-at-Large)

In accordance with the **AOPA** bylaws, an official Annual Business Meeting notification will be mailed to **AOPA** members and will include a summary of the professional credentials of each nominee as well as instructions for voting or voting-by-proxy at the meeting. The elections for filling vacancies to the **AOPA** Board of Directors will occur during the Annual Business Meeting scheduled to take place during the Friday, October 1 General Session, beginning at 7:30 AM at the 2010 **AOPA** National Assembly at Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando Florida.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## Editor's Note: Correction to Item in July 13 AIA

In the July 13 issue of **AOPA in Advance**, the first item, "O&P Alliance Pledges Support for Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights," incorrectly attributed a statement of support for H.R. 5428 to Bryce Docherty, Executive Director and Legislative Advocate for the California Orthotics and Prosthetics Association (COPA). The item should have attributed that quote to a letter distributed by the National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics (NAAOP). **AOPA** apologizes for the error.

[Click here to read the full statement of support for H.R. 5428 from NAAOP.](#)

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## New Region D RAC Audit on Prosthetic Feet

**AOPA** recently learned that the Region D Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC), Health Data Insights, will be conducting an audit on the following K3 functional level codes: L5973, L5976, L5980, L5981 and L5987. The intent of the audit is to ensure that facilities have the proper documentation on file to support the patient's designated functional level of K3. This means that they will be looking for specific medical documentation of that specific patient's need for a K3 device, in accordance with Medicare medical policies. Health Data Insights has told **AOPA** that letters informing providers of the audit were expected to be mailed last week, but you may have already noticed an increase in denials of these codes, even on previously paid claims. Unfortunately, if you receive a letter, it will mean that you have been targeted for the audit.

RACs are specialized auditors working on behalf of Medicare to recoup payments on claims that they feel were improperly paid. They are paid on a contingency basis, meaning they receive a percentage of what they recover as payment for their services, so they are incentivized to find mistakes. The RACs are divided into four regions, which mirror those of the four DME MAC jurisdictions. Information about each RAC, including a link to its website is below:

RAC	Website	E-Mail	Telephone Number
Region A: Diversified Collection Services	<a href="http://www.dcsrac.com">www.dcsrac.com</a>	<a href="mailto:info@dcsrac.com">info@dcsrac.com</a>	1.866.201.0580
Region B: CGI	<a href="http://racb.cgi.com">http://racb.cgi.com</a>	<a href="mailto:racb.cgi.com">racb.cgi.com</a>	1.877.316.7222
Region C: Connolly Inc.	<a href="http://www.connollyhealthcare.com/RAC">www.connollyhealthcare.com/RAC</a>	<a href="mailto:RACinfo@connollyhealthcare.com">RACinfo@connollyhealthcare.com</a>	1.866.360.2507
Region D: Health Datainsights	<a href="http://racinfo.healthdatainsights.com">http://racinfo.healthdatainsights.com</a>	<a href="mailto:racinfo@emailhdi.com">racinfo@emailhdi.com</a>	Part A: 866.590.5598 Part B: 866.376.2319

The activities, or codes, that the RACs choose to audit are not random. RACs will only target those areas that CMS has deemed as troublesome. In other words, CMS will identify specific areas where a claim analysis has shown a history of improper billing, and forward this information to the RACs. The RACs are required to publish the areas they are choosing to audit on their websites, as well as provide you with a detailed letter explaining the specific reason why they believe the code(s) in question were paid improperly.

Depending on the complexity of the audit, the letter will either identify an overpayment and request a refund, or will request additional information for review. If you receive an overpayment letter and you believe the claims were billed appropriately, you should notify the RAC immediately so that you do not lose the right to appeal any overpayment decisions. If the letter is requesting that you submit additional documentation, this documentation should be sent to the RAC within 45 days.

Keep in mind that this documentation does not have to be limited to your chart notes. If you feel that your notes may not be sufficient to support a K3 device choice, you may submit doctors' notes, physical therapists' notes, hospital notes, etc. Also remember that it is the quality of the documentation that is important, not just the fact that, for example, you have physician's notes. These notes must support the patient's medical condition that necessitates this level of device. Your own notes must also specify why the patient needs such an item. Failure to send in adequate additional information will result in an automatic overpayment request.

