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AAOS in the States

OCTOBER 2009

AAOS Builds its FIRST Family Fitness and Fun Park!

Join us in New Orleans on Tuesday, March 9—the day the 2010 Annual Meeting begins. The Family Fitness and Fun Park will provide children, parents and grandparents the opportunity for physical activity together. There will be equipment for balance, flexibility, strength and a walking/running track for aerobic exercise. The various activities of the Park will help reduce and prevent falls, build strong bones and give those recovering from joint replacement a safe place to exercise. The different stations will include descriptions of how to do the exercises, why they are important, and injury prevention tips. In the middle of the Park will be a safe, accessible playground where children, with and without disabilities, can play safely together. This is truly a place where three generations of

families can get fit and have fun together.

The site has been chosen! Jefferson Park, located in Jefferson Parish, just outside of New Orleans, Louisiana has facilities -- and conducts programs for -- children, with and without disabilities, teens, parents, and senior citizens. The park is open to the public and serves more than 300 children each day. The "Golden Agers" program, for senior citizens, boasts over 100 members and has a facility for meetings and events located within the park.

On Tuesday, March 9, buses will run between Jefferson Park and the Ernest Morial Convention Center from 7:00 am – 4:00 pm. The ribbon-cutting will take place around 3:30 pm. Music, breakfast and lunch will be pro-

vided. No experience is necessary to help; seasoned project managers will be on-site to oversee the build. Help make this project that much more memorable for the community of New Orleans—spend just a couple hours or the entire day. Experience the great time and see the joyful and excited faces of the neighborhood children.

It will be a fantastic day of building with fellow orthopaedic surgeons, allied health, orthopaedic industry, and of course, New Orleans community volunteers.

For more information, to volunteer, and to see a concept image, please visit the Web site at www.aaos.org/fitnessbuild.

If you have any questions, please contact Addy Kujawa, public relations manager, by phone, 847-384-4033, or email, kujawa@aaos.org.

DMEPOS Accreditation and Surety Bond Requirements

As previously reported by AAOS, through a series of legislative and regulatory efforts, physicians were exempted from Medicare durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) program requirements for accreditation and surety bonds. In the past few months, several physicians have received notices from Medicare DMEPOS carriers saying that they are not exempt from these requirements and must meet the accreditation and surety bond requirements. We are continuing to work with CMS on this issue.

Q1: If I am a physician and receive a

letter from a Medicare carrier stating that I am subject to the accreditation and surety bond requirements, must I meet those requirements by the stated date?

A1: If you are a physician that provides DMEPOS to your patients, you should not need to meet these requirements. However, those physicians who received letters should work with their Medicare DMEPOS carrier to update their records to reflect that they are physicians and, therefore, exempt from the accreditation and surety bond requirements.

Q2: What do I do if I receive a letter instructing me to contact the carrier

to claim my exemption?

A2: If you received the letter, it is likely due to the records maintained by the National Supplier Clearinghouse (NSC). Follow the instructions on the letter and send an email to the address provided in the letter. It is an easy process that should result in ensuring your records reflect your status as a physician who has also enrolled as a DMEPOS supplier. Send this email even if the stated due date has passed so that your records can be accurately updated as soon as possible.

For additional questions and guidance, contact Bob Jasak at jasak@aaos.org.

Think of it as your practice's on-line "little black book"

AAOS Practice Management reSOURCE Directory

You have unlimited access to a variety of business vendors and consultants you can trust. The Practice Management reSOURCE Directory helps you find quality companies that specialize in practice management solutions and services. Quickly search on criteria important to you and your specific practice needs to identify a reliable "short list" of companies to consider—and all come recommended by your colleagues.

Web Tools

The reSOURCE Directory is available online at www.aaos.org/pmrd. Just click on the reSOURCE Directory link (member log in required). You can search by area of expertise, location or by contact name.

Trustworthy

What's better than getting a professional referral for a company you are considering for a business engagement? Getting three! We have assembled a directory of quality businesses that specialize in working with practices like yours. Each company is recommended by at least three orthopaedic practices that are highly satisfied with their products and services.

