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Ortho News This Week

CURES 2.0 Webinar

California Department of Justice

The California Department of Justice is pleased to provide a webinar on the CURES 2.0 system for prescribers and dispensers. Attendees will learn about new system features, such as Patient Safety Alerts, Compacts, and Peer Messaging. Additionally, step-by-step instruction will be provided on how to access CURES Patient Activity Reports, as well as resetting user passwords.



Friday, November 30, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/397127501820265731>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information and instruction about joining the webinar.

For questions on webinar registration or to request in-person CURES training, please contact the CURES HelpDesk at CURES@doj.ca.gov or (916) 210-3187.



Medicare FFS Response to the 2018 California Wildfires MLN Matters Article — New



CMS

The President declared a state of emergency for the state of California, and the HHS Secretary declared a Public Health Emergency, which allows for a CMS programmatic waivers based on Section 1135 of the Social Security Act. An MLN Matters Special Edition Article on [Medicare Fee-for-Service \(FFS\) Response to the 2018 California Wildfires](#) is available. Learn about blanket waivers CMS issued for the impacted geographical areas. These waivers will prevent gaps in access to care for beneficiaries impacted by the emergency. [READ MORE](#)

Your next doctor's appointment might be with an AI



MIT Technology Review

“My stomach is killing me!” “I’m sorry to hear that,” says a female voice. “Are you happy to answer a few questions?” And so the consultation begins. Where’s the pain? How bad is it? Does it come and go? There’s some deliberation before you get an opinion. “This sounds like dyspepsia to me. Dyspepsia is doctor-speak for indigestion.” Doctor-speak, maybe, but it’s not a doctor speaking. The female voice belongs to Babylon, part of a wave of new AI apps designed to relieve your doctor of needless paperwork and office visits—and reduce the time you have to wait for medical advice. If you’re feeling unwell, instead of calling a doctor, you use your phone to chat with an AI. [READ MORE](#)

Health care wins at the ballot box



California Health Care Foundation

On Nov. 6, voters across blue and red states showed their support for health care. Exit polling conducted by Public Policy Polling found

that health care was top of mind for voters — 63% said health care was an important issue in the midterm elections. Voters in Idaho, Nebraska, and Utah passed ballot measures to expand Medicaid in their states, bringing the number of states that have adopted the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion to 36 (plus the District of Columbia, which is more populous than Vermont or Wyoming). "The overall message is that the electorate does not see this as a Democrat or GOP issue but as an issue of basic fairness, access to care, and [a] pocketbook issue," Katherine Howitt, associate director of policy at the advocacy group Community Catalyst, told California Healthline. [READ MORE](#)

Don't be the next victim of billing fraud and abuse



AAOS Now

Every physician has scenarios they seek to avoid: bad nights on call, less than optimal outcomes, and the fear of malpractice suits. What many don't think about are coding mistakes that could result in federal investigators knocking on the office door. Audits may uncover coding errors, resulting in stiff fines and even jail time. [READ MORE](#)

Orthopaedic practices must adapt patient-acquisition strategies



AAOS Now

Clinical technology for orthopaedic surgeons has progressed tremendously over the past two decades. Surgeries that once lasted several hours and required large open incisions can now be performed with arthroscopes, fluoroscopy, and less-invasive approaches. After years of clinical research and outcome reporting, many clinical technologies have become standard in orthopaedic surgery. [READ MORE](#)

95 percent of physicians avoid MIPS penalties: 12 notes on QPP year 1



Becker's Hospital Review

CMS released the first-year performance results of the Quality Payment Program's Merit-based Incentive Payment System, which will determine Medicare payment adjustments for clinicians in 2019. Most participating clinicians were successful, though both positive and negative payment adjustments will be small. The first year of the program was designed to ease clinicians into the program, and CMS plans to gradually ramp up performance thresholds for "an evolving distribution of payment adjustments." [READ MORE](#)

The beginner's guide to dictation software: The best apps for voice to text productivity



Zapier

Perfect ideas don't wait for you to sit down at your desk. They come during hikes, while you're walking your dog, and in the middle of lunch. Shouldn't you be able to save those thoughts at any time, no matter where you are or what you're doing? That's what voice dictation is for. It lets you record your ideas hands-free, even if you're folding laundry, walking to the grocery store, or making dinner. And it's one of the best accessibility features on computers, helping anyone write their words without typing. [READ MORE](#)

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