CMS has placed other limits on the scope of the RACs authority. When auditing your claims, for example, the RACs are limited to a "look back" period of three years. Currently, RACs can only review claims that were paid on or after October 1, 2007. In addition to the limited "look back" window, the RACs also have frequency restrictions. The RACs may only review a maximum of 1% of the average monthly Medicare claim lines (maximum of 200) per NPI per 45 days. This means that for every 45-day period, the RAC may review a maximum of 200 individual HCPCS codes billed for each of your locations

[Click here for more information about the RACs from the March 2010 issue of the O&P Almanac.](#)

[Click here to view a CMS Med Learn Matters article on RACs.](#)

Questions? Contact Devon Bernard at [dbernard@AOPAnet.org](mailto:dbernard@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0854 or Joe McTernan at [jmcternan@AOPAnet.org](mailto:jmcternan@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0811.

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## CMS Releases Updated Interest Rate for Overpayments and Underpayments

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced that effective July 21, 2010 the interest rate for Medicare overpayments and underpayments increased from 10.85% to 11.00%. This interest is applied every 30 days until the underpayment or overpayment is paid in full. The interest rate is recalculated on a quarterly basis and the interest rate in effect at the time the under or overpayment was discovered remains in effect unless the provider misses two consecutive payments, in which case the prevailing rate will become the new interest rate.

Questions? Contact Devon Bernard at [dbernard@AOPAnet.org](mailto:dbernard@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0854 or Joe McTernan at [jmcternan@AOPAnet.org](mailto:jmcternan@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0811.

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## Donations Needed for Wine Tasting and Auction to Support Government Relations Outreach

For the third year, **AOPA** is hosting a wine tasting and auction to benefit **AOPA's** Government

Relations outreach. Quickly becoming one of the most anticipated Assembly events, the auction offers a chance to learn about and taste a variety of wines, including some made by your fellow members. Donations for auction are now being accepted, and we look forward to seeing you Thursday, September 30, from 6:30 - 8:00 PM for a friendly bidding war or two!

[Click here to access the Wine Donation Form.](#)

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## Take the June 2010 Business Conditions Survey

The latest **AOPA** Business Conditions Survey has been released. This month's survey includes questions about year-to-year revenue comparisons, facility accreditation, and the 2010 **AOPA** National Assembly.

The survey takes only a couple minutes to complete and, like all Business Conditions Surveys, your answers are anonymous. This current survey inquires about comparisons in revenue from 2008 to 2009, the incidence of facility-assisted financial aid being offered to patients who have lost health insurance and facility employment projections.

[Click here to take the June 2010 Business Conditions Survey.](#)

If you are in charge of making business decisions for your O&P patient care facility and are not receiving the monthly Business Conditions Surveys, please contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835 and your email address will be added to the distribution list.

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## Submit Your Business Education Paper for the Sam E. Hamontree, CP, Business Education Award

The American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association (**AOPA**) is pleased to announce the establishment of a new business education award. The purpose of this education award is to promote the highest quality business education to the orthotics, prosthetics and pedorthics profession; and to highlight business expertise during the **AOPA** National Assembly.

The funding for the annual award is in honor of Sam Hamontree, CP, and his many contributions to the field of O&P. It is given by the Hamontree family --- Marlene Hamontree, Lynne and Steve Hamontree, CPO, and Joelle and Michael Hamontree.

The namesake of this award, Sam E. Hamontree, CP, is well known to the industry. Throughout a career that spans more than 50 years in the profession, his long list of accomplishments includes such monumental achievements as:

- Recipient of the **AOPA** Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000;
- Recipient of the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists Titus Ferguson Award in 2003; and
- President of the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics in 1970.

In addition to these significant achievements, Mr. Hamontree served as chairman of the **AOPA** Business Procedures & Liaison Committee for many years and led the development of several business tools for O&P including, the Relative Values schedule which was developed into the HCPCS L-Code system, the **AOPA** Accounting Manual, the **AOPA** Business Survey, and the **AOPA** Cost

Accounting Manual, all of which have been used successfully by **AOPA** members for decades.

