



AOMA DISPATCH

The Monthly eNewsletter of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association

August 28, 2018

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TAKE ACTION – Negative Impact of CMS E/M Rule Change

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released its proposed [changes](#) to the 2019 Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) with a September 10th deadline for public comment. The new rules would enact sweeping changes to E/M visits covering both documentation requirements and physician payments that will negatively affect osteopathic physicians and their patients.

Effective January 1, 2019, under the proposed rule, CMS would:

- Collapse eight payment rates for office and outpatient Evaluation and Management (E/M) visits down to two rates; and,
- Implement a policy that would cut osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) and other procedures by 50 percent when billed with an E/M visit with modifier 25 appended.

AOA & AOMA need your help to submit comments on the proposed rule changes. The AOA has provided a helpful [webpage](#) to understand the rule changes and submit comments to CMS.

AOMA also welcomes your feedback on the impact of these changes for inclusion in its comments to CMS on your behalf. Please share your feedback to communications@az-osteo.org. Thank you for your help on this critical issue.



AOMA wants to know how we can best serve you! We are posing a single question to gauge your interests and needs. Please click on the AOMA Asks response link and let us know what you think. The results of the query will appear in a future Dispatch.

Are you interested in attending AOMA-sponsored social events? If so, let us know what activities interest you. Click on the AOMA Asks button!



Measles Exposure in Arizona - Suspect, Isolate, and Report

An out-of-state visitor with measles traveled to Northern Arizona. They were potentially contagious from August 6–8, 2018. There are currently no cases of measles in Arizona. However, this visitor may have exposed the public at locations in Sedona and Kingman.

The illness begins with symptoms which include fever (101 degrees Fahrenheit or higher), red, watery eyes, cough and runny nose. A rash that is red, raised, and blotchy appears after several days. The rash begins on the head at the hairline and moves down the body. Individuals are contagious 4 days prior to rash onset. Providers should:

- Immediately mask and place patients presenting with a febrile rash illness in airborne isolation if available; obtain vaccine and travel history
- Consider measles as a diagnosis for patients with a febrile rash illness and immediately report suspect cases to your local health department
- Coordinate with your local health department for specimen collection, transport, and testing for suspect measles cases
- Make sure your staff is fully immunized. *Healthcare workers should receive two doses of MMR, regardless of year of birth, unless they have documentation of previous immunity*

For more information on this situation, please visit the ADHS public information website at <https://azdhs.gov/director/public-information-office/index.php#news-release-081718>

For more information on measles, please visit the ADHS measles webpage at <http://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/measles/index.php>

To report cases or for additional information, please contact your local health department <http://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/index.php#resources-county>

We have introduced a very special Mortgage and Refinance Program for Medical Professionals.

Click the link below or call
Bill Smith, NMLS ID# 492429
at 623.872.3210.

<https://www.bankofarizona.com/billsmithamp>



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Recipe for Success: AOMA 38th Annual Fall Seminar

The Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association 38th Annual Fall Seminar will be held November 10 & 11, 2018 at the Hilton El Conquistador Resort in Tucson, Arizona. The theme of this year's event is Recipe for Success: Innovations and Applications.

The AOMA designates this program for a maximum of 12.25 hours of AOA Category 1-A CME credits and will report CME credits commensurate with the extent of the physician's participation in this activity. This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 credits™*.

Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. Application has been submitted for AAFP Prescribed credits.

Determination of credits is pending.



Save \$75! Early registration is open at www.az-osteo.org/FallSeminar.

AOMA 38th Annual Fall Seminar

Lecture Topics

- Campylobacter Infection
- Food Borne Illnesses: US and Global Food Security Challenge
- Coalescent Medicine - Recipe for Successful Pain Management
- Low Testosterone & How to Fix it with Fat
- Leadership Development: I'm the Doctor So I'm in Charge, Right?
- Difficult Conversations
- OMM Pearls: There's an OMM Treatment for That?
- Two-Minute OMM Consult: What You Can Do When You Don't Have an OMM Table
- Ancestry DNA Results
- Minimally Invasive LVADs & Hybrid Therapies
- The Clown as Sacred Healer

Arizona Opioid Emergency Response Report

On August 3, 2018 the Arizona Department of Health Services released its [Arizona Opioid Emergency Response Report](#) summarizing all of the activities from the opioid emergency response, including official opioid-related death date from 2017. The report is available under the [Opioid Action Plan](#) tab on the www.azhealth.gov/opioid website.

Call for Abstracts - AOMA 97th Annual Convention

Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association (AOMA) will hold the 97th Annual Convention in Scottsdale Arizona on April 10 - 14, 2019.

The AOMA Professional Education Committee invites you to submit an abstract for a lecture at the Convention. Lectures are 55 or 85 minutes in length including 5 to 10 minutes for questions. To submit an abstract for consideration the following criteria must be met:

- The presenter must be an active member of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association
- The physician must be board certified in his/her specialty
- The lecture must incorporate osteopathic practices and principles
- Abstract and CV must be emailed to Teresa Roland, AOMA Director of Education, at teresa@azosteo.org by September 14, 2018.

