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August 10, 2018



COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

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Ortho News This Week

Sutter Health Seeks to Add Orthopaedic Surgeons to their Network



Sutter Health

Sutter Health currently has **2 openings in Northern California.**

One a fellowship trained Foot & Ankle Surgeon to join in Davis, CA (Sutter Medical Group),

And;

A fellowship trained Total Joints Surgeon to join in Yuba City, Ca (Sutter North Medical Group).

Practice with a large multispecialty Physician group with the backing of one of California's largest health systems. Enjoy an income guarantee with shareholder track, generous compensation and benefits - including 401(k), advanced practice technology - Mako robot (Yuba City), and a positive work-life balance and Northern California's natural beauty and lifestyle.

For more information, contact Shane Salmeri, Physician Recruiter at Sutter Health

Cell: 916-201-3720 Office: 916-887-7324 Email: salmers@sutterhealth.org



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How to bill for missed appointments



AAPC

A practice manager recently asked me about patients who miss appointments and how she should address this growing problem. As AAPC members know, when scheduled patients fail to show up for their visits, they cause an interruption in the scheduling process, which creates inefficiency in the office. And more simply, a patient who misses an appointment fails to get necessary medical care.

According to an NIH study published in 2004, between four and twelve percent of appointments are missed each year. For mental health professionals, this percentage increases to as much as 50 percent. Is this a significant problem? Undoubtedly it is. [READ MORE](#)

United Healthcare News

United Healthcare Smart Edits go live August 16



California Medical Association

UnitedHealthcare will implement its Smart Edits program for professional claims for all of its commercial, Medicare Advantage and Community Plans effective August 16, 2018. UHC notified physicians in its 2018 United Healthcare network bulletin that it would implement Smart Edits, a new functionality introduced into the electronic data interchange workflow allowing the payor to autodetect

claims with potential errors in the claims pre-adjudication phase. Once a potential error has been identified, UHC will notify the physician within 24 hours, returning the claim to the provider along with a suggested correction. [READ MORE](#)

UnitedHealthcare releases latest Premium Designation physician results



California Medical Association

UnitedHealthcare recently released its latest Premium Designation assessment results to California physicians on July 20. The Premium Program Version 11 results, based on claims data from January 1, 2015, through February 28, 2018, will be released publicly via the payor's online physician directory beginning September 2018. Physicians within 16 specialty categories, encompassing 47 subspecialties including pediatric internal medicine (new for 2018), will again be ranked by UHC on both national and specialty-specific measures for quality and various cost-efficiency benchmarks. [READ MORE](#)

Medi-Cal — Remittance Advice Details



California Department of Health Care Services

Great News! You can now view and download a PDF version of your paper Medi-Cal Remittance Advice Details (RAD) and Financial Summary securely on the Medi-Cal website (www.medi-cal.ca.gov).

Paper Remittance Advice Details (RAD) can be a pain to manage. Why not switch to online **PDF RADs!** [READ MORE](#)

Once its greatest foes, doctors are embracing single-payer



Kaiser Health News

When the American Medical Association — one of the nation's most powerful health care groups — met in Chicago this June, its medical student caucus seized an opportunity for change. Though they had tried for years to advance a resolution calling on the organization to drop its decades-long opposition to single-payer health care, this was the first time it got a full hearing. The debate grew heated — older physicians warned their pay would decrease, calling younger advocates naïve to single-payer's consequences. But this time, by the meeting's end, the AMA's older members had agreed to at least study the possibility of changing its stance. [READ MORE](#)

2017 MIPS scores and 2019 payment adjustments now available



California Medical Association

Physicians can now log in to the Medicare Quality Payment Program website to view their final 2017 Merit-based Incentive Payment System performance scores and payment adjustment information for the 2019 payment year. It is important to note the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will not be sending out letters this year, so physicians are encouraged to log into the QPP website to learn about any payment adjustments they will receive in 2019. [READ MORE](#)

CMS empowers patients with more choices and takes action to lower drug prices



CMS.gov

Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) delivered on President Trump's promise to negotiate better deals for Medicare patients and create competition between drugs used to treat the same conditions, with more than half of the savings required to be passed on directly to patients. This action gives Medicare Advantage plans the option of applying step therapy for physician-administered and other Part B drugs and is an important step within the Administration's larger agenda to provide patients with more choices when picking a Medicare Advantage plan that best meets their needs. [READ MORE](#)

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