



April 8, 2019



[Home](#) | [About](#) | [Members](#) | [Annual Meeting](#) | [Education](#) | [Advocacy](#) [Subscribe](#) | [Archive](#) | [Advertise](#)

[Search Past Issues](#)
[View Web Version](#)
[Advertise](#)



Ortho News This Week

Anthem Blue Cross **ALERT**



This week COA received several complaints from members who indicated that Anthem Blue Cross is proposing changes to their PPO contract effective July 1, 2019. [Anthem Notice](#)

They are asking orthopaedic practices to:

- For **treating injured workers**, Anthem is asking you to accept the contract rates contained in Appendix B, or 85% of the Official Medical Fee Schedule or the amount allowed by bill review, **whichever is less**.
- Also, for injured workers, you will be required to refer patients only to other providers within the Anthem PPO network.

You would be agreeing to accept these reimbursement rates for Anthem Blue Cross and all of their "affiliates."

If you want to "opt-out" of these changes, Anthem instructs you to so indicate on the "signature" page and sign and return it to Anthem. Some report, however, that they did not receive a signature page.

If that is the case, we would recommend that you write a letter to Anthem clearly indicating that you want to opt-out of these contract changes.

If you have not received the notice and have concerns, contact Anthem Blue Cross to see if they are proposing to change your contract.

We do not see that Anthem has given you a deadline to respond, so we would recommend responding as soon as possible. Their notice is dated March 22, 2019. Generally, payors are required to give physicians 30 days notice of any material change to their contract.



Blue Shield Announcement
Statewide Orthopedics Quality Collaborative



We are thrilled to announce the appointment of Dr. Tom Barber to Physician Director of the Statewide Orthopedics Quality Collaborative, a program funded by Blue Shield of California that aims to unite orthopedic physicians across California to share data and collaborate to improve the quality of care, improve patient experience, increase physician engagement, and reduce the cost of care.

Dr. Barber will be responsible for providing leadership and strategic direction for the collaborative and developing and executing on a multi-year roadmap to support the long-term goals of the initiative. His role will include developing a coordinating center to support all collaborative activities, building an appropriate data registry, utilizing analytics to support improvement efforts, leading statewide meetings and targeted quality initiatives, engaging all orthopedists in California over time and developing a Physician Advisory Council to guide the work.

Dr. Barber has deep experience in hospital operations, quality improvement, and registry development. He received an undergraduate degree in economics from Harvard College, an MD from The University of Rochester, and completed his orthopedic residency at Boston University. He finished his training with a fellowship in total joint arthroplasty at Stanford University. He was a cofounder of the Kaiser Permanente Total Joint Registry, which won the Eisenberg Award for patient safety and quality improvement from the Joint Commission and the National Quality Forum. His varied administrative roles have included oversight of information technology for an academic medical center, oversight of operating room and of medical education functions. He presently is the Vice President for PeriOperative Services at the University of California in San Francisco.

Consistent with the goal of engaging orthopaedic surgeons in the program, the California Orthopaedic Association (COA) participated in the early stages of the Quality Collaborative, including the physician director selection process.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Barber on his appointment.

SPONSORED CONTENT

Promoted by Zephyr-TEC Corp.

- [Dragon Medical One Cloud-Based Speech Recognition](#)
- [Dragon Medical Practice Edition 4 \(Desktop\)](#)
- [Philips Workflow, Speech Recognition & Transcription Solution](#)
- [Nuance Clinic 360 Transcription](#)
- [Medical Evaluation Form](#)



Orthopaedic Office Space for Lease

Office Space Available for sublease/part-time/full-time

- State-of-the-art digital imaging technology, including X-ray and ultrasound
- Fully digitalized office
- Perfect for all specialties
- Four Exam Rooms, Physician's Office, Nursing Station, Reception Desk
- A family-like office atmosphere and extremely experienced, multilingual staff
- High end office with high-quality furnishings
- Practice located in a Class A building, in a very convenient and accessible location, close to surgery centers, Olympia and Cedars hospital



Contact: Office Manager Nikki Pontrelli 323-556-5450

PRODUCT SHOWCASE



When to Be a Nice Doctor - and When to Stop

In his most recent medical malpractice case study, CAP's General Counsel Gordon Ownby analyzes a lawsuit against an internist who was alleged to have improperly prescribed Durezol to his patient. Every month Mr. Ownby provides commentary on a real-life litigated case for his monthly column "Case of the Month." Read it here:

<https://www.capphysicians.com/cotm1>

Share Orthopaedic Office — Toluca Lake/North Hollywood



Part-time shared orthopedic/medical office for lease. Common lobby, reception and administrative area. Currently 4 to 6 treatment rooms and 1 private office with x-ray facility plus a cast room.

All rooms have upper/lower cabinets. Private office has window. Available days are Monday, Wednesday, Friday and also Saturday. Free-standing office building with ample parking in Toluca Lake/North Hollywood on Riverside Drive.

For immediate showing and more information please contact Marina Mazanians at 818-209-6528 or overload805@yahoo.com.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Quality Physical Therapy Management:
Financial, Operations and Revenue Cycle.
STARTUPS • EXISTING CLINICS • REHABILITATION NICHES

So you can focus on patient care.

integra rehab solutions
GET STARTED TODAY!
integrarehabsolutions.com

GET B2B CONNECTED»

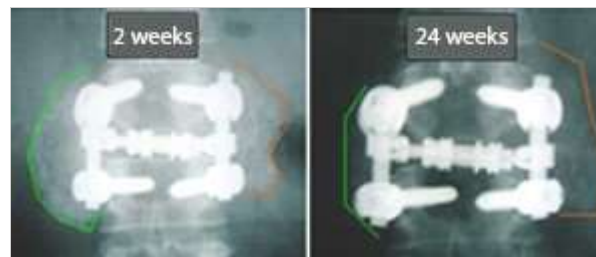
MULTIVIEW
DIGITAL MARKETING SOLUTIONS

PRODUCT SHOWCASE



BandGrip - Wound Closure 2.0

BandGrip Micro-Anchor Skin Closure is a revolutionary new wound-closure technology that's changing the way orthopedic surgeons take care of their patients—**can change the way you practice too. It's quick & easy to use, minimally invasive, keeping incisions sealed while promoting faster healing. See a difference. Make a difference. [Learn more](#)**



Not All Synthetics are the Same

Two bone graft extenders differing in chemical composition were implanted contralaterally in 2 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](#)

COA Report

Connect with COA



[Recent Issues](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Web Version](#)

Colby Horton, Vice President of Publishing, 469-420-2601 | [Download media kit](#)
Nicolette Penner, Content Editor, 469-420-2604 | [Contribute news](#)

California Orthopaedic Association

1246 P Street | Sacramento, CA 95814 | 916-454-9884 | [Contact Us](#)

[Learn how](#) to add us to your safe sender list so our emails get to your inbox.

Powered By **MULTIBRIEFS**
7701 Las Colinas Ridge, Ste. 800, Irving, TX 75063