



American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association

www.AOPAnet.org

## **AOPA In Advance SmartBrief**

*Breaking News*

July 28, 2015

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### **Take Action on DME MAC LCD Draft Policy**

Over the last 2 weeks, AOPA shared with you the [DME MACs proposal](#) for substantial modifications to the Local Coverage Determination and Policy Article applicable to Medicare reimbursement for lower extremity prosthetics. AOPA reviewed the policy and provided a Comprehensive Analysis, accompanied by an Executive Summary (available [here](#)).

We now have a simple way for AOPA members AND prosthetic patients to take action at [www.AOPAvotes.org](http://www.AOPAvotes.org). We have provided two prewritten letters – one from practitioners and one from patients to send the DME MACs. Patients can read the summary of how the policy changes would affect their care at [www.MobilitySaves.org/blog](http://www.MobilitySaves.org/blog).

Visit [www.AOPAvotes.org](http://www.AOPAvotes.org) to send a letter and share with all your patients. The comment period ends August 31, 2015 and you can also send your customized comments to [DMAC Draft LCD Comments@anthem.com](mailto:DMAC Draft LCD Comments@anthem.com) and make sure to reference “LCD Draft: Lower Limb Policy” in the subject line.

Direct any questions at Joe McTernan at 571/431-0811 or [jmcternan@AOPAnet.org](mailto:jmcternan@AOPAnet.org).

**TAKE ACTION**  
SEND YOUR LETTER NOW

## CMS Conducting Survey on MACs

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) are conducting a [MAC Satisfaction Indicator \(MSI\) survey](#), that should take about 10 minutes to complete. The survey is measuring your satisfaction with your MAC.



## Fun Way to Support AOPA Government Relations Efforts: Wine Tasting & Auction

During the 2015 National Assembly in San Antonio, AOPA will be hosting the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Tasting & Auction. Join the fun, the good cause, and add to the continued success of the Wine Tasting & Auction by donating something special today! Please take a look in your wine cellar for that special bottle or bottles of wine, which may be collecting dust, to consider as a donation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Tasting & Auction.

Don't want to part with your wine? We welcome other items of interest, such as jewelry, wine glasses, artwork, cigars, craft beer, other spirits, etc. You may also make a monetary contribution (from a personal or business account) and one of our personal shoppers will make a purchase on your behalf, and our shoppers do take suggestions!



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



Thomas Jefferson said: "**Good wine is a necessity of life for me.**" and you are a necessity for this event. We cannot make it happen without your help! 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.

Your special donations are what make this event unique and successful. Your attendance is what makes it fun! At this time we would like to thank the following individuals for their generous donations to the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Tasting & Auction:

- Rick Fleetwood
- Joe Martin

Thank you in advance and we look forward to seeing you at the 2015 National Assembly and the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Tasting & Auction!

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

## Symposium: Serve your Patients with Limb Deficiencies Better

AOPA National Assembly  
October 7-10, 2015  
San Antonio, Texas

Attendees earn over 35 CE Credits



### Including a Prosthetic Sports Symposium: Wrestling with Limb Deficiencies

This inspirational and motivational symposium focuses on real-life experiences from an amputee wrestler, a practitioner and a physician. Help your patients gain the confidence to succeed in their personal goals by providing the most appropriate prosthetic care.



Michael Baria, MD is a physiatrist in Rochester, Minnesota. He earned his medical degree at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine and has been in practice for 4 years. Dr. Baria's clinical interests include Musculoskeletal and sports medicine (with special interest in endurance athletes and combat sports), musculoskeletal ultrasound, and electromyography. His research interests include Sports medicine and diagnostic ultrasound for neuromuscular disorders.



John R. Ferguson, L/CPO, is the Chief Prosthetist at the Center for the Intrepid at San Antonio Military Medical Center. He received his prosthetic-orthotic training at UCLA and Northwestern University. He currently is adjunct faculty for the Army Baylor Doctoral Physical Therapy Program and the UT Southwestern Prosthetics-Orthotics Program. He has lectured extensively on all topics in lower limb prosthetics, has many peer reviewed articles, and has authored multiple book chapters. While at Brooke Army Medical Center, he and his staff continue to treat the most complex patients seen as a result of battlefield injury.