Every Company in the Directory is:

- Recommended by your colleagues
- Experienced in orthopaedic practice management
- Organized by area of expertise
- Listed with complete contact information

Convenient

Save time and avoid frustration from unproductive Internet searches or cold-calling. The reSOURCE Directory results are immediate and related to your practice's needs. Specify the area of expertise you are looking for— from operations and HR to legal and information technology— and find a list of qualified companies, complete with contact names and additional background information.

An integrated resource that compiles a variety of information critical for managing a busy practice in a handy, concise and user-friendly format.

Ideas & Comments

The idea for the reSOURCE Directory came from you, our members. So, please send us your ideas on how we can make this member benefit more useful to you and your practice: pmrd@aaos.org

Are you satisfied with a company's product or services?

Email their information to pmrd@aaos.org and we will invite them to submit an application to be listed in this directory.

For more information about the *reSOURCE Directory* please contact Jackie Ryan, Practice Management Program Coordinator in the AAOS Practice Management Group at 847-384-4334; email – ryan@aaos.org.



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AAOS Online CME for Orthopaedic Surgeons

Online CME means no flights, no hotel, and no travel! *Orthopaedic Knowledge Online* from the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons offers over 80 activities and 165 credits of convenient online continuing medical education. It's a great way to refresh your knowledge, review areas of interest, and earn CME from the comfort of your home or office. Tied to a wide selection of OKO Clinical Topics, each online CME activity includes a pre-test, a review of the related topic, and a post-test with preferred answers and helpful feedback.

[Adult Reconstruction](#) • [Hand and Wrist](#) • [Oncology](#) • [Pain Management](#) • [Pediatric](#) • [Practice Related](#) • [Shoulder and Elbow](#) • [Spine](#) • [Sports Medicine](#) • [Trauma](#)

CME credits per activity range from 0.5 to 4.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*TM. Completed CME activities even post straight to your AAOS transcript! Courses may be completed in multiple sessions. Log in to OKO today and fulfill your CME requirements online! www.aaos.org/oko

Advocacy Resources for State Societies

Legislative Strategy Development: State legislative strategy development based on best practices, opposition tactics and the state society's unique strengths is provided to state orthopaedic societies confronting legislative issues.

State Legislative Tracking: State legislative and regulatory tracking is conducted at the national level to monitor trends and identify bills and proposed regulations of interest to individual states.

Legislative Alerts: Periodic alerts concerning bills and regulations requiring a response from the orthopaedic community are sent to state societies as necessary.

Weekly Bill Status Reports: Customized weekly bill status reports are available to each state orthopaedic society informing state society leaders of legislative action in their state.

State Legislative Updates: A summary of action on state legislation affect-

ing orthopaedic surgeons across the country is sent to state orthopaedic societies and published in AAOS Now on a quarterly basis.

Advocacy Resource Development: Legislative materials including fact sheets, position statements, talking points, visual aides and other useful information are developed on an ongoing basis and made available through the AAOS Web site. Upon request, materials may be produced and tailored to meet the specific needs of individual states.

Legislative and Regulatory Research: Research assistance such as data collection and case study development on legislative and regulatory issues is available to state orthopaedic societies.

Lobbying Assistance: The AAOS is available to advise states on the hiring, management and evaluation of state society lobbyists.

Grassroots Development: Assistance

in developing strategies to mobilize state society members for advocacy efforts is offered to state society leaders.

Model Legislation: Model legislation is sent to state orthopaedic societies prior to the start of each legislative session to facilitate proactive advocacy efforts.

Coalition Building: Assistance in developing contacts and forging legislative coalitions with other state health care groups is provided to state societies seeking to broaden their government relations programs.

Financial Assistance: Financial assistance to state societies engaged in advocacy efforts is available through the State Society Health Policy Action Fund. The AAOS also assists state societies in identifying external sources of financial support.

For more information please contact Winnie at strzelecki@aaos.org.