



AOPA In Advance SmartBrief

Breaking News

May 15th, 2014

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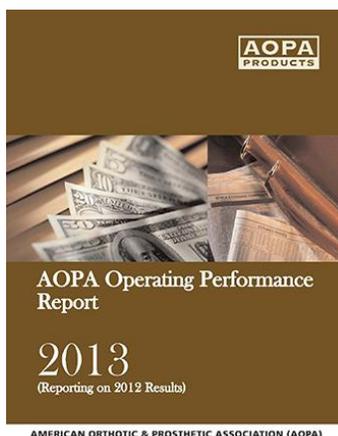
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It's Time to Participate in the 2014 AOPA Operating Performance Survey!



You should have received a paper version of the survey in your mailbox, and you can also fill it out online at www.AOPA-survey.com.

All participating AOPA member facilities will receive an individual, confidential Company Performance Report FREE that will compare your facility's operating performance against other O&P facilities of a similar size and location. This individual company report, assessing the financial health of your facility, would cost several hundred dollars if prepared by your own consultant. The individual report is AOPA's way of saying "thank you" for being a member and participating in the survey.

[You can purchase a copy of last year's survey for \\$185 \(for AOPA members, \\$325 for non-members\) at our online bookstore.](#)

[**Order Now**](#)



AOPA National Assembly September 4-7, 2014 ~ Las Vegas

[THE PRELIMINARY PROGRAM IS HERE](#) – REGISTER TODAY!

Don't miss this incredible show as we combine the **ENERGY** of Las Vegas with the **ENERGY** of 200 Exhibitors and the **ENERGY** of more than 2,300 attendees along with top-notch business and clinical experts to give you the dynamic 2014 AOPA National Assembly.

[CLICK HERE OR ON THE IMAGE TO ACCESS
 THE AOPA 2014 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
 PRELIMINARY PROGRAM](#)

Why You Should Attend

- Earn more than 32 CE credits
- Learn in any of the five dedicated education tracks— providing you with the most relevant education for:
 - orthotists
 - prosthetists
 - technicians
 - pedorthists
 - business managers
- Scientific programs featuring extensive symposia on scoliosis, pediatric orthotics, microprocessor knees and more
- Unprecedented business education featuring experts in O&P business management, documentation, healthcare reform & marketing
- Networking and career advancement for practitioners and suppliers at all levels of experience—opportunities abound, from receptions to golf, to a happy hour reception to the wine auction and tasting
- Fabulous shopping, entertainment, championship golf and unparalleled people watching—all of this on the Las Vegas Strip!

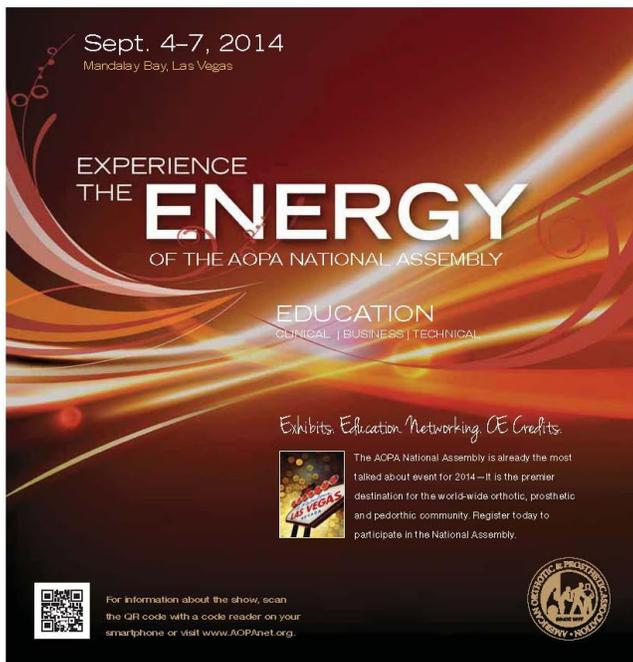
No other city competes with the energy, atmosphere, and excitement of Las Vegas! It's the place to be – We'll see you there!

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
 Visit www.AOPAnet.org for updates and additional information.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM
 AND REGISTRATION MATERIALS

AOPA'S **national** assembly '14

The premier meeting for orthotic, prosthetic, and pedorthic professionals



Register Now



FDA Approves Pre-Market Notification for the DEKA Prosthetic ARM



On May 9, 2014 the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the 510(K) premarket notification for the DEKA Arm System, a myo-electric prosthetic arm system that has been developed by DEKA Integrated Solutions Company and funded primarily through a grant from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). The FDA reviewed the DEKA arm through its de novo classification process, a regulatory pathway for low to moderate risk medical devices that are considered to be innovative. This process does not rely on information previously submitted for “predicate” devices as a means to evaluate new products but rather reviews the submitted product as a one of a kind device.