If your lecture is chosen by the Committee for presentation, you will be notified by September 30, 2018 and sent a speaker agreement for completion. Download the criteria for abstract submission at www.az-osteo.org/abstract.

In Memoriam

By God's amazing grace, Howard H. Hunt, DO, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, August 2, 2018. He was born on August 27, 1933, to Howard and Fern Hunt of Earlville, Iowa.

He started his practice in Glendale, Arizona in 1957, and finished his medical career which he loved, at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Hunt served as President of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association in 1968-1969. His wife of 45 years, Ramona Hunt, went to be with the Lord just months before. Dr. Hunt is survived by four children, Heidi Jones of Buckeye, Arizona, Heather Stevens of Glendale, Arizona, Bob Hunt of Brandon, Florida, Julie Hunt of Tallahassee, Florida, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren along with one sister, Pat Bunker of Asheville, North Carolina.



Memorial service was held on Sunday, August 5, 2018 at Lewisburg United Methodist Church in Lewisburg, West Virginia.

Opioid Assistance & Referral

A free 24/7 hotline that assists providers with complex patients with pain and opioid use disorders, answered by medical experts at the Poison and Drug Information Centers in Arizona.

Arizona OAR Line
1-888-688-4222

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Center for Toxicology & Pharmacology Education & Research

Save the Date: 2019 AOMA DO Day at the Legislature

Reserve your spot to attend DO Day at the Legislature on Tuesday, February 19, 2019. The DO Day at the Legislature provides a great opportunity to get an up close view of the legislative process and to meet your legislators. The day begins with an orientation followed by presentations from key legislators on healthcare issues. AOMA will help you arrange individual meetings with your legislators and you will have the opportunity to attend House or Senate hearings throughout the day. Go to www.az-osteo.org/DODayRSVP.



Pain Management and Opioid Prescribing - Henderson, Nevada

Almost 75% of overdose deaths are attributed to prescription opioids, more than cocaine and heroin combined. Learn strategies for better prescribing by attending the extended-release (ER) and long-acting (LA) opioids risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS) course on Friday, October 19, 2018 at Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine in Henderson, Nevada. The program has been approved for 3.0 AOA Category 1-A CME credits. This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA 1 creditsTM* and is intended for prescribers with a DEA license. Attendance and completion of the post-activity assessment, which covers the entire U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Blueprint, satisfies the requirements for RPC/FDA-approved completion.

Pain Management and Opioids: Balancing Risks and Benefits

Friday, October 19, 2018
2 to 5 pm
Touro University Nevada
874 American Pacific Drive
Henderson, Nevada 89014
Cost: **FREE** to prescribers

Space is limited.

Registration is available at
www.az-osteo.org/REMSLV.

7th Annual Cardiology Conference for Primary Care

What	7th Annual Cardiology Conference for Primary Care
When	Friday, September 14 & Saturday, September 15, 2018
Where	High Country Conference Center 201 W Butler Ave Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Cost	\$100 for Medical Providers (DO, MD, NP, PA) \$50 for all other attendees
Register	Go to www.nahealth.com/education or call 928-773-2491

Download conference agenda [here](#).

AOMA Office Closure - Labor Day

In observance of the Independence Day holiday, the AOMA office will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2018 and will reopen on Tuesday, September 3, 2018 at 8:00 am.

Enjoy the holiday and be safe.



**Patients are Looking
for YOU!**



Update Your Profile!

Join AOMA

Not an AOMA Member?

Join today and be a part of the 97-year tradition of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association!

**Arizona
Vaccine News**

One of the benefits of AOMA membership is the Find a Physician public directory search. Make sure your practice information is up to date by logging in to your member profile on the AOMA website. When you do, prospective patients and potential referring physicians will be able to find you.

Membership in AOMA is an affordable vehicle to keep abreast of national and local issues, protect your professional practice, enhance your specialized skills, further your career, and be a part of the future of osteopathic medicine in Arizona.

Refer a new AOMA member and receive a \$100 credit. Go to www.az-oste.org/Recruit



[AIPO ASISS Training](#)

[T.I.P.S. Training](#)

[AzDHS
Immunization Program
Website](#)

[CDC Immunization Schedules](#)

[AOMA Calendar of Events](http://www.az-oste.org)

Pain Management and Opioids: Balancing Risks and Benefits/Las Vegas - October 19, 2018

Dinner with Doctors - October 26, 2018

AOMA Board of Trustees Meeting - November 9, 2018

AOMA 38th Annual Fall Seminar - November 10 & 11, 2018

AOMA House of Delegates - November 10, 2018

AOMA Board of Trustees Meeting - January 26, 2019

AOMA DO Day at the Legislature - February 19, 2019



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The AOMA Dispatch is published monthly. Direct your questions and comments to AOMA at communications@az-oste.org

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