Award specifications include:

- The Hamontree Award will be promoted and presented each year during the AOPA National Assembly.
- The winning paper(s) will be selected by the Assembly Planning Committee Business Education Workgroup from the business papers submitted.
- The winning paper(s) will be presented during a general education session at the Assembly.
- The Hamontree Award winner will receive a \$1,000 honorarium and framed certificate.

The Hamontree Award will recognize the best business education paper submitted for presentation at the **AOPA** National Assembly each year and is envisioned as a counterpart to the Thranhardt Award given each year for the best clinical paper.

[Click here to compete for the prestigious 2010 Sam E. Hamontree, CP, Business Education Award.](#)

Questions? Contact Tina Moran at [tmoran@AOPAnet.org](mailto:tmoran@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0808.

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## August 2010 Issue of *O&P Almanac* Shipping Soon!

The August issue of the [O&P Almanac](#) is shipping soon. This month's content includes:

- A cover story on O&P innovations and outcomes;
- Q&A with Rep. Jason Altmire (D-PA) from his presentation to **AOPA** members during the 2010 **AOPA** Policy Forum;
- A preview of more speakers at the 2010 **AOPA** National Assembly;
- Announcements from the COPL regarding evidence-based outcomes research;
- **AOPA's** Government Relations' Reimbursement Page;
- And more!

If you have any questions about the *Almanac*, need to update your subscription, want to pitch a story, or give your input for future features, please contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## August 11 Audio Conference: "Medicare's Knocking: How Good is Your Compliance Plan?"

The DME MACs and the Office of Inspector General (OIG) are taking a closer look at the billing practices of O&P professionals. In today's environment of increased provider scrutiny, a well designed, effective compliance plan is a necessity for any successful O&P business. The ability to make sure your own billing practices are sound may prevent unnecessary audits down the road. Join **AOPA** on August 11, 2010 for its latest **AOPA**iversity Audio Conference entitled "Medicare's Knocking: How Good Is Your Compliance Plan?" Topics that will be discussed during this call include:

- How to establish and manage an efficient Compliance Plan
- The need to have a dedicated company Compliance Officer
- OIG guidance on the 7 fundamental elements of an effective compliance plan
- Taking action when compliance deficiencies are discovered
- How and when to perform self audits

- Providing appropriate compliance training to your staff

The cost is just \$99 per line for members (\$199 for nonmembers) and any number of listeners may participate on a given line. Those seeking credit must return the provided quiz within 30 days and score at least 80 percent.

[Click here to register.](#)

Questions? Contact Ann Davis at [adavis@AOPAnet.org](mailto:adavis@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0876.

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## Assembly Session Spotlight: A Year for "Good Business \$ense"

The **AOPA** National Assembly is known for outstanding business education. One such program at this year's meeting is "Good Business \$ense" and **AOPA** is pleased to present a remarkable array of speakers who provide a diverse range of business knowledge designed specifically for O&P executives, managers and practitioners. In just one afternoon, you can learn about Igniting a Passion for Customer Service, How to Appeal Payer Denials for High Technology O&P Products, Streamlining Electronic Claims Filing and Developing a Comprehensive Compliance Program for Your Business. This program will also include a Facility Accreditation Forum that will allow you to ask questions and get the hard facts from both ABC and BOC.

To participate in this program and more than 100 other educational opportunities, join us Sept. 29 - Oct. 2 at the beautiful Rosen Shingle Creek Resort. Situated on 230 acres of lush landscape, it is Central Florida's newest and most luxurious meeting destination, the kind of quality you expect at the AOPA National Assembly.

[Click here to download a copy of the complete preliminary program.](#)

[Click here to register online.](#)

Questions? Contact Ann Davis at [adavis@AOPAnet.org](mailto:adavis@AOPAnet.org) or call (571) 431-0876.

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## Registration for the 2010 Thranhardt Golf Tournament Now Open

The Fall 2010 Thranhardt Golf Tournament promises to be the best one yet! Two great causes and one great course make it not just golf but a golf experience. The Shingle Creek course, designed by David Harman, is both innovative and classic, providing a challenging and rewarding game of golf for all skill levels. The prime location, natural beauty of the course, first-class amenities and renowned commitment to customer service distinguish this course from all others in the Central Florida area.

