



American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association

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AOPA In Advance SmartBrief

Breaking News

June 30, 2015

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Supreme Court Upholds ACA Subsidies – What Does it Mean for O&P?

Insurance premium subsidies will continue to flow to Americans in all states under the Affordable Care Act, the U.S. Supreme Court decided 6-3 in *King v. Burwell* on June 25, 2015.



The justices sided with the Obama administration in the historic decision, saying the healthcare law allows Americans in all states-not just those that established their own exchanges-to receive the subsidies.

Much will be written about the Supreme Court's *King v. Burwell* decision. Here is the essence of the decision and the most likely impact for you, as we see it today.

Synopsis of the case: The petitioners challenged an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) interpretation of the Affordable Care Act's (ACA's) provisions governing eligibility of uninsured individuals for health insurance premium tax credit subsidies for the purchase of qualified health plan (QHP) coverage on Health Insurance Exchanges. Specifically, the petitioners assert that the **ACA only makes premium tax credit subsidies available to individuals residing in states that established their own State-Based Exchanges**-while individuals residing in states that rely on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to operate Federally-Facilitated Exchanges (FFEs) on the State's behalf would not be eligible for premium tax credit subsidies.

Overall, CMS operates FFEs in 34 states that together account for a significant portion of the enrolled population. Reliable estimates are that if the Court had sided with the petitioners in

King v. Burwell and invalidated premium tax credit subsidies in states with FFEs, roughly 7.5 million individuals would have lost tax credit subsidies and as many as 10 million fewer people would obtain individual market health insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Exchanges.

Bottom line, regardless of political viewpoints, the risk of substantial chaos in the insurance market has been averted.

Any questions regarding this notice can be directed to Joe McTernan at (571) 431-0811 or JMcTernan@AOPAnet.org.

Coding & Billing Reminder: Miscellaneous Codes

When billing for miscellaneous or not otherwise specified codes (L0999, L1499, L2999, L3649, L3999, A5507, A6549, L5999 and L7499) be sure you are including all the required information. If a miscellaneous code is billed, the claim must include at a minimum a detailed description of the item being provided. If this description is not included, the claim is not HIPAA compliant. However, each of the Medicare medical polices requires you submit additional information for each miscellaneous code billed including "justification of patient's medical necessity for the item".

To ensure you are providing all the required information for a claim containing a miscellaneous code, please review the Medicare medical policies for orthotics and prosthetics.

Any questions? Contact Devon Bernard at dbernard@AOPAnet.org or Joe McTernan at jmcternan@AOPAnet.org.



OPAF Selects Emily Tierney as 2015 Dale Yasukawa Scholarship Winner

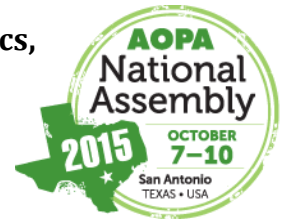
OPAF, the Orthotic & Prosthetic Activities Foundation is pleased to announce that Emily Tierney has been selected as the 2015 Dale Yasukawa Scholarship Winner. Tierney, a native of North Carolina, has been working towards her Masters degree in Prosthetics and Orthotics at Northwestern, following career choices and educational pursuits within the O & P field since 2005. The OPAF Scholarship committee felt that Emily demonstrates a real commitment to the care of people that our profession serves.

"I am incredibly honored to receive The Dale Yasukawa Award and would like to personally thank the Board of Directors of the Fund for their time and consideration" said Tierney.



AOPA Assembly Spotlight: Get the Latest on 3D Printing!

Register today for the country's oldest & largest meeting for orthotics, prosthetics and pedorthics!



- Over 35 CE Credits
- Five Concurrent Education Tracks for Orthotists, Prosthetists, Technicians, Pedorthists and Business Managers
- An Exhibit Hall packed full of every device, service, tool and product you will ever need
- Engaging Networking events
- Top-Notch Speakers from around the world.

Assembly Session Spotlight: Saturday, October 10, 2015 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

General Session: The Brave New World of 3D Printed Devices: Challenges and Opportunities

Orthotists, prosthetists, pedorthists, technicians and business managers all need to be aware of the latest technology that may affect how patients are cared for today and tomorrow. This session will provide an overview of all aspects of 3-D printing. Attendees will have an opportunity during the afternoon workshop programming to try their hand at 3-D printing.