Nick Ackerman, CPO currently works as a prosthetist for American Prosthetics and Orthotics. Despite losing both legs below the knees to an infection when he was 18 months old, Ackerman was determined to be just like the rest of the kids. That determination led him to take up wrestling when he was in third grade, and he became one of the top high school wrestlers in Iowa. He won the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championship in 2001 - the first athlete to become a national champion without the use of his legs.

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

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

**Questions:** Visit [www.AOPAnet.org](http://www.AOPAnet.org) or Contact AOPA at (571) 431-0876 or [info@AOPAnet.org](mailto:info@AOPAnet.org)

## Call for Papers for OT World

The bi-annual **OTWorld – International Trade Show and World Congress** will once again be held in Leipzig, Germany from **May 3-6, 2016**. This show and congress will attract professional visitors from around the globe including but not limited to prosthetists and orthotists, orthopedic shoemakers, rehabilitation technicians, specialist retailers, engineers, doctors and physiotherapists.

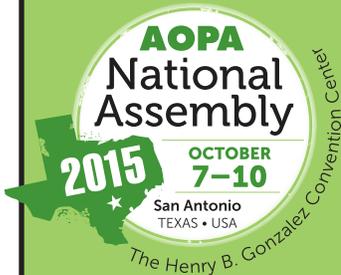
**OTWorld 2014** proved its position as the world's leading event in its field with over 20,000 visitors from 80+ countries. They came to view the latest products, ideas & technologies available in the OT/Rehabilitation sector from 548 exhibiting companies.

The interdisciplinary **OTWorld Congress** and trade show run concurrently, offering insight into the newest methods of research, product development and training, via professional development sessions led by industry experts. You are also invited to submit essays on the topics of prosthetics, orthotics, foot & shoe, orthopaedic shoe technology, rehabilitation, rehabilitation technology, sports & sports medicine, as well as an Open Topic ranging from developing countries, material research, measuring technology, adapted technologies, or obesity rehabilitation. For additional information [click here](#). Note the deadline for submission is September 6<sup>th</sup> and abstracts can only be submitted using the [online form found here](#).



## Upcoming AOPA Events

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|----------------|--|
| August 12      | <i>OTS vs. Custom Fit: The True Story</i><br>Webinar Conference<br><a href="#">Learn more or register online here</a>    |
| September 9    | <i>Prior Authorization, How Does it Work</i><br>Webinar Conference<br><a href="#">Learn more or register online here</a> |
| Oct 7-10, 2015 | <i>AOPA 2015 National Assembly</i><br>San Antonio, TX<br><a href="#">Learn more or register online here</a>              |



# Topgolf Event

## Fun for Golfers and Non-Golfers Alike



**TOPGOLF** is the premier golf entertainment complex where the competition of sport meets your favorite local hangout. This event promises to be great fun for golfers and non-golfers alike. Come join us on Friday, October 9, during the AOPA National Assembly. Support two great causes, AOPA's Capitol Connection and OPAF & The First Clinics. Strengthen OPAF's efforts and the legislative, research and education efforts of the Capitol Connection; challenge yourself, colleagues, customers, and family to a new kind of golf experience that combines competition with entertainment. Players hit micro-chipped golf balls at targets on an outfield. Just picture a larger-than-life-sized outdoor dartboard—but for golf. And for a little friendly rivalry, the high-tech balls instantly score each shot's accuracy and distance. Tickets are \$125 each and include:



- Club rental
- Transportation via luxury motor coach
- Great food
- Two drink tickets for alcoholic beverages and unlimited non-alcoholic beverages



**TOPGOLF** is the premier entertainment and event venue with fun point-scoring golf games for all skill levels, upscale bar food and drinks, great music and more!