This beautiful course is located at the site of the 2010 National Assembly, so there are no buses - just a great day of golf with your O&P friends. Individual play is \$195, foursome play \$750. Proceeds from the Thranhardt Golf classic help OPAF sustain its chief mission - enabling individuals with physical disabilities to enjoy the rewards of physical fitness and social interaction, as well as supporting AOPA's legislative initiatives for the orthotics, prosthetics and pedorthics profession.

Two convenient ways to register-register directly on your Assembly registration form, by simply checking "Thranhardt Golf Classic" under the special events section [or click here to register online.](#)

We look forward to seeing you in Orlando!

Questions? Contact Ann Davis at [adavis@AOPAnet.org](mailto:adavis@AOPAnet.org) or call (571) 431-0876.

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## Register for the 2010 AOPA National Assembly!



Registration is now open for the 93<sup>rd</sup> **AOPA** National Assembly. The **AOPA** National Assembly is *the place to be* (Sept. 29 - Oct. 2, Orlando, FL) for excellent O&P clinical and business education programming. Check out the program today-available as a supplement to the June issue of the *O&P Almanac*. Or call (571) 431-0876 for a copy.

The blockbuster programming responds to your clinical and business management needs with an array of experts whose credentials and experience will dazzle and educate you far beyond your expectations. Inspirational and motivational speakers will jump start your enthusiasm for success. Social and networking events reach new heights.

Tour the country's largest exhibit hall for the orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic professions-filled with manufacturers, distributors and suppliers showcasing every significant O, P&P component, device, item of equipment and service that is critical to maintaining a successful patient care facility.

The 2010 **AOPA** National Assembly will be held at the luxurious Rosen Shingle Creek Resort. This beautiful property features an on-site golf course, spa, fine dining as well as more casual eateries. Enjoy golf, walking and nature trails, fish, hike or just enjoy the beautiful surrounding. All of the famous Orlando attractions are just a short ride away.

[Click here to register.](#)

The beautiful Rosen Shingle Creek Resort is located just ten minutes from the Orlando International Airport and convenient to the theme parks and major tourist attractions that Orlando is known for. Please make your hotel reservations directly with the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort by calling (866) 996-6338 - **AOPA** has contracted for a limited number of rooms at a special rate of \$199. Reserve early as the hotel will likely sell out over the dates of the **AOPA** Assembly. Learn more about this beautiful resort at [www.rosenshinglecreek.com](http://www.rosenshinglecreek.com).

Questions? Contact Kelly O'Neill at [koneill@AOPAnet.org](mailto:koneill@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0852; Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835; or Tina Moran at [tmoran@AOPAnet.org](mailto:tmoran@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0810.

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## Ongoing Need in Haiti for O&P Volunteers

The Haiti Amputee Coalition is looking for CPs, CPOs and prosthetic technicians to work in Haiti. This is a volunteer position. Volunteers are asked to provide two weeks of service in Haiti and to pay all of their travel expenses to Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The Coalition will provide transportation from the airport to the Hospital Albert Schweitzer clinic. The Coalition will also provide housing and meals for all volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact:



Hanger Clinical Operations  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
(763) 521-4126

**AOPA** will continue to store your information in our volunteer database and remain in contact with you about other requests for donations of time or materials as they arise. **AOPA** and the Academy are pleased to facilitate communications between organizations and potential volunteers, but we are not endorsing any specific organization and suggest that you carefully evaluate the organization with which you decide to work. Finally the [joint Web site](#) by AAOP and **AOPA** continues to offer the opportunity for individuals and companies to make known their willingness to help sustain O&P services in Haiti through cash and equipment donations or volunteering of services.

[Click here to access the joint AAOP/AOPA Haiti Relief Site.](#)

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## O&P RESOURCES FROM AOPA

### Check Out the Redesigned AOPA Job Board for New Opportunities in O&P

If you need a position filled at your business or are interested in looking at other job possibilities within the O&P field, check out the [AOPA Online Job Board](#). The online job board sports a freshly updated look and an easy-to-navigate profile creation system.

