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COA Report

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TOP NEWS

What's in Trump's 'American Patients First' plan?



Health Leaders Media

White House officials unveiled the broad contours of a plan to counteract rising prescription drug prices. The 44-page document, titled "American Patients First," includes a three-page outline of the Trump administration's two-phase blueprint. Those two phases are reflected in each of the four key strategies the plan proposes to undertake: improved competition, better negotiation, incentives for lower list prices and lowering out-of-pocket costs. [READ MORE](#)



California Orthopaedic Association

2018 Annual Meeting & QME Course

**CBones Annual Meeting
Resident/Young Ortho Forum**

May 31 - June 3, 2018
San Francisco Marriott Marquis

Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs) are at a Tipping Point: The New Reality of Surgical Services for Health Systems

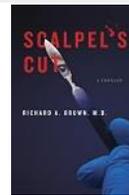
The role of ASCs are changing. Health plans, including Medicare are looking for less costly settings for total joint procedures. Attend the COA Annual Meeting to learn about new opportunities for ASCs and Recovery Care Centers.

Register to Attend today!
annualmeeting.coa.org

Meet COA Member: New author Richard Brown, MD, hand surgeon from San Diego

COA

COA member Richard A. Brown recently published *Scalpel's Cut* — a quirky thriller. The book centers on Erik "V.J." Brio, a hand surgeon who unwittingly gets snared by a shadow organization committing fraud on a massive scale. His attempts to escape their web will take the reader on a page-turning adventure. All proceeds from purchases on Amazon/Kindle go directly to [Doctors Without Borders](#). Support for this amazing entity is appreciated by all those they serve. [READ MORE](#)



VA and Cerner reach agreement on EHR



Modern Healthcare (subscr)

After several months of delays, the Veterans Affairs Department and Cerner have come to an agreement for the VA's new electronic health record system. The VA will officially switch to a Cerner EHR, according to a Cerner announcement, putting it on the same software as the Defense Department. "We are humbled and honored by the responsibility that comes with serving our nation's active duty military personnel, and now, its veterans," Cerner President Zane Burke posted on Twitter. [READ MORE](#)



Study: Anesthesia choice may reduce length-of-stay for THA, TKA patients



Journal of the AAOS

A study published in the Journal of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons reports that a combination of total intravenous anesthesia and short-acting spinal anesthesia may be linked to more day-of-surgery physical therapy sessions and earlier hospital discharge compared to traditional anesthesia. Investigators conducted a retrospective chart review of 116 patients who underwent total hip arthroplasty and total knee arthroplasty with TIVA and short-acting spinal blockade and compared hospital length-of-stay with a control group of 228 patients who received traditional anesthesia. They found that both THA and TKA patients who received TIVA plus short-acting spinal anesthesia had reduced hospital length-of-stay compared with the traditional protocol group. The investigators also note that patients who received the combination protocol were more likely to undergo at least one day-of-surgery postoperative physical therapy session. [READ MORE](#)

Patients pave the way for interoperability



Modern Healthcare (subscr)

The new interoperability is upon us. Healthcare data, once confined to a single hospital or system, are increasingly moving more freely outside the constraints of an electronic health record system, giving patients added control over their care and arming providers with the information they need to close gaps in care. The data are moving more easily thanks to interoperability driven not by EHR technology but by the standards supporting the systems. [READ MORE](#)

FDA names and shames drugmakers accused of impeding generics



Health Leaders Media

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration released a list of drug manufacturers accused of limiting access to samples of their products to impede the development of generic alternatives to their brand-name drugs. The summary list of allegations — which FDA notes have not been investigated or confirmed — includes situations in which companies have voluntarily limited distribution and situations in which the FDA has imposed limitations as part of the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy program. [READ MORE](#)

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