



In Case you Missed It:

TWICE-MONTHLY RECAP

www.AOPAnet.org

July 21, 2017

O&P Provision Included in Medicare Part B Improvement Act

Bill not passed but would include clinician's notes as part of medical record

An important provision from the Medicare O&P Improvement Act, that recognizes orthotist's and prosthetist's clinical notes as part of the patient's medical record, was included in the Medicare Part B Improvement Act of 2017 (H.R.3178), a bill that was approved by the House Ways and Means Committee last week. This is a very encouraging step towards getting this provision enacted, and we still have interest from the Senate Finance Committee in getting our full bill enacted this year. [See the synopsis.](#)

AOPA Needs a New Logo

Design contest ends July 31, 2017

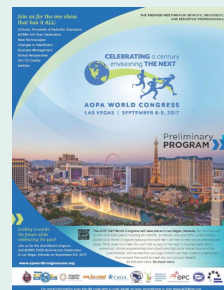
AOPA is getting a new logo for 2018, and we need your help! We are reaching out to the O&P Profession and designers around the world to enter a contest to design the new logo. One winner will receive \$500, and the contest ends July 31, 2017. AOPA has used a different variations of the same logo since 1967, and unveiled a special Centennial logo to use for 2017. Now, we are looking for a logo for 2018 and beyond. The theme is "advocacy to restore mobility". [Learn more and enter here.](#)



Register by August 7 for the World Congress Early Bird Rate

September 6-9, 2017 Las Vegas, NV

Make sure to register soon to save up to \$100 on registration, and book your room at the luxurious Mandalay Bay at our low rate of \$125/night before our room block fills. Earn 40+ CE credits, network with colleagues from around the world, attend top notch clinical and business programs with 5 dedicated tracks, and celebrate AOPA's 100th Anniversary. [Learn more and register now.](#)



Preliminary Program

AOPA Announces Winners of 2017-2018 Pilot Grant Awards

7 Grants Awarded

In February, AOPA, in partnership with the Center for O&P Learning & Evidence-Based Practice (COPL), announced a Request for Pilot Grant Proposals in 16 potential areas of orthotic and prosthetic research including an open topic. A record 38 proposals were received in response to the request for proposals, and the board took the extraordinary step of choosing seven projects to fund, instead of the usual 3-4 projects. [See a list of this year's projects, plus previous years projects, dating back to 2009.](#)

RAC Audits for Custom Fabricated AFOs and KAFOs Announced

First O&P issue for Performant Recovery

Performant Recovery, the national Home Health, Hospice, and DMEPOS RAC contractor, has announced that it will be initiating a post-payment medical review for custom fabricated AFO and KAFO claims, as of July 7, 2017. Providers whose claims are selected for review will receive a letter from Performant Recovery requesting relevant documentation to support medical necessity. If you receive an additional documentation request (ADR), it is very important to respond - failure to do

so will result in automatic claim denial and recovery of any payments. As with all RAC reviews, specific rules are in place that limit the number of ADRs that O&P providers may receive to a maximum of 10 ADRs per Tax ID every 45 days. The RAC audit for custom AFOs and KAFOs is the first O&P specific approved issue since the award of the new RAC contract to Performant Recovery. [Access the RAC announcement by searching for issue 0013.](#)

Healthcare Compliance & Ethics Week November 5-11, 2017

Free resources for members

Mark November 5-11 on your calendar for Healthcare Compliance & Ethics Week! AOPA is celebrating and providing resources for members, many of them at no cost, to facilitate participation during the week and leading up to it. We will be sending out daily compliance tips and the chance to win prizes during HCEW week, and providing special educational opportunities. We've made it easy to participate with White Papers, Samples and low or no cost education. [Access here.](#)



DME MACs Clarify Requirements for Use of A5513

Virtual model doesn't meet requirement

On July 13, the DME MACs published a joint publication that addressed the proper use of HCPCS code A5513, which is used to describe molded to patient model diabetic shoe inserts. The joint publication indicates that in order to meet the requirements of the HCPCS code descriptor, diabetic inserts billed using A5513 must be molded over an actual model of the patient's foot. The use of generic, electronic or "virtual" models where custom fabrication occurs without creation of a physical model of the patient's foot does not meet the code descriptor, and diabetic inserts fabricated this way cannot be billed as A5513. According to the joint publication, inserts fabricated using generic, electronic or virtual models must be coded as A9270-Non-covered service. AOPA is evaluating the impact of this clarification and will be discussing this issue with the DME MACs in the near future. [Access the joint publication.](#)