In the past month the Job Board has been viewed over 8,000 times by more than 1,500 unique users. If you want people to find out about a job opening at your facility or are interested in posting your resume for employers to view for potential openings, visit the [AOPA Online Job Board](#) today.

And remember: if you advertise on the Online Job Board and decide to also advertise in the *O&P Almanac*, then you'll receive a 5 percent discount on the cost of advertising in the *Almanac* and on the Job Board.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## Provide Your Meeting with a PECOS Education from AOPA

At the recent 2010 PrimeFare East meeting, one of the hottest topics was PECOS and how it will affect O&P. **AOPA's** Government Affairs staff has made presentations at several state and regional meetings in the past few months, including the New York Academy Chapter meeting and the Oklahoma Association for Orthotists and Prosthetists meeting. These presentations were well received by attendees, who found the discussions of PECOS, Medicare medical policy changes, accreditation, surety bonds, Red Flag rules, consignment closets, healthcare reform and competitive bidding very helpful in staying current with the ever-changing healthcare landscape. If your state or region has an upcoming meeting and would like an **AOPA** speaker, please pass your request on to Kathy Dodson at [kdodson@AOPAnet.org](mailto:kdodson@AOPAnet.org). If scheduling permits, we would be happy to provide an update to your members. The only costs your group would incur are the speaker's expenses.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## Buy 2010 AOPA Coding Products Today!

Don't get caught with out of date coding references. Update your **AOPA** coding products today. The 2010 **AOPA** coding products are available through the **AOPA** bookstore and may be ordered by calling (571) 431-0835.

The 2010 *Illustrated Guide*, *Quick Coder* and *Coding Pro* include all HCPCS codes that describe O&P items. In addition, the 2010 *Coding Pro* contains expanded medical policy references and the 2010 *Quick Coder* includes a new section that lists all of the current modifiers used in O&P billing.

As an added bonus, if you purchase all three **AOPA** coding products at the same time, you will receive a bundled discount of \$50 off the regular retail price of the three items as sold separately.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## Is Your Practice Missing the BOAT?

**AOPA's** largest and most successful members use the Business Optimization and Analysis Tool (BOAT) and you should also. The BOAT will help you:

- Create budgets
- Track your finances
- Participate in the annual Operating Performance and Compensation survey-which provides you with a personal benchmark comparison study.
- Examine the financial fitness of your business
- Help you identify and understand your competition, market conditions and referral sources
- Much more

Create your own secure and confidential Web pages on the BOAT which is specifically tailored to help O&P business owners manage their business for greater profit and quality patient care.

[Click here to explore the BOAT today.](#)

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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## Are You Registered for AOPA's 2010 Series of Medicare Audio Conferences?

Numerous offices have benefited from their participation in **AOPA's** Medicare Audio Conferences. These one hour sessions come to you in the comfort of your office on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm Eastern. This series provides an outstanding opportunity for you and your staff to stay abreast of the latest hot topics in O&P, as well as gain clarification and ask questions on topics that you may not understand as fully as you would like to.

Seminars are still priced at just \$99 per line for members (\$199 for non-members). Buy the series and get two free; members pay just \$990 and non-members pay \$1990. If you purchase all the conferences, all conferences from months prior to your purchase of the set will be sent to you as CDs.

These convenient one hour telephone seminars are designed to fit easily into your busy schedule. Any practitioners needing credit can get 1.5 per audio conference by returning the provided quiz within 30 days and scoring at least 80%. Billing staff and others who don't need credit nonetheless can gain information they will use right away. The topics for 2010 are:

- January 13: Red Flag Rules: Are You In Compliance? (Available on CD)
- February 10: Hints on Passing Your Supplier Standards Inspection (Available on CD)
- March 10: Billing for Refused/Returned Devices and Deluxe Features (Available on CD)

