

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

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February 2, 2018

DME MACs Issue a Correct Coding Bulletin for Diabetic Shoe Inserts

AOPA will continue to monitor CMS resources for information

On February 1, 2018 the 4 DME MACs issued a correct coding bulletin that addresses proper coding of diabetic shoe inserts described by HCPCS codes A5512, A5513, and the recently created K0903 which describes custom fabricated, total contact inserts that are manufactured through a direct milling process that utilizes a digital model of the patient's foot to direct a CAM based system in the fabrication of the insert. The correct coding bulletin indicates that the PDAC coding redetermination review project, which was initially announced in August of 2017 and scheduled to be completed by June 1, 2018 has been extended to a new completion date of August 1, 2018 to allow manufacturers and central fabricators additional time to submit applications for their respective products. All diabetic inserts billed to Medicare using A5513 or K0903 must be listed on the PDAC product classification list no later than August 1, 2018. Inserts that are not included on the PDAC list by August 1, 2018 must be coded as A9270 and will be considered non-covered by Medicare.

[Read more.](#)

Policy Registration and Room Block are Open

March 7-8 in Washington, DC

Join us March 7-8 to educate your lawmakers on the issues important to you and your patients. The host hotel is the Ritz Carlton, in Arlington, and the room block is open with a special \$279 rate for attendees until February 16. [Learn more and register.](#)

**OIG Work Plan Targets OTS Spinal and OTS Knee Orthoses**

Majority of devices provided by DME suppliers without O&P professionals on staff

As part of its update to its 2018 work plan, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (OIG) announced that, based on abnormally high utilization and unusually high improper payment rates, two off the shelf (OTS) HCPCS codes that describe lumbar sacral orthoses (L0648 and L0650) and one OTS knee orthosis code (L1833) will be added as an area of focus for investigation by the OIG. All three codes identified by the OIG are part of the split code set created by CMS in 2014 that differentiated OTS orthoses from those that require the expertise of a certified orthotist or an equivalently trained professional. [Read more analysis and the utilization data.](#)

CMS and VA Announce Partnership to Strengthen Prevention of Waste, Fraud, and Abuse Efforts

O&P not specifically mentioned but all providers included in efforts

On January 23, the CMS and the VA announced a new partnership in which they will share data, data analytics and best practices in an effort to improve both agencies efforts to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in their respective healthcare delivery systems. The VA and CMS represent the two largest public-private healthcare organizations in the country. According to the press release, the partnership will allow the VA to take advantage of gains in data analytics developed by CMS through its Center for Program Integrity. While the press release discussed general efforts to improve efforts to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse and made no specific mention of orthotics and prosthetics, the announcement is a clear indication that the VA will be placing increased scrutiny on all providers in the future. While AOPA supports efforts to eliminate fraud and abuse within the healthcare sector, it must be done in a manner that does not inadvertently lead to unnecessary restriction to access to medically necessary care for veterans and Medicare beneficiaries. [View the CMS/VA press release.](#)

Today is the Hotel Cutoff for Atlanta Coding & Billing Seminar

February 26-27, Atlanta, GA

Book your hotel room today for our special \$119/night rate at AOPA's first Mastering Medicare: Essential Coding & Billing Techniques Seminar of 2018. AOPA experts provide the most up-to-date information to help O&P Practitioners and office billing staff learn how to code complex devices, including repairs and adjustments, through interactive discussions with AOPA experts, your colleagues, and much more. [Register now.](#)



Join us in Atlanta, Feb 26-27

Attend the February Webinar, "Inpatient Billing"

Earn 1.5 CEs. [Register now.](#)

Join us February 14 at 1:00 PM EST for the 1 hour webinar, reviewing the Inpatient Billing including:

- * Proper use of the "Two-Day Rule"
- * Skilled nursing facility prosthetic exemptions
- * Part A rules for hospitals and Hospice
- * Statutorily non-covered services
- * Billing responsibility
- * Review of the rules, and outlier exemptions

