



American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association

www.AOPAnet.org

AOPA In Advance SmartBrief

Breaking News

September 15, 2015

AOPA Headlines:

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Valuable, Member Only ICD-10 Resource Available from AOPA

As the clock ticks down to the October 1, 2015 implementation date of the ICD-10 system for diagnosis coding, AOPA wants to make sure that you are aware of an AOPA members only resource to assist in the conversion of ICD-9 code to ICD-10 codes. AOPA has partnered with the folks at *Supercoder.com* to provide an easy to use ICD-10 bridge that will allow you to enter a current ICD-9 code and receive the corresponding ICD-10 code(s) back. This resource, available at <http://www.aopanet.org/coding-reimbursement/icd-10-bridge> is available **at no cost** to AOPA members but you must log in to the AOPA site using the username and password of your main AOPA member site in order to access this free member benefit.

While the ICD-10 bridge is a valuable resource in helping to convert ICD-9 codes to ICD-10 codes, it is important to remember that the ICD-10 code that is reported on your claim must match the one assigned by the referring/ordering physician and is supported by their documentation. This includes the indication of whether or not the service being provided by you is part of an initial encounter, a subsequent encounter or a sequela encounter. You must not change or report a different ICD-10 code than the one that is provided to you.

Here are some other quick reminders and compliance tips about the ICD-10 conversion:

- 1) The use of an ICD-10 code over and ICD-9 code will be based on your date of service. Any claim for an item/service with a date of service of October 1, 2015 and after must include the appropriate ICD-10 code. Any claim for an item/service with a date of service of September 30, 2015 and prior may still be submitted with the ICD-9 code.

2) Be sure to review future copies of the medical policies to see how the transition to ICD-10 may affect each policy. Below are some policies and links that are directly affected by the transition to ICD-10 codes, or those policies which require the use of specific diagnosis codes:

- [Future AFO/KAFO policy](#)
- [Future External Breast Prostheses Policy](#)
- [Knee Orthoses Policy](#)
- [Therapeutic Shoe Policy](#)

Questions? Contact Joe McTernan at jmcternan@AOPAnet.org or Devon Bernard at dbernard@AOPAnet.org

Don't Miss the Last Coding & Billing Seminar in 2015!

Get the Latest on the LCD Lower Limb Proposal, Prior Authorization, ICD-10 Transition and More

Join AOPA at the Mastering Medicare: Essential Coding & Billing Techniques Seminar. The AOPA experts will keep you updated on the policies that affect you, in addition to the coding and billing knowledge you have come to depend on.

Join your Colleagues November 9-10 in Las Vegas!

At this seminar you will:

- ***Get up-to-date information on Hot Topic issues in O&P***
- ***Learn how to assess risk areas in your practice;***
- ***Learn successful appeal strategies and hints to avoid claim denials;***
- ***Practice coding complex devices, including repairs and adjustment***
- ***Attend break-out sessions for practitioners and office staff***
- ***Earn 14 CEs***



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

Register Now

How to Thrive through the Coding & Regulatory Maze in 2016



**How will you work through the Coding and Regulatory Maze in 2016 and beyond?
How about through quality education and concrete knowledge you will only find
at the AOPA National Assembly, featuring the following:**

Documentation—Create Audit Proof Patient Charts

Learn to prepare documentation in a way that will lessen the impact of audits down the road.

Lessons Learned – Audits and Appeals

Review examples of both good and bad documentation and understand how it can mean the difference between a paid claim and a denied claim.

2015 Compliance Update: Best Business Practices and How to Comply with Your Standards

Learn best business practices and ways to help your practice be compliant with the standards you're required to follow.

DME MAC Medicare Update Session

Representatives from the four DME MACs will outline recent Medicare updates and changes to the Medicare program that affect you. There will be time for questions at the end of the session.

Coding and Reimbursement

Learn the principles that govern Medicare coding and reimbursement, including the difference between Local Coverage Determinations and Policy Articles, common coding errors and omissions, and strategies to maximize Medicare reimbursement without sacrificing Medicare compliance.

2013-2014 CERT Errors and Medicare Documentation Requirements

A Medicare CERT Coordinator will discuss the most frequent documentation errors identified in an audit. Learn the applicable Medicare guidelines associated with the errors and receive tips on best practices to avoid and decrease repetitive errors on future claims.

Identification of Four Common Clinical Documentation Errors by Practitioners Leading to Billing Claim Denials

Learn documentation techniques on how to gather and format correct information during patient interaction. Documentation from 48 real cases, involved in audits by Medicare, will be reviewed.

Have You Read the September Issue of the *O&P Almanac*?

LCD Pushback | Page 24

AOPA and the O&P Alliance swiftly respond with letter to HHs detailing grave concerns. [Read More](#)



Cover Story: High-Touch for High-Impact O&P | Page 30

Determining patients' pre-and postamputation activity levels and goals is vital to creating an effective treatment plan. [Read More](#)

Leadership Series: A Place in the Consolidation Continuum? | Page 38

Experts weigh in on the future of independent O&P facilities amid evolving economics. [Read More](#)

[Page 18](#) – Reimbursement Page – Earn 2 CE's
Read the Column and [Take Your Quiz Here](#).

Upcoming AOPA Events

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| September 30, 2015 | Last day to Register Online for the 2015 National Assembly
Learn more or register online here |
| October 7-10, 2015 | <i>AOPA 2015 National Assembly</i>
San Antonio, TX
Learn more or register online here |
| October 14, 2015 | <i>Understanding the LSO/ TLSO Policy</i>
Webinar Conference
Learn more or register online here |

We cordially invite you to attend the:



During the 2015 AOPA National Assembly

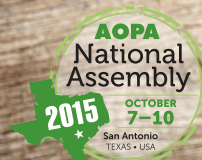
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8
6:30-8:00 PM

The Henry B. Gonzalez
Convention Center

Room 001B (Convention Center River Level)

San Antonio

This is a special event and will require a separate registration fee. For additional information about the Wine Tasting & Auction or to register, contact Devon Benard at DBernard@AOPAnet.org or visit AOPA Booth 637.



BIG BONUS: Receive a **\$100 credit** towards your first winning bid(s), with each \$150 special event registration fee.

The AOPA Wine Tasting & Auction is a fun event for everyone!

The 8th Annual AOPA Wine Tasting & Auction is an important component to support the AOPA's government relations efforts and the legislative activities of the profession.

Spend a fun evening with colleagues and industry leaders learning about and tasting different wines. A special guest auctioneer will be present to lead the festivities. Get ready for the excitement of both a silent and live auction.

Even though the registration is \$150, you **receive a \$100 credit** towards your first winning bid.

Registration is required. For more information, visit the AOPA Booth #637.

- There is much, much more to bid on than just wine—previous events included jewelry, Tiffany Crystal, cigars, a vacation, bourbon and more.
- You will have a chance to sample wines from various wineries as well as partake in an open bar.
- Enjoy the camaraderie as members from all aspects of the profession unite for an important cause.

Did you know there is more to bid on than just wine? Previous items have included:



JEWELRY



VACATIONS



CIGARS



BOURBON



WINE SETS



TIFFANY CRYSTAL



Supporting quality patient care and the O&P legislative agenda.