



# COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

November 23, 2020

## PRACTICE GUIDANCE

### How 2021 E/M Coding Changes Will Reshape the Physician Note

American Medical Association

Changes to the code descriptors and guidelines for evaluation and management (E/M) services delivered during office visits and other outpatient encounters provide an opportunity to rethink outpatient documentation while reducing physician burnout. "E/M code changes: What will happen to the physician note?" was the question answered in the first of three webinars jointly produced by the AMA and Nordic, a Madison, Wisconsin-based health care consulting firm.

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[AMA E/M Office Visit Primer](#)

### In Case You Missed It!

5 Things We Worked on In Sacramento  
Russell Nord, M.D., COA's 2nd Vice President  
Kim Stone, Esq., COA Lobbyist

If you missed the COA webinar last night, don't worry! You can still watch it and catch up on what COA has been working on in Sacramento for our members. Link to video: <https://youtu.be/l1BBhXpxRjQ>



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## What's Next for Health Care Policy Under a Biden Administration

California Health Care Foundation

When President-elect Joseph R. Biden Jr. is sworn into office in January 2021, he will bring an ambitious health care agenda in the face of a thinly divided Congress. While control of the US Senate remains uncertain, we can begin to draw some conclusions about how President-elect Biden will prioritize the various aspects of his platform, the means by which he may pursue them, and their probability of enactment.

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## AAOS Advocacy in Action

AAOS

- In addition to leading a letter of support for H.R. 8702 from the orthopaedic community (see news item below), AAOS signed onto a letter of support from 20+ [surgical specialty groups](#) and one from 70+ organizations from the [broader medical specialty community](#).
- Asked Congress to pass a statutory delay of the [Appropriate Use Criteria program](#) so that stakeholders can reach a better, more feasible and less burdensome approach to encouraging advanced diagnostic imaging.
- Urged the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to immediately implement and pay for [CPT code 99072](#), which is used to compensate practices for additional supplies and new staff activities related to the public health emergency.



### PRODUCT SHOWCASE



#### Weight Loss and Better Outcomes

Help your patients lose weight and improve their health with a virtual and evidence based weight loss program that can be brought in house or you can refer your patients to a professional Health Coach who will work with patients remotely. Extensive on-line support for your patients and your practice.

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## Amazon Opens Online Pharmacy, Shaking Up Another Industry

The Associated Press

Now at Amazon.com: insulin and inhalers. The retail colossus opened an online pharmacy Tuesday that allows customers to order medication or prescription refills, and have them delivered to their front door in a couple of days. The potential impact of Amazon's arrival in the pharmaceutical space rippled through that sector immediately.

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# Updated Prospective Bundled Payment Program

Effective 01/01/2021

## Statewide rate increases for ASCs & Surgeons

- **Restructured bundle offerings** focused on utilization in ASC, in particular high acuity
- **Added reimbursement** for bilateral and multiple bundles, as well as coding pairs
- Several **new bundles and codes** to promote site-of-service optimization of complex cases to higher quality ASC settings
- **Restructured trauma/fracture-related bundles** to drive incremental utilization & match implant usage



COA has become aware that Global 1 has successfully negotiated improvements in their Blue Shield Bundled Payment Program which increases reimbursement for orthopaedic procedures and addresses other concerns expressed by COA and its members. Attached is a summary from Global 1 providing more specific details of the changes to their Blue Shield Bundled Payment Program.

COA appreciates the collaboration with Global 1 and continues to be open to hearing from you about issues that may affect your bundled payment arrangements



## COA Report

Connect with COA



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