According to the FDA, data from a Veteran’s Administration 4 site study that included 36 participants who used the DEKA arm to perform several activities of daily living (ADLs) was used in its review of the 510(K) notification. This study showed that 90% of the participants reported that they were able to perform activities using the DEKA arm system that they were unable to perform with their existing prosthesis.

FDA approval of the 510(K) pre-market notification clears the way for DEKA to manufacture and market its prosthetic arm to healthcare professionals and consumers. DEKA has not announced when it intends to have the prosthesis available to the public.



ABC to Conduct Practitioner Practice Analysis



The American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics, Inc. (ABC) is conducting an extensive survey of ABC orthotists and prosthetists to collect detailed information necessary to develop a new *Practice Analysis of Certified Practitioners in the Disciplines of Orthotics and Prosthetic* and the participation of all ABC certified practitioners is critical.

Last published in 2007, the *ABC Practice Analysis* is a validation study focusing on providing a contemporary description of the tasks and responsibilities of the orthotic and prosthetic profession. The survey results will be used in the development of valid and reliable exams; to determine current trends and future directions in practice; to provide a framework for education, accreditation and residency programs and to convey to others outside our disciplines the scope of services provided by certified practitioners.

It is critical that ABC obtain as many informed responses as possible in order to ensure the quality of the certification examination and to make sure it fully assesses the domains, tasks, knowledge and skills needed in the profession.

The survey will be emailed to all ABC certified practitioners in mid-June. Data collection is the most critical step in developing any Practice Analysis and ABC encourages all of its certified orthotists and prosthetists to participate in this important survey. If ABC does not have your current email address, please send it as soon as possible to info@abcop.org.

CFI Prosthetics Orthotics hosts First Swing Learn to Golf in Memphis



CFI Prosthetics-Orthotics, a leader for generations in patient care in Memphis, hosted a First Swing Learn to Golf Clinic on Saturday, April 26 at Vantage Point Golf Center in Cordova, Tennessee with OPAF & The First Clinics.

The morning session was for area therapists, practitioners and golf teaching professionals interested in adaptive golf and recreation. They were schooled in both equipment and techniques for golf instruction for those with physical challenges. They were also offered the chance to face some of those same challenges, by hitting a golf ball from a seated position, with one hand, standing on one leg. Over a dozen therapists were part of the morning instruction led by National Amputee Golf First Swing Instructor, Don Zommer and assisted by Vantage Point's owner, Brittany Thompson. Lunch was provided for both the therapists and the participants and then everyone went out to hit golf balls.

The sky was blue, the smiles were huge and the laughter could be heard for miles! With therapists, participants, family and friends, there were more than 75 in attendance, including television coverage from three local stations. Gene McKee, a bilateral below the knee amputee and our most senior participant at age 92 showed the rest of the crowd how it was done. Alex Jobe, one of our youngest players, along with her twin sister, Sasha, played both standing and from a wheelchair. Feedback included:



"We loved it! My daughter and I had an awesome time. We will be coming to you on a regular basis. Thanks for having us" Pamela Curry, parent of Donneshia Seals. "Nice location and the instructors were helpful and nice" said Donneshia. "My first time in two years to swing a golf club" John Baker, participant. "Very, very helpful. Exceeded my expectations. CFI is a fine family based company" Melvin White, participant.

"Our experience exceeded expectations for this initial First Swing. It was very rewarding to see so many amputees and individuals with other challenges outdoors enjoying a beautiful day. Everyone had fun while getting exercise and a shot of self confidence. The morning PT education was very well received and I think we will definitely want to sponsor another First event," Ted Snell, CP, LP and CEO of CFI Prosthetics Orthotics.

CFI PROSTHETICS ORTHOTICS

Hit A Home Run with the Boston Coding & Billing Seminar!

Don't miss the June 12-13 Coding & Billing Seminar in the heart of Boston!

There is a reason why the AOPA Coding and Billing Seminar is ranked #1 by O&P Professionals!

During the general session you will learn how to code complex devices, including repairs and adjustments, plus:



- O&P Overview of Federal Agencies
- Medical Policy Basics
- Review of Medicare LCDs/Policy Articles
- Specific guidelines on coding Lower Limb Protheses, Spinal Orthoses & AFO/KAFO
- Documentation
- Claim Reviews
- Internal Audits
- Hot Topics, Utilization Data & Current Trends in O&P

AOPA experts provide the most up-to-date information to help O&P Practitioners and billing staff learn how to code complex devices, including repairs and adjustments, through interactive discussions with AOPA experts and your colleagues. Meant for both practitioners and office staff, this advanced two-day event will feature breakout sessions to ensure concentration on material appropriate to each group.

