

1. **Proposition 46 is defeated—67.1% of voters vote “No”**

Thanks very much for your help. Early statewide election results prepared by Political Solutions can be found: <http://www.coa.org/docs/Election2014.pdf>

2. **COA Publishes an Updated Copy of the Workers’ Compensation—Official Medical Fee Schedule—Physician Services effective 10/1/14**

COA continues to work with Sue Honor-Vangerov, Esq. to provide our members with an updated Workers’ Compensation Fee Schedule for Physician Services as changes are made by the Division of Workers’ Compensation. The fee schedule contains the current reimbursement amounts. The DWC is required to periodically update the fee schedule as Medicare makes updates. The update fee schedule can be found at: <http://www.coa.org/docs/physiciansfeescheduletable.xlsx>

3. **ACOEM continues to extend discount to COA members**

Need access to the ACOEM Treatment Guidelines? Complete the order form to receive the promotional pricing for COA members. Pay only \$50 annually. Offer good through 12/31/14. [Order Form.](#)

4. **CMS Implements Final Rule 2015 Fee Schedule Changes**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services published their final rule in the Federal Register reflecting changes to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule for 2015. A summary of the changes: <http://www.cms.gov/openpayments/about/law-and-policy.html>

5. **Blue Shield— Changes to Reimbursement**

Blue Shield has announced a change in their reimbursement policy for contracted providers that do not currently participate in Blue Shield’s Exclusive PPO Network for Individual and Family Plans. Previously payment was sent directly to the patient and the provider was expected to collect payment from the member. The provider was allowed to balance bill the patient up to the billed amount. As of September 14, 2014, the provider will be reimbursed directly. The provider may still balance bill the patient up to the billed amount. The Blue Shield policy can be found at: <http://www.coa.org/docs/blueshield.pdf>

6. **Health Net modifying exchange/mirror products**

Health Net announced changes to its Exchange/Mirror products for 2015. The insurer said that it will be offering an Exclusive Provider (EPO) and a Health Care Service Plan (HSP) for its individual Exchange/Mirror market. The EPO will be called PureCare One and HSP will be called PureCare. Both of the new products will utilize a narrowed provider network. For more details on these plans, go to: <http://www.coa.org/docs/healthnet.pdf>

7. **Noridian Medicare Part A & B and DME Comprehensive Error Rate**

Learn about common billing errors—<http://www.coa.org/docs/CertPPT.pdf> <http://www.coa.org/docs/PartA.pdf> <http://www.coa.org/docs/PartB.pdf>

Calendar of Events

COA’s 2015 Annual Meeting/QME Course

C-Bone’s 2015 Annual Meeting

Esmeralda Resort—Indian Wells, CA (Palm Springs area)

April 23-26, 2015—[Preliminary agenda](#)