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Prior Authorization Updates

Likely Months Before Prosthetic Codes Published

AOPA is hearing from CMS that Prior Authorization will be a relatively cautious, long-view approach. We do NOT expect to see any list of P&O codes to be subject to Prior Authorization anytime soon - some folks looked for an O&P list to be published by the end of February-but a delay of 6 months to even 12 months seems much more likely. [Read more and AOPA's education efforts.](#)

Opportunities for Clinical O&P Research Support

\$15,000 Grants Offered

AOPA, in partnership with the Center for O&P Learning & Evidence-Based Practice (COPL), has announced a Request for Pilot Grant Proposals in 16 potential areas of orthotic and prosthetic research including an open topic. The topics include Orthotic Management of Osteoarthritis; Sockets: Methods for Measuring Proper Socket Fit and Alignment; Utilization and comparative effectiveness of TLSO/LSO. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2016. [See the rest of the topics in the full RFP.](#)

Jurisdiction D Releases Pre-Payment Audit Results for OTS Walking Boots and Diabetic Shoes

66% and 84% Denial Rates

The pre-payment audit for OTS walking boots involved 110 claims, of which 74 were denied resulting in a claim denial rate of 66%. Primary denial reasons included a lack of documentation supporting the medical need for the walking boot, incomplete or missing medical records, incomplete or non-existent proof of delivery documentation, and a missing or incomplete detailed written order. [Read more.](#)

Mastering Medicare: Essential Coding and Billing Techniques Seminar

April 11-12, 2016 in Portland, OR

AOPA's next Coding & Billing Seminar will be in the Pacific Northwest! Don't miss this opportunity to get the most up-to-date information to advance your O&P practitioners' and billing staff's coding knowledge. Join AOPA for this 2 day event. Earn 14 CEs and get up to date on all the hot topics. [Learn more and register.](#)



March 9 Webinar: Shift the Liability: The Proper Use of the ABN Form

\$99 AOPA Members, \$199 non-Members; Earn 1.5 CEs

Learn when an ABN is appropriate; examine common scenarios of when an ABN should be used. Learn how to use the ABN when billing for upgraded features, and ensure at least a partial payment for services rendered. Learn to avoid the common mistakes, which can make your ABN

invalid. [Register now.](#)

CE Opportunities

Discounted Videos for AOPA Members

Check out the improved AOPAversity learning center for videos on business management, documentation, orthotics, prosthetics, pedorthics, and more in one place. Preview videos before you commit. Track all your CEs in one portal, available 24/7. It's the same high quality education you have come to expect from AOPA, with a user friendly platform! [Visit your new go-to CE source now.](#)



Register for the 2016 Policy Forum

New Format Includes Legislation-Writing Congress

Join us April 26 -27, 2016 in Washington, DC for a new Policy Forum experience. Senator Bob Kerrey will preside over the Tuesday, April 26 morning Legislation-writing Congress to write a simple 1-2 page piece of legislation to take to the Hill on Wednesday, April 27. This is your opportunity to make your voice heard and participate in the landmark event. [Learn More and Register.](#)



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