

July 17, 2020



COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

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

Top News

Need PPE Equipment?

CMA



Reserve a 2-month supply through a State of California/CMA Program — Free of Charge CMA Membership Not Required

In an effort to ensure California physicians can continue to provide care to patients during the COVID-19 outbreak, the State of California is partnering with the California Medical Association and Altas to provide medical-grade personal protective equipment (PPE) -- including N95 masks, gowns and gloves -- free of charge to small and medium-sized medical practices across the state. Over the last several months, many physicians have had to limit hours or close their doors completely because they cannot find the PPE they need to keep their offices open. This supply of PPE will help fortify California's health care infrastructure as we continue to wrestle with the COVID-19 pandemic and issues with the PPE supply chain.

"CMA and its component medical societies are proud to be working with the state Office of Emergency Services (OES) to ensure that physicians of California can keep their practices open, and keep themselves and their patients safe," said CMA President Peter N. Bretan, Jr., M.D. "We want to thank Gov. Newsom and his administration for ensuring this essential protective equipment gets into the hands of the physicians who need it so they can provide essential health care to their patients."

Financial support for the distribution of this PPE is being provided by Altas, a new health care services company that helps physicians maximize the health and well-being of their patients in a way that is sustainably affordable and maintains professional satisfaction.

"It is our honor to partner with the CMA and the state of California to provide much needed personal protective equipment to California physicians and clinicians on the front line," said Altas President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Jeff Baillet. "This PPE donation is aligned to Altas' mission to ignite an exceptional healthcare system that cultivates the health and wellbeing of physicians, patients, and the clinical community."

OES is making millions of pieces of PPE available free of charge to practices with 50 or fewer health care providers. The equipment will be distributed at dozens of drive-through events throughout the state, organized by CMA and its component medical societies.

Practices with 50 or fewer providers can receive up to a two-month supply to ensure they can reopen with proper safety precautions in place (exact amount may vary by practice size, specialty and location). This equipment is available to all qualifying physician practices, whether or not they are CMA members.

Physicians can reserve their PPE by going to cmadocs.org/PPE **no later than July 21**. The "drive through" pick up events will be hosted on various dates by county between July 27 and August 12.



Is your schedule full
with the patients you want to see?

Legislative Alert

COA



AB 890 (Wood) – Scope of Practice – Nurse Practitioners
COA Position: Oppose

Nurse practitioners have sought the ability to practice without the supervision of a physician for several years.

AB 890 is their latest effort. Perhaps timely, with the need for more health care providers during COVID-19.

There are, however, problems with AB 890:

1. The scope of practice of a nurse practitioner practicing independently is undefined. This expanded scope needs to be limited to those nurse practitioners who can demonstrate knowledge and experience in the expanded practice area.
2. The bill lacks standards that a nurse practitioner would need to meet to qualify for the expanded scope of practice.
3. The bill creates a new licensing Board. Seems more appropriate for NPs to be regulated by the Board of Registered Nursing.

COA is joining the **California Medical Association** in opposing the bill until these issues can be resolved. The bill has passed the Assembly and will be heard in the Senate when they return from their July break. **Please take 2 minutes** to send an email to your Senator letting them know of your concerns. [Click here to send an email](#). The system will also phone their office. Unless, you are personally acquainted with the Senator, you would just leave a message with their staff – "I am a constituent and am urging the Senator to vote "No" on AB 890. The bill needs to clarify the standards that a nurse practitioner would need to meet to qualify for an expanded scope of practice."

Should you get a commitment from your Senator, please let COA know – admin@coa.org.

Thanks for your active involvement in the political process. You can make a difference.

Russell Nord, M.D.

Chair, COA's Legislative Committee

Other Articles

CMS Just Released the New Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN)



Karen Zupko & Associates, Inc.

CMS just released the updated ABN CMS-R-131. The ABN should only be used for Medicare beneficiaries when a procedure or service might not be covered. The updated ABN goes into effect **Aug. 31, 2020** but you can begin using it now. [READ MORE](#)

Connect with COA



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

Dennis Hall, Director of Publishing, 469-420-2656 | [Download media kit](#)
Brie Ragland, 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