[Register today by clicking here!](#)

Donations Needed To Support Government Relations Outreach



During the 2014 National Assembly in Las Vegas AOPA will be hosting the 7th Annual Wine Tasting & Auction. This exciting event provides attendees with a unique opportunity to mingle, network, learn about and taste a variety of wines, but most importantly raise awareness

of and funds for AOPA's Government Relations outreach. Let's keep the tradition of success alive and make the 7th Annual Wine Tasting & Auction the best ever.

Please join the fun, the "good cause" and add to the continued success of the Wine Tasting & Auction by donating today! ***Your special donations are what make this event unique and successful. Your attendance is what makes it fun!*** Your donation may be one of the gems of your cellar, jewelry, artwork, wine glasses, a bottle of your favorite spirit, cigars, etc. We also have a team of personal shoppers who can locate that perfect item for you if you would prefer to make a monetary donation.

[Please consider donating today! The donation form is available here.](#)

Thank you in advance and we look forward to seeing you at the 2014 National Assembly and the 7th Annual Wine Tasting & Auction.

Any questions about making a donation or the auction in general, contact Devon Bernard at dbernard@AOPAnet.org or (571) 431-0811.

Participate in the 3rd Annual Technical Fabrication Contest



This year's contest is to fabricate a lower extremity Orthosis or Prosthesis that best reflects the entrant's interpretation of "energy" as it applies to Prosthetics and Orthotics. The projects submitted will be judged on ingenuity, design, finish and function. All entries will require a statement that provides the contestant's insights as to why they fabricated the specific design submitted. [Enter the contest here!](#)

Enter the Contest

en · er · gy *noun, plural* en·er·gies. The capacity for vigorous activity; available power; an adequate or abundant amount of such power; often, energies. a feeling of tension caused or seeming to be caused by an excess of such power; an exertion of such power; the habit of vigorous activity; vigor as a characteristic;

One winner and one runner-up will be selected in each of the three categories: practitioner, technician and student. All three categories will also be entered into the People's Choice Award—where congress attendees will vote and select their favorite device.

- First Place Winners receive a \$500 Cash Prize
- Runners up receive a \$200 Cash Prize
- The People's Choice Award recipient will receive \$300

Special recognition in the form of a trophy and Press Release will be awarded to the school representing the winning students.

[Click here to go back to the top of the newsletter.](#)

www.LCodeSearch.com

24/7

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Contact Lauren Anderson at 571/431-0843 or landerson@AOPAnet.org.

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LCodeSearch.com
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MANUFACTURERS: Get your products in front of AOPA members!
Contact Joe McTernan at jmcternan@AOPAnet.org or 571/431-0811.

**Calling all Students and Residents—Gain National Recognition
And Advance Your Career**

Enter to win one of two prestigious awards--The Student-Resident Poster award honors two meritorious scientific papers submitted for presentation as a poster at the AOPA National Assembly. The purpose of these awards is to encourage students and residents to display outstanding posters at the AOPA National Assembly.

The Otto and Lucille Becker Award will be presented for the best orthotic abstract submitted and the Edwin and Kathryn Arbogast Award for the best prosthetic abstract submitted by a qualifying student or resident.



- ✓ The poster must be exhibited and presented at the AOPA National Assembly for the award recipient to receive the prize. The winners of the two scientific poster awards will be published in the O&P Almanac.
- ✓ The winners will receive a \$500 cash award, registration to the show, coach-class airfare to the National Assembly and three nights hotel. To qualify to present a poster in this category and eligible for consideration for this award, the main author must be a student (baccalaureate or master level) or a resident at a qualified patient care facility.
- ✓ Abstracts will not be considered for either award if they have been previously presented, published, or are currently submitted with pending decision on acceptance elsewhere.
- ✓ These awards have been made possible by a special endowment by Becker Orthopedic and WillowWood.

[Submit your abstract here](#)



AOPA's
national assembly '14
The premier meeting for orthotic, prosthetic, and pedorthic professionals

A promotional banner for the AOPA National Assembly '14. The background is dark with vibrant, flowing orange and red light trails. At the top left, the text 'Products. Services. Networking.' is written in a white, cursive font. In the center, the word 'EXPERIENCE' is in a white, sans-serif font above the word 'THE ENERGY' which is in a very large, bold, white, sans-serif font. Below 'THE ENERGY', the words 'CLINICAL | BUSINESS | TECHNOLOGY' are in a small, white, sans-serif font, followed by 'EDUCATION' in a larger, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom left, the text 'Sept. 4-7, 2014' is in a white, sans-serif font, with 'Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas' in a smaller font below it. At the bottom right, there is a circular logo for the American Association of Orthotists and Prosthetists, featuring a stylized figure and the text 'AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ORTHOTISTS & PROSTHETISTS'.

