



# COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

No

## Happy Thanksgiving — We are Grateful for You

COA

There is no better time than Thanksgiving to say thank you to our members for your endless trust and support of the California Orthopaedic Association. This year has brought a tremendous wave of personal and professional challenges – and together, we have adapted and persevered. Your success is what we strive for – even more this year. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you, be well, and Happy Thanksgiving.

It's time to [renew your COA membership for 2021](#) or [join COA for the first time](#).

You will be joining over 70% of orthopaedic surgeons in California who are already members of COA.

[Read More About COA Priorities for 2020 and 2021.](#)

[COA Video](#)



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## PRACTICE GUIDANCE

### CMS Announces Historic Changes to Physician Self-Referral Regulations

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized changes to outdated federal regulations that have burdened health care providers with added administrative costs and impeded the health care system's move toward value-based reimbursement. The Physician Self-Referral Law, also known as the "Stark Law," generally prohibits a physician from making referrals to an entity for certain

healthcare services, if the physician has a financial relationship with the entity.

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## Final Anti-Kickback and Stark Rules: Value-Based Arrangements and Beyond

Hooper Lundy & Bookman PC

Sweeping new federal physician self-referral law (referred to as the "Stark" law) regulations and federal anti-kickback statute safe harbors released November 20, 2020 contain broad new exceptions for "value based arrangements," and ease regulatory compliance in other areas, as well as adding welcome clarity to both sets of laws. In addition, a new exception to the civil monetary penalties law has been added for in-home dialysis telemedicine. The new rules are effective January 19, 2021, other than certain revisions with respect to group practices under the Stark law, which are effective January 1, 2022.

Our [webinar](#) on Dec. 1 will outline some of the key changes and offer practical tips for navigating the changes.

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# Trump Administration Announces Prescription Drug Payment Model to Put American Patients First

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

In support of President Trump's historic commitment to lowering drug prices for American patients, HHS Secretary Alex Azar announced a drug payment model through the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services that will lower Medicare Part B payments for certain drugs to the lowest price for similar countries and save American taxpayers and beneficiaries more than \$85 billion over seven years.

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# Global 1 — Blue Shield Bundled Payment Program Changes

Global 1

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

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