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June 29, 2018



COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

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TOP NEWS

COA Member



Charles Resnick, M.D. Passes Away

COA

It is with great sadness that we must inform you that a long-time member of COA, Charles Resnick, M.D., has passed away after a short illness. His Memorial Service was on Friday, June 15. Dr. Resnick was a hand surgeon who practiced in the Pasadena area. He was known for how much he cared for his patients and how hard he advocated to be able to render the care that he felt was medically needed. Dr. Resnick will be missed in his community.

For people who want to express their condolences, cards/letters can be sent to the COA office – 1246 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 and we will forward them to his wife – Sandy and their family.



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WOEMA Webinar



The MTUS & Drug Formulary: Report Writing to Avoid Denials of Treatment Requests

WOEMA

Complimentary

Date: Tuesday, July 10 12:00 noon

Faculty: Steven Feinberg, M.D.

For more information: <http://www.woema.org>

Three states and more: What is on — and off — the ballot



The Mercury News

Californians will vote this fall on such sweeping questions as whether to split the state into three and repeal a new transportation tax generating \$5 billion per year — but they won't be weighing in on lead paint clean-up, internet privacy or a proposal to make it harder to raise local taxes. Struck from the list of 12 November ballot measures, finalized June 28, were contentious proposals nixed after agreements with the Legislature. [READ MORE](#)

New report shows California's progress addressing opioid crisis



California Medical Association

The American Medical Association issued a new report documenting how California's physician leadership is advancing the fight

against the opioid crisis. The report found a statewide decrease in opioid prescribing, as well as an increase in the use of California's prescription drug monitoring program, number of physicians trained and certified to provide patients with buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorder, and naloxone access. California also saw two consecutive years of decreases in prescription-related opioid deaths and surpassed the national average for prescription decreases between 2014 and 2017. [READ MORE](#)

After setback, proponents of universal coverage in California look to next governor



California Healthline

Advocates of state-funded efforts to expand health insurance coverage for immigrants and some middle-class Californians will have to wait for the next governor before they can have any realistic hope of advancing that goal. Several proposals to make coverage more accessible and affordable for millions of Californians were left out of the state's 2018-19 budget, dealing a sharp setback to Democratic lawmakers who fashion themselves as leaders of the resistance against federal retrenchment on health care. [READ MORE](#)

Osso VR surgical training makes push into med schools



Forbes

Osso VR, a virtual reality surgical training platform, announced on June 15, 2018 partnerships with top U.S. medical residency programs to provide hands-on training opportunities for new surgeons using VR. The Vanderbilt University School of Medicine's orthopedic residency program brings to eight the number of programs deploying the Osso VR training solution. This expansion into surgical residency programs comes on the heels of the company's success in working with medical device companies looking to improve training, encourage safe use, and increase adoption. [READ MORE](#)

The doctor will see you now — online: Virtual house calls offered widely in Sacramento region



The Sacramento Bee

House calls are making a comeback, with a virtual twist: Three of the Sacramento region's four major health providers — Kaiser Permanente, UC Davis Health and now Sutter Health — offer video visits with primary care providers. Dignity Health, the region's fourth major provider, is exploring these services. Telemedicine began as a way to get specialists to patients in remote areas almost instantaneously. The technology has been adopted rapidly, and now, primary care providers can be consulted by phone for about one-third of the cost of an office visit. [READ MORE](#)

California budget boosts payments for doctors, dentists



The Associated Press via US News and World Report

Doctors and dentists who see low-income patients on Medi-Cal are getting a raise for the second year in a row under a budget deal approved by California lawmakers. The Assembly and Senate approved more than \$2 billion for higher medical and dental payments and to forgive loans for doctors and dentists who spend much of their time treating Medi-Cal patients. Gov. Jerry Brown, who negotiated with lawmakers on the plan, is expected to sign it. [READ MORE](#)

Lumbar MRI Final LCD — Effective August 27, 2018



Noridian Healthcare Solutions

The following Local Coverage Determination (LCD) has completed the Open Public and Contractor Advisory Committee (CAC) comment period and is now finalized. [READ MORE](#)

Health plans facing more kickback risk



Health Leaders Media

Health plans must now contend with a greater risk of being sued for millions of dollars under the False Claims Act and anti-kickback statutes after a court ruled that the type of "creative" business deals that were accepted in the past could now land them in court. Granting pharmaceutical companies placement on their formularies could yield charges of fraud against the health plans and everyone else involved if it looks like there was any form of compensation, the court determined. [READ MORE](#)

COA Report

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