



June 21, 2019



### Ortho News This Week

#### Reminder: Anthem fee schedule changes effective July 1



California Medical Association

Physicians are reminded that the changes to the Anthem Blue Cross Prudent Buyer Participating Physician Agreement and fee schedule will take effect July 1, 2019.

According to a notice issued to approximately half of its PPO network, Anthem will be increasing payment for the more commonly billed Evaluation and Management (E/M) services. However, some physicians have reported decreases in payment for other services.

Physicians are encouraged to carefully review the changes and impact to their practice. The California Medical Association (CMA) reminds physicians that they do not have to accept contracts that are not beneficial to their practice.

The new rates are available on the Availity website by selecting "Payer Spaces" then "Anthem Blue Cross" (select Education and Reference Center> Administrative Support> Prudent Buyer Fee Schedule update). [READ MORE](#)



#### The future is now



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L.R. Williamson, MD  
Orthopaedic Surgeon  
CEO & Founder

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## Stem cell company persuades employers to steer workers toward controversial therapy



Kaiser Health News

A Midwestern grocery chain, Hy-Vee, is taking an unusual — and highly controversial — approach to reducing health care costs. Before employees in certain cities can undergo knee replacement, they first must visit a stem cell provider. Hy-Vee has contracted with one of the United States' leading stem cell companies — Regenexx, based in Des Moines, Iowa — that claims injections of concentrated bone marrow or platelets can help patients avoid expensive joint surgery. [READ MORE](#)

## PRODUCT SHOWCASE



### EHR Mistakes: The Perils of **'Cut-and-Paste'**

One of the first admonitions physicians receive when being trained on electronic health records (EHR) is to avoid cutting and pasting text from one medical record to another. CAP's General Counsel Gordon Ownby examines a case on how text used by a referring technician resulted in a wrong sided surgery that added another dimension to an unfortunate string of errors.

[Read more.](#)

## How autonomous driving features rank against human drivers



Milliman  
With the rapidly increasing number of autonomous — enabled vehicles on public roads, it is important to consider that autonomous driving is not as scary as what humans think, when you look at the statistics and real data. Autonomous cars use a sophisticated suite of sensors and software to interpret massive streams of data from outside and inside the car.

Autonomous cars improve safety because they:

- Don't drive drunk or text while driving
- Communicate with other cars, better navigating traffic
- Carry more passengers, reducing number s of vehicles
- Provide safe transportation for the blind, elderly, and children

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Geisinger selects Dr. Jaewon Ryu as new chief executive



Modern Healthcare

Ryu, who has served as interim president and CEO since November, succeeds Dr. David Feinberg, who left Geisinger earlier this year to work for Google. Dr. Jaewon Ryu is Geisinger's new president and CEO, the Danville, Pa.-based integrated health system announced Thursday.

Ryu has served as interim president and CEO since November and executive vice president and chief medical officer since September 2016. He succeeds Dr. David Feinberg, who left Geisinger earlier this year to work for Google. [READ MORE](#)

PRODUCT SHOWCASE



Rare Head-To-Head Comparison of Two Bone Grafts

Two bone graft extenders differing in chemical composition were implanted contralaterally in 27 consecutive patients undergoing instrumented posterolateral lumbar fusion. It was hypothesized that differences in biomaterial composition may reveal differences in the rate at which new bone was formed. [Learn more](#)



Cerner Ambulatory Practice Management

Specialty Practice Management is a complete front- and back-office solution that offers a rapid return on your investment and improved satisfaction among your staff. Practices with 10 or fewer providers turn to this comprehensive solution to manage self-pay accounts and eliminate the common mistakes that prevent or delay insurance reimbursement. [Read more](#)

Using artificial intelligence, speech recognition to optimize note taking



Healthcare IT News

A new AI service promises to improve physician performance by doing the typing for them. With the combined technologies of two companies, note taking for obstetrics is about to become a lot more automated, streamlined and personal.

Unified, a large technology and services provider for OB/GYN practices, and Suki, an artificial intelligence-powered medical assistant for clinicians, are pairing up to roll out a note taking platform that uses voice commands and speech recognition. As a doctor uses the service more, the AI will understand a clinician's vocabulary, style and habits and will be able to document care more precisely while taking up less human time, the companies explained. The goal of the service is to generate higher quality clinical data resulting in a medical action plan all through voice recognition and AI-interpreted commands. [READ MORE](#)

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