In addition, e-Nable will host an afternoon workshop on Saturday at 1:00 -5:00 PM to give practitioners the opportunity to try 3-D printing for themselves. Printers and pre-printed parts will be available to provide a hands-on experience for all.



Jon Schull, PhD, is the creator of e-NABLE, an online community that designs, customizes and fabricates affordable 3D-printed prosthetic hands for children and adults with missing fingers and hands. Schull, e-

NABLE, and its members have been featured in the press worldwide, including Science Online 2013, the Intel Sales Conference, National Collegiate Innovators and Inventors Alliance, and the CBS Evening News. Schull's PhD is in Biological Psychology. He is the author of 19 patents, and is the former director of RIT's Center for Student Innovation. In his current role as research scientist in MAGIC, Schull directs a new initiative in Access and Collaboration Technologies.



Jeff Erenstone, CPO is Chief Designer of Peak Performance Design LLC and Head Clinician for Mountain Orthotic and Prosthetic Services, Jeff has built a practice which specializes in custom and small production designs for Adaptive Athletes of all requirements. Jeff is

educated as a Certified Prosthetist and Orthotist and has two offices in Northern New York. In addition to his clinician practices, Jeff holds a position on the E-NABLE Medical Matcher Advisory Board due to his knowledge in 3D printed prosthetics. He is a member of the Mobility Saves Committee which is designed to educate stakeholders about the field of Prosthetic and Orthotics. He volunteers with Camp No limits, a camp for children with limb loss. He is a principal in Operation Namaste, an organization which is dedicated to improving O&P care in Nepal.

[Preview the Preliminary Program](#)
[Register online](#)

[General Information](#)
[Hotel Reservations](#)

Questions: Visit www.AOPAnet.org or Contact AOPA at (571) 431-0876 or info@AOPAnet.org

Make an Impact on Government Outreach at the Wine Auction

During the 2015 National Assembly in San Antonio, Texas AOPA will be hosting the 8th Annual Wine Tasting & Auction. This exciting event provides attendees with a unique opportunity to mingle, network, learn about and taste a variety of wines, but most importantly raise awareness of and funds for AOPA's Government Relations outreach programs. Let's keep the tradition of success alive and make the 8th Annual Wine Tasting & Auction the best ever.



Please join the fun, the "good cause" and add to the continued success of the Wine Tasting & Auction by donating today!

Your special donations are what make this event unique and successful. Your attendance is what makes it fun! Your donation may be one of the gems of your cellar, jewelry, artwork, wine glasses, a bottle of your favorite spirit, cigars, craft beer, etc. We also have a team of personal shoppers who can locate that perfect item for you if you would prefer to make a monetary donation.

[Please consider donating today! The donation form is available here.](#)

Thank you in advance and we look forward to seeing you at the 2015 National Assembly and the 8th Annual Wine Tasting & Auction.

Any questions about making a donation or the auction in general, contact Devon Bernard at dbernard@AOPAnet.org, or (571) 431-0854

Register for the AOPAversity Webinar: Who's on First? Medicare as a Secondary Payer

July 8, 2015, 1:00-2:00 PM EST

Not understanding the rules and provisions surrounding Medicare can make for an awfully big headache when it comes time for billing and collecting money. That headache becomes even bigger when there are multiple payers involved. Do you understand how the Medicare secondary payer provisions work? Make sure your claims are not held and your payments are delayed, for not submitting the claim to the appropriate payer. Join AOPA for the July webinar "Who's on First? Medicare as a Secondary Payer" and learn all about the Medicare secondary payer provisions.



Topics for discussion will include the following:

- Learn what payers are primary to Medicare
- Learn to determine if Medicare is a secondary payer or a primary payer
- Learn to calculate your payments from Medicare when they are a secondary payer
- Learn about conditional payments

AOPA members pay \$99 (nonmembers pay \$199), and any number of employees may participate on a given line. Attendees earn 1.5 continuing education credits by returning the provided quiz within 30 days and scoring at least 80 percent. [Register online.](#) Contact Ryan Gleeson at rgleeson@AOPAnet.org or 571/431-0876 with questions.

Upcoming AOPA Events

- July 8, 2015 *Who's on First? Medicare as a Secondary Payer*
Webinar Conference
[Learn more or register online here](#)
- July 13-14, 2015 *Essential Coding & Billing Techniques Seminar*
Philadelphia, PA
[Learn more or register online here](#)
- Oct 7-10, 2015 *AOPA 2015 National Assembly*
San Antonio, TX
[Learn more or register online here](#)