



American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association

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AOPA In Advance SmartBrief

Breaking News

April 2, 2015

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Support the Orthotic and Prosthetic Industry

Do you support O&P accreditation and qualified providers?

Do you oppose Medicare expanding exponentially the category of off-the-shelf orthotics so that virtually every orthosis can be competitively bid?

Then take two minutes NOW to urge your Member of Congress to sign on to the critically important Costello-Duckworth letter! Join others at [AOPAvotes](#) to cast your vote!

- [Support S 829](#)
- [Support H.R. 1530, H.R. 1526, and Sign on Letter](#)
- [House sign-on letter to HHS Secretary Burwell](#)

Have a Flair for Drama?

A new PBS Civil War Drama is set to start filming in Virginia. The show is holding a casting call on Thursday in Richmond, where they're looking for extras "to play doctors, nurses, patients and soldiers," according to a notice posted on Facebook.

And here's where the casting folks might have a hard time finding just the right actors, since they're looking for some very particular types: "Specifically looking for very thin men (with no tattoos) and male amputees to play soldiers," the notice reads. Read more [here](#).

It's Almost Time!

AOPAversity

The AOPA Coding Experts are Coming to Seattle April 13-14!

The world of coding and billing has changed dramatically in the last few years. The AOPA experts are here for you! The Coding & Billing Seminar will teach you the most up-to-date information to advance your O&P practitioners' and billing staff's coding knowledge.

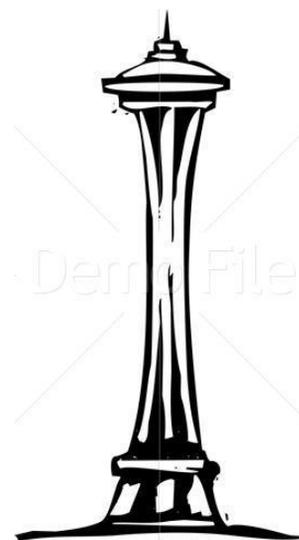
The seminar includes hands-on breakout sessions, where you will practice coding complex devices, including repairs and adjustments. Breakouts are tailored specifically for practitioners and billing staff. Start the year off right for your business, staff, and patients!

Join your Colleagues April 13 & 14 in Seattle, WA!

Top 10 Reasons to Attend

1. **Get Your Claims PAID**
2. **Increase Your Company's Bottom Line**
3. **Stay Up-To-Date On Billing Medicare**
4. **Code Complex Devices**
5. **Earn 14 CE Credits**
6. **Learn About Audit Updates**
7. **Overtturn Denials**
8. **Submit YOUR Specific Questions Ahead of Time**
9. **Advance Your Career**
10. **AOPA Coding & Billing Experts with over 70 Years of Combined Experience**

Don't miss the opportunity to experience two jam-packed days of valuable O&P coding and billing information. [Learn more and see the rest of the year's schedule here.](#)



Seattle is two cities in one—it combines a world-class metropolis within wild, beautiful, natural surroundings. Visitors and Seattleites enjoy Seattle's lively downtown, great shopping, wonderful restaurants, espresso carts on every corner, and thriving community full of live theatre and museums.

Seattle, Washington
April 13-14

Join the Growing Mobility Saves' Community



The Mobility Saves Facebook campaign has reached over 5,000 followers and we can't express our gratitude and appreciation at this supportive community. This is YOUR community. Please keep passing along the Mobility Saves message to your colleagues and friends. The purpose of this campaign

is to raise awareness, provide support, and most of all educate paters, regulators, referral sources, practitioners, and consumers that the research shows Mobility Saves!

1. Visit MobilitySaves.org to learn more and utilize the cost-effectiveness study! Download the brochures, PowerPoints, and white papers.
2. Follow **Mobility Saves** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and [LinkedIn](#)!
3. **Spread the word** to practitioners, payers, and referral sources!
4. **Submit Testimony** [here](#), in the form of a video clip, photo, or personal story.



Spread the good word about the valuable benefits of O&P Care

Get Social with #MobilitySaves



ABC Updates Model Licensure Act, Rules and Handbook

The American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics, Inc. (ABC) has updated its Model State Licensure Practice Act, Administrative Rules and Handbook for individuals considering orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic licensure in their state. ABC continues to provide these tools as a resource to the profession to assist with implementing a contemporary licensure act that creates standards that provide for patient protection. The template ABC provides has a successful track record with several states who have adopted licensure.

The newly revised Model Licensure Handbook contains the common rationale used to initiate licensure in a non-licensure state, how to get started with writing a bill, generating support, lobbying your legislator and navigating the regulatory process as well as a sample legislative handout.

