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October 29, 2018




COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

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Ortho News This Week

Loosey goosey



Workers Comp Zone

Julius Young writes: "Over the years I've been amazed about the loosey goosey approach many attorneys have towards the QME process. Not sending medical records to the QME at all, sending too many medical records, sending medical records at the last minute, sending undisclosed sub rosa films, sending no cover letter with questions to be addressed, sending massive cover letters, sending records and documents that were not served on the opposing party... I've seen it all. Disputes about when and what is sent to the QME appear to have been rising. Likewise, there appear to be more disputes about the need for replacement panels." [READ MORE](#)



California Orthopaedic Association 

CODING FOR SUCCESS IN 2019

Friday, November 30, 2018

7 AM Registration
 8 AM - 4 PM Course

Westin South Coast Plaza, Costa Mesa

\$175 Single Attendee
 \$150 For multiple attendees from same practice.

Questions?
 Call 916-454-9884
 or email admin@coa.org

REGISTER TODAY!

REGISTER HERE

COA Member Elected Vice Chair — Specialty Delegation CMA Specialty Delegation



COA

Congratulations to Russell Nord M.D. from Fremont who has been elected Vice Chair of the California Medical Association Specialty Delegation. The Specialty Delegation is the largest delegation to CMA's House of Delegates which is their policy-making body.. Dr. Nord also serves as one of COA's delegate to the CMA House. Other COA delegates/alternates to the CMA House of Delegates include Raymond Raven, M.D., Nic Gay, M.D. and Basil Alwattar, M.D.

Job Opportunity

Orthopaedic Surgeon Needed



Roseville Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine

Roseville Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine is seeking a BC/BE orthopedic surgeon with interest/specialty in hip and knee arthroplasty, general orthopedics or sports medicine. We will consider other specialties as well. We feel there is excellent room for growth.

Roseville Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine has been serving the community for more than 55 years. Our local hospital (Sutter Roseville Medical Center) is a thriving level II trauma center. Orthopedic surgeons on staff are not required to cover call though some call is available to help build one's practice if desired. There are several large retirement communities in the immediate area.

The area around Roseville, California is economically very strong, has excellent schools and, between Sacramento and the Sierra Nevada, has great cultural and recreational opportunities.

Contact information

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Annie Nguyentat, DPM (916) 769-5552.

Our office number is (916) 782-1217 where you could ask for any of us or our manager, Kim Graham (x108).



November Election Could Mean Major Changes in Health Care



November Ballot Initiatives

Adam Francis

CAFP, Director of Government Relations

From State Assembly, State Senate, US House of Representatives, US Senate to statewide constitutional offices, Californians will go to the polls this November and set our state on a new policy path. This includes 12 ballot initiatives and what seems like countless state and local offices up for grabs. While we could fill this entire magazine with analysis of each race, the competition that will have the most influence on health care will be for California governor. [READ MORE](#)

Payors paying by credit card — can you say no?



COA

Yes. When a payor pays your claims via credit card, it effectively reduces your reimbursement by the amount that your Merchant Service charges you to process the credit card charge. This could be as much as 2%-4% of the payment. The costs add up and comes right out of your bottom line.

If you want to say "NO" to payors paying you with a credit card, you can.

According to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, payors are required to offer providers payment by electronic funds transfer (EFT). So, this means that you cannot demand payment by a check, but you could ask that payors pay you via an EFT. Some providers do not want to give payors their banking information. To remedy this problem, you can set-up a special account at your bank for the sole purpose of receiving electronic payments. Then regularly transfer monies out of that account into your regular operating accounts to avoid large amounts of money accumulating in that account.

There was a significant attempt by payors to pay physicians via credit cards a couple of years ago. Recently, COA again started to receive these complaints and the reason we are republishing this information.

Hip and knee surgeons to use apple watch to monitor patients



Medscape

Up to 10,000 Americans due to have hip or knee replacements will be able to funnel basic health data directly from their Apple Watches to their surgeons under a new app being tested by prosthetic limb specialist Zimmer Biomet. Four hospitals and more than a dozen other medical facilities in states including Massachusetts, California, Colorado and Michigan will receive stats including heart rate, steps taken and standing hours from patients waiting for or recovering from hip and knee replacement surgery. [READ MORE](#)

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