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July 1, 2016

## Senate Appropriations Committee Report Incorporates Recommendations to CMS on Draft LCD

Language Indicating that CMS Should Consult with Appropriate Stakeholders about LCD

As a result of the series of meetings during the Policy Forum involving Senator Kerrey and top members of the Senate and the Finance Committee, and particularly through AOPA Past President Tom Watson's communications with Senate Majority Leader McConnell, important language relating to the July 2015 draft LCD was inserted into the Committee report which has been prepared to explain the 2017 Senate Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill.

The language included in the report is as follows: *"The Committee recognizes that Medicare payments for all prosthetics, and especially the newer advanced technologies, have declined over each of the years 2010-2014. The committee encourages CMS to consult broadly with clinicians, patient groups, and the prosthetics field regarding revisions to the draft Local Coverage Determination, prior to publishing an updated draft policy for public comment."*

## AOPA Offers 2 RAC Audit Webinars

First Webinar FREE for Members, Second \$99 Members/\$199 Non-Members

AOPA has recently received reports of increased RAC activity and has scheduled several educational webinars to help you prepare. The first webinar will cover the basics of what the renewed RAC audits mean for O&P providers and how to be prepared to respond to an audit request when it is received. The second webinar will focus on the details of preparing your practice to do the things today that will protect you from RAC audits when they are received.

[Understanding the Basics of RAC Audits and How to Prepare for Them](#); July 14th, 1:00 PM EDT, Free for AOPA Members.

[Don't Let the RACs Catch You Unprepared: Working Today to Protect Tomorrow](#); July 21st, 1:00 PM EDT, \$99 Members; \$199 Non-Members.

## Jurisdiction A and Jurisdiction B DME MAC Contractors to Transition on July 1, 2016

NHIC No Longer Contractor

AOPA would like to remind its members that effective July 1, 2016, claims for services in Jurisdiction A will no longer be submitted to NHIC but rather to Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC who will serve as the new DME MAC contractor for Jurisdiction A. Likewise, claims for services provided in Jurisdiction B will transition from National Government Services to CGS. While you should be prepared for the transition, detailed information is available on the [Noridian website](#) as well as on the [CGS website](#).

## Support the Medicare Orthotics & Prosthetics Improvement Act

Take a Moment to Contact your Senator

Ask your Senator to support the Medicare Orthotics and Prosthetics Improvement Act, which provides common sense solutions to reduce fraud. Read more about the bill we support, and then send a pre-written letter to your senator showing your support at [AOPAvotes.org](#).

## Submit Comments on Proposed Assistive Technology

## Standards

Today is the Last Day to Submit

AOPA members should be aware of proposed education standards by the Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) that could potentially encroach on the O&P profession. AOPA encourages members to make public comments about a proposed set of Assistive Technology education standards that are currently being advanced by the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North American (RESNA). The concern is that the new standards could be interpreted to qualify those certified as an ATP to evaluate, fit and/or deliver orthotic or prosthetic devices. [Read the proposed standards and AOPA's suggested comments.](#)

## AOPA Coding Products

Deep Discounts for AOPA Members

If you haven't already, order the 2016 Coding Pro, Quick Coder, and the Illustrated Guide to make sure your office has everything it needs. Need all of these products? Save \$50 by ordering the Coding Suite, which is the bundled package. Order these and more at the [AOPA online bookstore](#).



American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association,  
330 John Carlyle St., Ste 200, Alexandria, VA 22314

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