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August 31, 2018



COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

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Ortho News This Week

Taking the QME Test? Existing QME who needs QME CME hours?



If so, sign up for COA's Mandatory Report Writing Course Accredited for 12 QME CME hours

COA is holding a timely Mandatory Report Writing course on Friday evening, September 14 and Saturday, September 15 in Huntington Beach that is focused on instructing QMEs how to write a ratable Medical-Legal report. If you are a surgeon preparing for the QME Test, this is a mandatory course that you must take before you can be certified as a QME and a good course to help you prepare for the test. If you are an existing QME, the 12 QME CME hours can be used to meet your ongoing CME requirement for recertification.

[For the Course Agenda and to Register](#)



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Justice Department bars doctors accused of prescribing unnecessary opioids from writing prescriptions



DAS Health

The Department of Justice took a first-of-its-kind legal action to stop two doctors accused of illegally prescribing opioids from writing any further prescriptions. The DOJ served two Ohio doctors with temporary restraining orders that bar them from writing prescriptions, after it alleged the physicians prescribed medically unnecessary opioids, according to a department announcement Wednesday. Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the civil injunction against the doctors is the first of its kind and another step in the administration's battle against the country's opioid epidemic. [READ MORE](#)

What does knee surgery cost? Few know, and that's a problem



The Wall Street Journal

For nearly a decade, Gunderson Health System's hospital in La Crosse, Wis., boosted the price of knee-replacement surgery an average of 3 percent a year. By 2016, the average list price was more than \$50,000, including the surgeon and anesthesiologist. Yet even as administrators raised the price, they had no real idea what it cost to perform the surgery — the most common for hospitals in the U.S. outside of those related to childbirth. They set a price using a combination of educated guesswork and a canny assessment of market opportunity. [READ MORE](#)

Clearinghouses Under the Microscope: StoneRiver P2P



Daisy Bill

Most claims administrators lack the technology to process electronic bills from providers. Instead, these claims administrators rely on clearinghouses. Since DaisyBill has direct access to all 6 California clearinghouses, we're uniquely qualified to evaluate and compare the performances of each. With this series, we take a look at the value each clearinghouse adds to (or subtracts from) workers' comp. [READ MORE](#)

Job Opportunity

Job Opening for an Orthopaedic Surgeon — Ventura



Ventura

Ventura Orthopedics is recruiting a total joints fellowship trained orthopedic surgeon to start in the fall of 2019. VO is a 20 MD orthopedic group in coastal Ventura County, California, with 5 practice centers including integrated physical and occupational therapy in addition to 2 imaging centers. We are a vertically integrated, independent group practice with specialists in spine, pediatrics, shoulder, hand, sports, total joint, foot and ankle, and pain management.

Ventura County is located immediately north of Los Angeles County with a great choice of housing, educational and recreational opportunities. VO has a tradition of orthopedic leadership and service to our communities and a mission to improve the lives of individuals we serve. Learn more about us at www.venturaortho.com.

Send CVs to James Keil, CEO at jamesk@venturaortho.com

COA Report

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