The Self Audit: A Useful Tool
June Audio Conference



Audits are here and likely here to stay for quite some time. Why perform a self-audit? Government agencies are scrutinizing vast numbers of claims to reduce overpayments for healthcare services. To ensure your documentation can withstand the scrutiny of these audits, a self-audit will help you understand what the auditors are looking for, because they are required by policy and compliance for accuracy. Join AOPA on June 11th for an AOPAversity Mastering Medicare Audio Conference that will focus on audits and catching mistakes before they become problems. Other topics will include:

- How to create an in-house or self audit
- Where to start
- How often should you do self audits
- What type of audit works best

The cost of participating is always just \$99 for AOPA members (\$199 for nonmembers) and any number of employees may listen on a given line. Listeners can earn 1.5 continuing education credits by returning the provided quiz within 30 days and scoring at least 80%.

[Register online here!](#)

Contact Devon Bernard at dbernard@AOPAnet.org or 571/431-0854 with content questions.

Contact Betty Leppin at bleppin@AOPAnet.org or 571/431-0876 with registration questions.

[Click here to go to the top of the newsletter.](#)

Upcoming Events

June 11 *The Self Audit: A Useful Tool*
Audio Conference
[Learn more or register online here](#)

June 12-13 *Mastering Medicare:
Coding & Billing Seminar*
Boston, MA
[Learn more or register online here](#)

Sept 4-7 *AOPA 2014 National Assembly*
Las Vegas, NV
[Learn more here](#)

June 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Get the AOPAversity Advantage!



Distance Learning Opportunities Through AOPA

New!

O&P ALMANAC

EARN CREDITS
2.0 CE
PER MODULE

Because of the highly educational content of the O&P Almanac's Reimbursement Page and Compliance Corner, O&P Almanac readers can now earn two business continuing education (CE) credits each time they read these articles and pass the accompanying quiz.

IT'S EASY AND IT'S FREE!



Read and learn from O&P Almanac's monthly reimbursement column and quarterly compliance corner—you will now not only gain knowledge, but also can earn CE credits by taking a short quiz and receiving a passing grade of 80 percent or higher. AOPA will automatically transmit the information to the certifying boards on a quarterly basis.

The print version of the O&P Almanac is delivered to all AOPA members, ABC certified practitioners, BOC certified practitioners as well as subscribers. Additionally the electronic version of O&P Almanac is available online at www.aopanet.org/publications/digital-edition/.

Learn more at: www.aopanet.org/publications/op-almanac-magazine/

AOPAVERSITY WEBCASTS

EARN CREDITS
1.5 CE
PER MODULE

AOPA offers two webcast series:

Series 1 > Mastering Medicare: Coding & Billing Basics and Principles contains nine modules is a recommended prerequisite to the Advanced Coding and Billing Techniques Seminar.

Series 2 > Practice Management: O&P Administration Services contains five modules, including topics such as Establishing an O&P Practice, Acquiring an existing O&P Practice, and Enrolling in Medicare and Medicaid.

Learn more at: www.aopanet.org/education/webcasts/

AUDIO CONFERENCES

EARN CREDITS
1.5 CE
PER CONFERENCE

During these one-hour sessions, AOPA experts provide the most up-to-date information on a specific topic. Perfect for the entire staff—one fee per conference, for all staff at your company location (\$99 Member/\$199 Non-Member). A great team-building, money-saving, educational experience! Sign up for the entire series and get two conferences FREE. Entire Series (\$990 Members/\$1,990 Non-Members). The fee is per location and there is no limit on the number of staff you can assemble in one location.

Learn more at: www.aopanet.org/education/audio-conferences/

VIDEO LEARNING LIBRARY

EARN CREDITS
1.5 CE
PER VIDEO

AOPA's video learning library offers many different types of high-level education—clinical, business, motivational, and more. Many of the videos have been approved for CE credits. After viewing the educational video in its entirety, complete and submit the quiz continuing education (CE) credits. AOPA will automatically transmit the information to the certifying boards on a quarterly basis for those with passing grades of 80 percent or higher. Those not passing the quiz will be notified.

Peruse the complete library at: www.aopanetonline.org/education



AOPAversity is your one-stop resource for quality O&P education, developed explicitly for orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic professionals. Most education has been approved for continuing education (CE) Credits. Learn on your terms with one of our opportunities listed above!

Earn CE credits accepted by certifying boards:



Visit www.AOPAnetonline.org/education today!