Exhibit at the 2015 AOPA National Assembly in San Antonio, TX

AOPA is currently accepting exhibit applications for the 2015 AOPA National Assembly, which is due to take place in San Antonio, TX on October 7-10, 2014. The Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center will serve as the event's venue. This event, the oldest and largest of its kind in the United States, will feature dedicated tracks of the most relevant education for prosthetists, orthotists, technicians, pedorthists and business managers.

Why Exhibit? Exhibiting at this important event will give you the opportunity to:

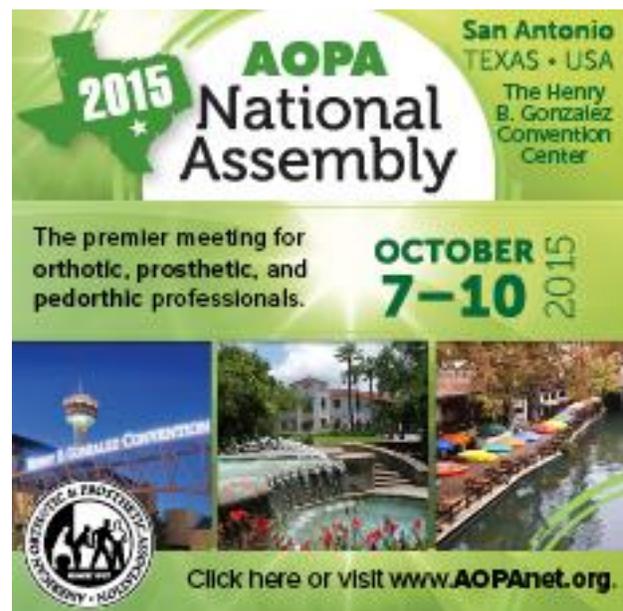
- Build your customer base and increase sales by meeting with Owners who actually make the final decisions on purchases.
- Experience face-to-face time with existing customers to answer questions and build new relationships.
- Enjoy sponsored networking opportunities, including an opening reception in the exhibit hall.
- Take advantage of fun traffic-building opportunities.
- Take advantage of education sessions to learn what's happening with Medicare, and other regulatory agencies that affect the success of your product.
- Increase visibility for your company/organization in a targeted market.
- Host a Manufacturer's Workshop and/or Product Preview Theater presentation.
- Speak to AOPA reimbursement experts, who can answer all your O&P coding, reimbursement and compliance questions.
- Hear from top researchers and clinicians to learn what products and support is needed from manufacturers.
- Participate in key education programs and plenary sessions.

Who Attends? Obtain access to key decision makers:

O&P Practitioners, pedorthists, physicians, technicians, fitters, students, educational instructors, facility owners, marketing personnel, physical therapists, residents, office managers, billing specialists, occupational therapists, researchers, engineers, manufacturers, distributors and suppliers of O&P products and services.

As an exhibitor you will receive:

- 24 hour perimeter security guard service.
- FREE breakfast and lunch.
- Exhibitor Service Kit—Exhibitors will receive two sets of information. The first will be the Exhibitor Confirmation Packet that contains your booth assignment, payment confirmation, and additional materials. The second set of information is the Exhibitor Service Kit which is an online guide provided by Freeman Decorating that includes all information and order forms you need to plan a successful trade show event; to include shipping



information, booth rental, electric and internet needs.

- Exhibitor Newsletters—provide you with up to date information regarding the show.
- Complimentary exhibitor company listing on the National Assembly website, O&P Almanac, show APP and 2015 National Assembly Preliminary Program.
- Opening night reception for all attendees held in the exhibit hall
- Post-event registration mailing list of all National Assembly attendees.
- Two exhibitor full conference badges (per 10x10 exhibit space) which include: admission to all education sessions, CE credits, meeting materials, social functions, and lunch tickets.
- Private lounge area exclusive to exhibitors.

Sign up today to exhibit at the 2015 AOPA National Assembly!

Upcoming AOPA Events

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| April 6-12, 2015 | <i>National Public Health Week.</i>
Learn more here |
| April 8, 2015 | <i>Lower-Limb Prostheses Policy: Learn the Policy Inside and Out</i>
Webinar Conference
Learn more or register online here |
| April 13-14, 2015 | <i>Essential Coding & Billing Techniques Seminar</i>
Seattle, WA
Learn more or register online here |
| May 13, 2015 | <i>The New Player In Town: Understand How the RAC Contract Works</i>
Webinar Conference
Learn more or register online here |