



AMERICAN ORTHOTIC & PROSTHETIC ASSOCIATION

In Case you Missed It:**TWICE-MONTHLY RECAP**

www.AOPAnet.org

June 3, 2016

Medicare Participation and Competitive Bidding: How Your Status Affects Your Reimbursement

"Participation" in Medicare Relates to how you Submit Claims and Receive Reimbursement

In January of 2016, new authority granted to CMS to build on DME competitive bidding to set pricing more broadly and nationally took effect. This authority allows CMS to use pricing established as a result of competitive bidding programs for specific DME products in certain parts of the country to be applied more broadly to those same DME products in non-competitively bid areas. On May 19, 2016, the AOPA SmartBrief included an article highlighting reports from CMS underscoring the success of these efforts, essentially concluding that since DME providers accepted this reduced pricing, everything must be fine at these rates. This contention could prove very important in the future as CMS continues to look for ways to reduce spending by cutting reimbursement. [Read the rest of the memo.](#)

The FDA and 3-D Printing: What Potential Regulatory Action Means for O&P

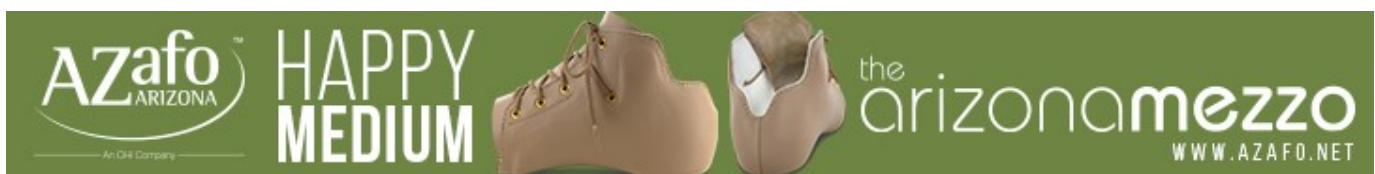
AOPA Will Provide Comments on the Rule

On May 10, 2016, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released a document entitled, *Technical Considerations for Additive Manufactured Devices: Draft Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff*. The publication of this document marks the first foray of the FDA into potential regulation of devices that use additive manufacturing as a means of fabrication of medical devices. Additive manufacturing is a broad term that encompasses 3-D printing as a means of creating functional medical devices. The guidance document has been published in order to solicit public comment regarding the FDA's current thinking on the topic of 3-D printing and "is not intended to be a binding document on either the FDA or the public." [Read more.](#)

DME MACs Revise Knee Orthosis Policy

Additional ICD-10 Codes

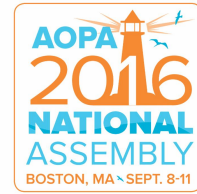
The DME MACs have recently published a revision to the Knee Orthosis Local Coverage Determination (LCD) and Policy Article (PA) that will be effective for dates of service on or after June 2, 2016. The primary revisions to the LCD and Policy article include the addition of ICD-10 diagnosis codes that allow providers to indicate whether the encounter was considered an initial, subsequent, or sequela encounter; and incorporation of language from the DMEPOS quality standards regarding the definition of custom fabricated orthoses. The revision also incorporates standard documentation language found in other O&P policies. [Review the revised knee orthosis LCD and Policy Article.](#)



The 2016 Thranhardt Contenders have been Announced

See the Lectures at the Assembly Sept 8-11, 2016 in Boston, MA

Congratulations to Kenton Kaufman, PhD, PE; Beatrice Janka, MPO, CPO; Gordon Stevens, CPO, LPO; and Lauren White, PT, DPT, PCS. We look forward to the "best of the best" Thranhardt Lectures during the 2016 AOPA National Assembly, September 8-11 in Boston, MA, where we will announce the winner. [Learn more about the Assembly.](#)



Federal Overtime Rule Update

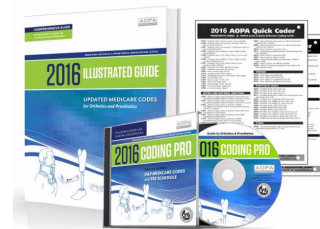
Threshold has Been Lowered for Exempt Employees

On May 18, 2016, the US Department of Labor issued final regulations regarding the minimum salary level for an employee to be exempt from overtime pay, and this rule is estimated to affect up to 4 million workers. The changes are effective December 1, when employees making more than the \$47,467 threshold must be classified as non-exempt and paid overtime. Note that this is the Federal Law and state laws may vary. [Read further about the rule and steps your business may need to take.](#)

AOPA Coding Products

For use at the Assembly and all Year Round

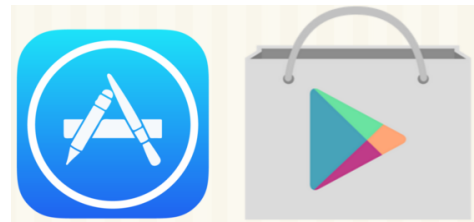
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