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## DWC Announces Pilot for Electronic Submission of Doctor's First Report of Injury



The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) has launched an electronic filing pilot program for physicians to submit the Form 5021 Doctor's First Report of Occupational Illness or Injury (DFR) online. The pilot is available on a voluntary basis for physicians who agree to send their reports to DWC electronically rather than filing paper forms. Large volume filers such as hospitals are also invited to participate through electronic data interchange (EDI) submission.

Physicians who treat an injured worker are required by the Labor Code to file, within five days after initial examination, a complete report of occupational injury or occupational illness with the employer's insurer or with the employer if self-insured. The forms are currently only available on paper.

As this is a pilot, physicians are not required to participate in the electronic filing program. DWC plans to draft regulations to require electronic reporting in the future with the goal of phasing out paper filing.

DWC has posted a [web page](#) with more information on the pilot program. To participate in EDI filing, contact [dfre@dir.ca.gov](mailto:dfre@dir.ca.gov).

## Noridian begins reprocessing CMS geographic payment errors



California Medical Association

Noridian, the California Medicare contractor, has recently advised that it will begin reprocessing claims impacted by errors in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Geographic Practice Cost Indices (GPCIs) file. In the proposed 2020 Medicare Physician Payment Rule, California Medical Association (CMA) physician analysts Edward Bentley, M.D., and Larry DeGhetaldi, M.D., found numerous errors in the California geographic payments. [READ MORE](#)

## Single payer health care is back on the table in California



Cap Radio

It's been a year and one month since California Gov. Gavin Newsom wrote to the White House about creating a single-payer health care system for the state. It was his first day in office, after having called for a health care overhaul on the campaign trail. Now, he's bringing back the push to create one government health provider for all Californians. Last month, he convened his Healthy California for All Commission for the first time. The goal

is to provide “coverage and access through a unified financing system, including, but not limited to a single payer financing system,” according to a press release about the launch. [READ MORE](#)

## Lower health care costs found with virtual vs. usual physical therapy for TKA

Healio

Patients who underwent total knee arthroplasty and were assigned to receive virtual physical therapy had significantly lower 3-month health care costs compared to those who had the usual physical therapy care, according to study results. However, the treatments had similar effectiveness and safety. [READ MORE](#)



## Digital healthcare tools growing in popularity, AMA survey finds

Medical Economics

More physicians than ever before are adopting digital healthcare tools into their practices to improve efficiency and safety, according to a survey from the American Medical Association. The AMA first performed the survey of physicians in 2016, and the 2019 refresh of the data found an upward trend in opinions of the technology but found there is still room for improvement in terms of adoption of and scaling of digital healthcare tools, the survey says. [READ MORE](#)



## New technology helps with knee surgery

Wyandotte Daily

Orthopedic surgeons Dr. Nicholas Aberle II, Dr. John Vani and Dr. Timothy Monahan are now using robotics-assisted total knee arthroplasty at Providence Medical Center, using the NAVIO Surgical System. The innovative technology involves CT-free robotics-assisted total knee arthroplasty. [READ MORE](#)



## Overlooked codes physicians should consider

Medical Economics

It's a common complaint heard among primary care physicians: Evaluation and management codes don't adequately capture the time, skill, and resources necessary to plan and coordinate care for patients with complex medical needs. Although new, streamlined E/M guidelines for 2021 may help, several existing remedies can enable physicians to capture additional revenue for the services they provide. [READ MORE](#)



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