

October 15, 2019



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Ortho News This Week

COA Members are Honored at the International Society for Technology in Arthroplasty (ISTA) Congress - Toronto, Canada



ISTA



Lifetime Achievement Award. Professor Harry A. McKellop, PhD (on the left) received ISTA's Lifetime Achievement Award for his lifelong contribution to advancing the state of the art in joint reconstruction. Philip Noble, PhD, is the Program Director (on the right).



Shark Tank Award. Kambiz Bezadi, MD (on the left) received the Shark Tank Award for his exceptional presentation on, "Excessive Use of Force in Press Fit Arthroplasty." Philip Noble, PhD, is the Program Director (on the right).

Awards were presented at ISTA's Gala Dinner in Toronto on October 4th, 2019.

HHS delivers long-awaited stark law regulatory overhaul



HealthLeaders Media

With a pair of proposed regulations, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services delivered a highly anticipated overhaul Wednesday of the regulations that interpret the Stark Law and federal Anti-Kickback Statute. The proposals—which were released by the HHS Office of Inspector General and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, respectively—aim to make it easier for healthcare providers to coordinate care and offer value-based arrangements, according to HHS officials. [READ MORE](#)

Microsoft will bring its powerful cloud dictation and transcription services to Word in 2020



PCWorld

The dictation service within Microsoft Word is lousy. At long last, that looks like it's about to change. In 2017, we complained that dictation within Windows was awful, specifically because it worked upon a local model that individual users had to train. Now, Microsoft says it's preparing to bring its far, far superior cloud dictation service to Microsoft Word, beginning in 2020. And it's bringing transcription to Word, too. [READ MORE](#)

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California Orthopaedic Associations

SAVE THE DATE

REGISTRATION OPENS
JANUARY 1, 2020

COA 2020 ANNUAL MEETING
QME COURSE & CBONES ANNUAL MEETING
April 16-19, 2020
Terranea Resort, Rancho Palos Verde, CA

Why video is an important tool for engaging patients



Medical Economics

When developing a consumer engagement strategy today, a major trend for physicians is the use of video to engage and empower patients. Meghan Nechrebecki, founder and CEO of Health Care Transformation, a healthcare consulting firm partnering with health systems to improve their consumer engagement, says by curating information that would either be redundant, poor quality, or not happening at all, videos give consumers a visual-auditory learning tool that will help them achieve better outcomes. [READ MORE](#)

New Medi-Cal fiscal intermediary took over Oct. 1



CMA

The California Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) transition of all fiscal intermediary duties from Conduent to DXC Technology happened October 1, 2019. DXC Technology has been working closely with Conduent to ensure a smooth transition. For the latest information on the transition—including frequently asked questions—see the DHCS website. [READ MORE](#)

Anthem Blue Cross terminates Medicare Advantage contract with Hill Physicians



CMA

The California Medical Association (CMA) has learned that Anthem Blue Cross has terminated its contract with Hill Physicians Medical Group for the Medicare Advantage product effective October 1, 2019. According to Hill Physicians, the termination will affect approximately 8,000 enrollees in Sacramento County and 200 enrollees in San Francisco County. [READ MORE](#)

Assisting patients with rising costs of prescription drugs



Medical Economics

Prescription drug prices are on the rise. Data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reveals that on average, Americans spend approximately \$1,200 a year on prescription medications, numbers that have gone up due to rising prices. [READ MORE](#)

Reviewing the efficacy of medical cannabis for chronic pain



Clinical Pain Advisor

There is limited evidence supporting the efficacy of cannabis for refractory chronic pain, including chronic neuropathic pain, and cannabis may not be efficacious as a monotherapy or first-line pain therapy, according to a review published in the Journal of Anesthesia. Many clinical trials indicate that medical cannabis and cannabinoids may slightly reduce acute neuropathic pain intensity. [READ MORE](#)

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