- April 14: Documenting for Success: Chart Notes, Prescriptions and Physicians' Records (Available on CD)
- May 12: New Rules for HIPAA: Are You Still Compliant? (Available on CD)
- June 9: When Disaster Strikes: Implementing a Contingency Plan (Available on CD)
- July 14: Medicare Appeals Strategies (Available on CD)
- August 11: Medicare's Knocking: How Good Is Your Compliance Plan?
- September 8: Missed Billing Opportunities: Are You Billing Everything You Can?
- October 13: You're Going To Pay Me WHAT?...Hints on Managed Care Contracting
- November 10: The Ins and Outs of Billing in a Part A Setting: Hospital, SNF and Hospice
- December 8: 2011 New Codes and Medical Policies

If you miss an audio conference, it will be available on CD after the fact. Cost is the same as if you participate live (\$99/\$199). We hope you'll be able to join us for this year's series.

[Click here to register for any or all of the 2010 AOPA audio conferences.](#)

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

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*The Only Up-to-the Minute O&P Newsline*

### People in the News

[Ability Prosthetics & Orthotics, Inc.](#)'s CEO **Jeffrey Brandt, CPO** and his patient, Michel Waldron, were featured in a recent segment of the [Today Show](#).

The [Amputee Coalition of America](#) (ACA) has reached its goal to send 100 campers to the Amputee Coalition of America's Paddy Rossbach Youth Camp in Clarksville, Ohio. More than \$180,000 was raised by the ACA to send the children, ages 10-17, to the camp. Additionally, **Bianca Kajlich** and her brother **Andre Kajlich** appeared on the *CBS Early Show* this Thursday, July 22, to promote the Amputee Coalition of America's Paddy Rossbach Youth Camp. Bianca is the star of the CBS comedy *Rules of Engagement* with David Spade. Bianca has designed the acting curriculum for this year's camp, and she will be meeting the campers on Saturday when camp begins. Andre, a bilateral amputee, will be a counselor at the camp this year. He will also be teaching the course Bianca designed.

[OrPro Prosthetics & Orthotics](#) announced that **Raghvendra Prajapati, BOCO, CPed** has joined the staff of its clinical practice in Richmond, Indiana. **OrPro** also announced the promotion of **Rebecca Russell, CPO**, to the position of practice leader in its Waldorf, Maryland office.

[The Orthotic and Prosthetic Assistance Fund](#) (OPAF) announced its annual search for individuals in the O&P community who would be will to serve on OPAF's Board of Directors. Board members may serve either a one, two or three year term and are required to attend at least one of the two face to face board meetings held in conjunction with the **AOPA** and Academy national meetings. Additionally, directors are expected to be vitally involved in the ongoing work of OPAF & First Clinics with adaptive sports and recreation and to take an active role with our fundraising efforts. Nominees are needed at this time for at least one and up to three seats on the Board of Directors. [Click here for more information and all nominating materials and instructions from OPAF.](#)

[Otto Bock HealthCare](#) announced the promotion of **Todd Anderson, CP, FAAOP** to the new position of Vice President of Business Services

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### Businesses in the News

The [Board of Certification/Accreditation International](#) (BOC), announced that it has updated its COF requirements. Like the BOC Mastectomy Fitter and BOC Pedorthist credentials, the COF designation will be awarded based upon three requirements: completion of a required course of study, experience in patient care under appropriate supervision, and passing a three-hour multiple-choice examination that is conducted four times each year in more than 150 cities.

[The Orthotic and Prosthetic Assistance Fund](#) (OPAF) and the First Clinics announced that Allied Orthotics & Prosthetics of Mt. Laurel, New Jersey once again hosted a First Swing/Learn to Golf Clinic at the premier facilities of Atlantic City Country Club. The clinic was led by Lou Namm, National Amputee Golf Association First Swing Instructor and bilateral amputee and assisted by Charles Fahy, Atlantic City Country Club Director of Tennis.

[Touch Bionics](#) announced that it has won the award for the Most Innovative Company of the Year in Europe in the 2010 International Business Awards.

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## Send Us Your News!

The next **AOPA in Advance** will arrive in your inbox on August 10. So if you have a new employee or a new office, tell us! Share your news with the over 15,000 readers of the *O&P Almanac* and **AOPA In Advance** newsletter. Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org)

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