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# COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

March 25, 2022

## TOP NEWS

### Last Chance to Register for COA's In-Person 2022 Annual Meeting. Join over 300 Surgeons at the Conference.

Perhaps we once took for granted the role that face-to-face events played in our society. The last two years has highlighted and made us keenly aware of the importance of in-person interaction with colleagues and friends.

The upcoming **COA/CBones 2022 Annual Meeting/QME Course** is your chance to reconnect in-person.

Time is running short to register. Join your colleagues — **April 7-10, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency Resort in Indian Wells.**

We kept open the discounted registration rate to encourage more members to attend.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER—THE RESILIENCY OF ORTHOPEDIC SURGEONS

Joseph Zuckerman, M.D

- The Expanding Use of Reverse Shoulder Arthroscopy – Joseph Zuckerman, M.D.
- AAOS Presidential Update – Kevin Bozic, M.D.
- The Great Debate – Hand Procedures – Moderator Prosper Benhaim, M.D.
- The Great Debate – Sports Medicine Issues – Moderator: Tim McAdams, M.D.
- The Great Debate – Shoulder Injuries – Moderator: Patrick St. Pierre, M.D.
- The Great Debate – Total Hip Arthroplasty – Moderator: Thomas Donaldson, M.D.
- The Great Debate – Foot and Ankle – What's In and What's Out – Moderator: Glenn Pfeffer, M.D.
- Biologics – Pro and Con – Moderator: Jason Dragoo, M.D.
- Fluoroscopy Radiation Safety – Isabel Newton, M.D, PhD

#### Earn CME hours

- 17.5 Category 1 CME hours
- 10 Radiation Safety CME hours
- 10 ABOS SAE hours

- 6 QME CME hours

## Ask Your Questions Share Your Clinical Experience

### Learn the Latest from Orthopaedic Coding Experts

KarenZupko & Associates is clearly recognized as a national coding expert for orthopaedics.

Karen Zupko and Sarah Wiskerchen of KarenZupko&Associates, Inc. will both be attending the meeting.



Karen will discuss **How to Avoid Claw backs with Compliant Billing and Documentation**



Sarah will discuss **Orthopaedic Coding and Hot Topics**

along  
fee.

Surgeons and their practice managers/coding staff often spend hundreds of dollars to attend the Zupko courses. Attend the COA/CBones Annual Meetings to get the benefit of the Zupko expert coding advice with other important practice information. Practice managers/coding staff have a discounted registration

**Surgeons:** Attend the COA Annual Meeting and bring along your office manager and staff.

[REGISTER](#)

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## MedPAC Proposes Payment Updates in 2022 Report

AAOS Healthcare Policy News

On March 15th, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) released its [March 2022 Report to the Congress: Medicare Payment Policy](#). In this report MedPAC included an analysis of payment adequacy in traditional fee-for-service Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and the prescription drug benefit (Part D). Additionally, MedPAC addressed four legislative mandates covering issues such as payment adjustment and recent changes to the home health system. Among notable recommendations, per current law, the Commission recommends no updates for clinicians paid under the physician fee schedule and for ambulatory surgery centers. AAOS strongly disagrees with this recommendation and will continue to urge Congress to reverse mandated cuts to physician payments and update current law to rectify the broken Medicare reimbursement system.

[READ MORE](#)

# UnitedHealthcare Halts Paper Prior Authorization and Appeal Decision Letters

California Medical Association

As part of UnitedHealthcare's (UHC) continuing initiative to move providers to all-paperless methods of communication by the end of 2022, the plan announced that it will soon discontinue mailing paper appeal decision, prior authorization and clinical decision letters. Providers will instead be directed to access this correspondence electronically through Document Library, UHC's secure online repository of claim-related communication and reports, accessible via the UnitedHealthcare Provider Portal.

[READ MORE](#)

# Anthem Blue Cross Discontinues Payment of Consultation Services

California Medical Association

Anthem Blue Cross is the latest payor to halt the reimbursement of consultation services. Effective January 1, 2022, Anthem is no longer reimbursing for inpatient and outpatient consultation CPT codes 99241-99245 and 99251-99255 for its commercial insurance products. Instead, providers will need to bill utilizing the appropriate evaluation and management (E/M) procedure code that describes the office visit, hospital care, nursing facility care, home service or domiciliary/rest home care.

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## COA Report

Connect with COA



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