



June 10, 2019



### Ortho News This Week

#### COA Leaders Release White Paper: Telehealth in Orthopaedics



COA

A symposium on Telehealth was presented at COA's 2019 Annual Meeting at the Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel to help attendees understand the pros and cons of telehealth in an orthopaedic practice. The symposium presented data from COA's newly released White Paper: Telehealth in Orthopaedics. [READ MORE](#)



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#### Clarification to Email Regarding Continuing Medical Education Requirement for Physicians and Surgeons



The Medical Board of California

On June 6, 2019, the Medical Board of California released a licensee alert on changes to the laws regarding continuing medical education (CME). Please be aware that the changes that took effect January 1, 2019 **only apply** to physicians and surgeons who have not previously taken the mandatory continuing education in the subjects of pain management and the treatment of terminally ill and dying patients. **If a physician and surgeon has already taken the required 12 hours of CME, no further action is needed.**

However, if a physician and surgeon **has not** taken the required 12 hours, the law now authorizes a physician to meet the requirement in one of the following methods:

1. By completing 12 CME hours in pain management and the treatment of terminally ill and dying patients (which courses, after January 1, 2019, must also include the risks of addiction associated with the use of Schedule II drugs);

OR

2. By completing a one-time mandatory 12-hour CME course on the treatment and management of opiate-dependent patients. This CME option must include 8 hours of training in buprenorphine treatment or other similar medicinal treatment for opioid use disorders to take the place of the existing CME pain management requirement. A physician who chooses this alternative must complete the CME requirements by his or her next license renewal date. Physicians who meet the definition of a "qualifying physician" as determined by the Board pursuant to 21 U.S.C. section 823(g)(2)(G)(iii) as read on January 1, 2018, shall be deemed to have met the requirements.

Please be aware pathologists and radiologists are exempted from this requirement. Business and Professions Code sections [2190.5](#) and [2190.6](#).

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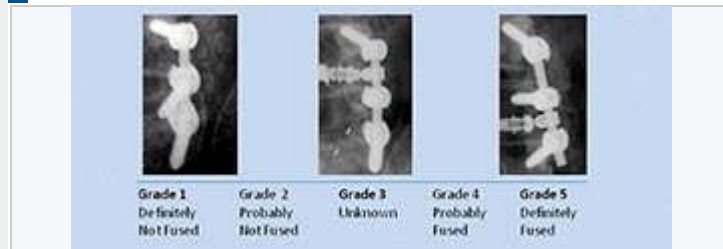
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