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February 15, 2019



COA Report
California Orthopaedic Association

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Ortho News This Week

[Anthem Blue Cross — Reminder and update: New prior authorization for Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy services begins March 25, 2019](#)



Anthem BlueCross

Our December 15, 2019 notification stated an effective date of March 15, 2019 for the AIM Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy services. Please note the new effective date of March 25, 2019. Beginning with dates of service on and after March 25, 2019, Anthem Blue Cross (Anthem) will require prior authorization for rehabilitative (restoring function) and habilitative (enhancing function) services. [READ MORE](#)



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[Liberty Mutual misses the mark: Paying 2019 bills at 2018 OMFS rates](#)



Daisy Bill

Liberty Mutual has joined the unenviable ranks of York Risk Services and Sedgwick CMS in applying 2018 Physician Fee Schedule to bills for services in 2019. Our data reveals a pattern of mangled payments through the end of January. Most administrators have embraced the markedly increased complexity of the California Physician Services Fee Schedule in 2019 and issued accurate payments. Though a few others have not. Liberty Mutual now joins the ranks of infamy with Sedgwick CMS and York Risk Services. [READ MORE](#)

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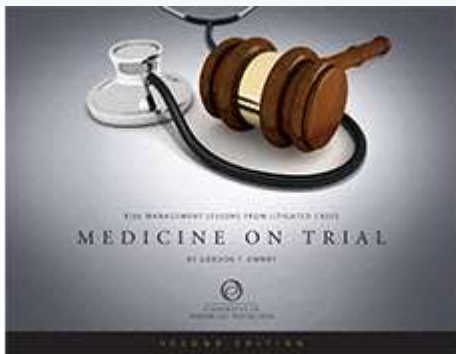
HHS' proposed interoperability rules to increase EHR access



Modern Healthcare

HHS released on Monday two proposed rules that requires insurers to provide electronic health records to patients at no cost for certain plans by 2020. In two long-anticipated rules, the CMS and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology proposed requiring healthcare providers and insurers to implement open data sharing technology to ensure data can move from one plan to another. [READ MORE](#)

PRODUCT SHOWCASE



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Convincing patients to respond to surveys is easier than you think



Medical Economics

You might be surprised to learn that 86 percent of Americans say they would likely take a survey from a healthcare provider, if asked. A West survey of 1,036 adults in the United States showed patients are more open to taking surveys than most providers realize. This is encouraging news for providers who want to conduct patient satisfaction surveys, remote health monitoring surveys, health risk assessments, and other surveys. [READ MORE](#)

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT



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—and it **can change the way you practice too. It's quick and non-invasive**, keeping incisions sealed while promoting healing. See a difference. Make a difference. [Learn More](#)



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