

August 2, 2019



# COA Report

## California Orthopaedic Association

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### Ortho News This Week

#### Notice from the Board of Pharmacy



### IMPORTANT: Suspicious Phone Calls to Licensees

The California State Board of Pharmacy has learned that several licensees recently have received phone calls from scam artists claiming to be Board of Pharmacy inspectors or DEA agents calling about investigation matters.

At least one caller impersonating a board inspector gave a fake name, "Peter Williams." It is unclear what kind of information the callers are seeking.

**COA Members report having received some of these calls. Please alert your staff.**

**If you have questions or doubts about a caller claiming to work for the California State Board of Pharmacy, please contact the board at (916) 518-3100. Remember that board inspectors will NEVER request any form of payment by telephone.**



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#### The Joint Commission issues new Sentinel Event Alert on managing risks of direct oral anticoagulants



The Joint Commission

In response to an increase in adverse events related to direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs), The Joint Commission has published a new Sentinel Event Alert on managing the risks of DOACs. The alert provides guidance on safe use and



management of DOACs to all medical practitioners and health care organization leaders, particularly chief medical officers, pharmacists, emergency department clinicians, and quality and safety officers. [READ MORE](#)

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## CMS releases 2020 proposed physician fee schedule rule



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is proposing major policy changes to ensure clinicians spend more time providing high-value care for patients instead of filing cumbersome paperwork. As part of CMS's annual changes to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule and Quality Payment Program, the agency's proposals are aimed at reducing burden, recognizing clinicians for the time they spend with patients, removing unnecessary measures and making it easier for them to be on the path towards value-based care.

This proposed rule builds on the Trump Administration's efforts to establish a patient-driven healthcare system that focuses on better health outcomes, and is projected to save 2.3 million hours per year in burden reduction. For a fact sheet on the CY 2020 Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule, please visit [here](#).

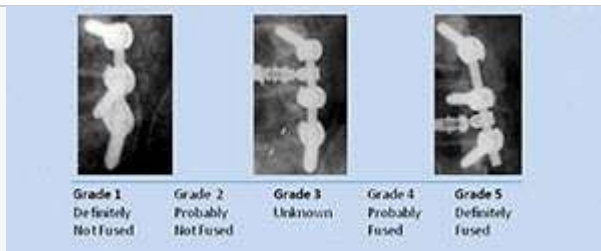
## Motivational interviewing: Benefits and advice for busy physicians



Medical Economics

To improve health outcomes, today's physicians must be able to communicate effectively with their patients. One approach many experts encourage physicians to use is motivational interviewing (MI), a series of techniques to get at the root of patient concerns and help encourage them to make healthy behavior changes. The promise of MI, according to interviews with experts, is for physicians to cease wrestling with their patients to adhere to their advice, and begin to feel they are dancing as partners. [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](#)



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