



AMERICAN ORTHOTIC & PROSTHETIC ASSOCIATION

In Case you Missed It:

MONTHLY RECAP

www.AOPAnet.org

November 2015

Favorable News from the White House on the Draft LCD

PARTIAL Win: CMS Not Finalizing Draft but Not Rescinding

The White House announced that CMS "will not finalize" the July 16, 2015 Draft LCD. That may be clarified further when comparable announcement text from both CMS and from the DME MACs are released and can be analyzed. The White House report appears to confirm the information that AOPA shared at the recent San Antonio National Assembly that O&P could be confident that the July 16 proposed LCD for Lower Limb Prosthetics would not be enacted in anything close to its proposed form. [Read more here.](#)

LCD Being Felt in the Private Sector

United Healthcare Stops Covering Vacuum Pumps

United Health Care has deemed vacuum pumps as not medically necessary, effective October 1, 2015. AOPA is pursuing a two part strategy: (a) AOPA partnered with a congressional representative in UHC's state, who contacted UHC requesting that they set up a high level meeting with AOPA reps; and (b) AOPA is joining in a letter of objection to the policy from the O&P Alliance, together with the Amputee Coalition, challenging the assertion that there is no scientific evidence to support this treatment, and seeking a meeting with UHC's Medical Director. We believe the results can be additive and symbiotic, not divisive, in bringing attention to the problem from multiple directions. [Read more here \(near bottom of page\).](#)

AOPA Welcomes More than 2200 to San Antonio for National Assembly

Next Year's 99th Annual Assembly will be in Boston

Whether it was the magnet power of San Antonio, the programming, the convenient facilities or all of the above, the initial feedback has been extremely positive. The opening ceremony honor guard was followed by an emotional keynote from Ret. Lt. Col. Donald Gajewski, MD, former director of the Center for the Intrepid who told the moving story of the Center's mission of restoring mobility and life quality to returning wounded soldiers. The opener plus the fun events in the exhibit hall and the clinical and business management educational content drew "best ever" comments. [See the highlights now.](#)



ICD-10 is Implemented

Members Only Benefit to Aid in Transition from ICD-9

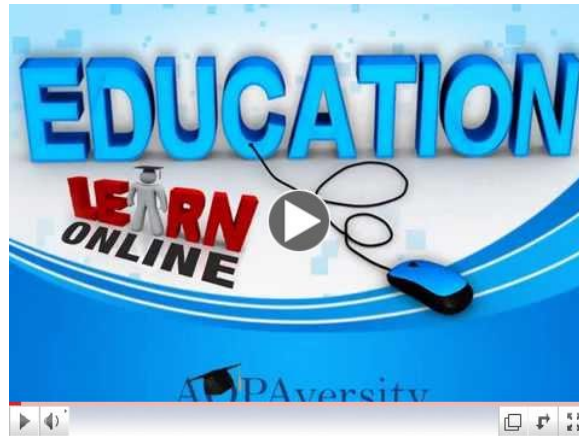
On October 1, 2015, the nation switched from ICD-9 to ICD-10 coding for medical diagnoses and inpatient hospital procedures. AOPA has partnered with the Coding Institute to provide an ICD-10 conversion tool to AOPA members. This free membership benefit allows you to quickly find a corresponding ICD-10 code(s) simply by typing in any ICD-9 code. [Access the conversion tool here.](#)



Available at www.AOPAnet.org
exclusively for AOPA members.

AOPA Debuts AOPAversity

New Improved Online Learning Portal Unveiled at AOPA National Assembly



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