October 30, 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Fall Seminar
- COVID-19 Vaccine Update
- COVID-19 Surge in Arizona
- E/M 2021 Coding Changes
- Home Isolation Guidance
- COVID-19 Vaccine Providers
- Birdies for Charity
- Halloween - Stay Safe
- AOMA Calendar

Seven Days Until the AOMA 40th Annual Fall Seminar: Virtual Streaming - Save $50!

Come Together and Dig On! at the AOMA 40th Annual Fall Seminar - Virtual Streaming. Join us November 6-8, 2020 from the comfort of your home or office. Registration includes on demand access to the recorded lectures for 30 days after the live event.

**AOA CME Credit**

The Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association (AOMA) is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to provide osteopathic continuing medical education for physicians. The AOMA designates this program for a maximum of **20 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.

**ACCME Credit**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). The Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association is accredited by ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AOMA designates this live activity for a maximum of **20 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**AAFP Credit**

This Live activity, AOMA 40th Annual Fall Seminar: Come Together and Dig On, with a beginning date of
11/6/2020, has been reviewed and is acceptable for up to 20.0 Prescribed credit(s) by the American Academy of Family Physicians. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Timely topics include COVID-19 update, telemedicine, physician burnout, and more. Download the full agenda here.

Avoid late registration fees! Register online by November 5, 2020 at www.az-osteo.org/Fall2020 or call the AOMA office at 602-266-6699.

**Update of Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine Development**

Recently, Pfizer Chairman CEO Albert Boula, published a message to provide clarity around the development timelines for the development of a COVID-19 vaccine by Pfizer and its partner BioNTech. He stressed the three key areas in which the development of any vaccine must demonstrate success before seeking approval for public use.

1. The vaccine must be proven effective
2. The vaccine must be proven safe
3. The vaccine must be able to be consistently manufactured at the highest quality standards

Read Mr. Boula's full message here.

**COVID-19 Cases on the Rise - Stay Vigilant**

Globally and nationally, cases of COVID-19 have increased over the past several weeks and now that trend is occurring in Arizona. The state is experiencing its highest week of percent positivity in more than two months. Dr. Cara Christ, public health director for the Arizona Department of Health Services, attributes the spiking of cases to small household gatherings where people feel safe around each other.

While hospital ICU bed capacity and ventilator availability remains high, Dr. Christ urged all Arizonans to remain vigilant and continue to practice COVID-19 safety protocols: social distance, wear a mask in public, limit the size of your gatherings, and wash your hands or use hand sanitizer.

Watch Dr. Cara Christ's recent message regarding the current surge in novel coronavirus cases in Arizona here.

**Evaluation and Management Changes 2021**
Are you ready for the significant changes to the evaluation and management (E/M) code that goes into effect on January 1, 2021? For the first time in more than two decades, evaluation and management (E/M) office or other outpatient visit code categories (99202-99215) will be subject to substantial changes. The American Osteopathic Association is presenting a live webinar on 2021 E/M Changes on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 7 pm Central time. This talk will cover ALL the changes, proposed and finalized, that providers need to understand in providing and documenting these office services.

**What**

Evaluation and Management Changes 2021

**When**

Wednesday, November 4, 2020
7 pm Central Time

**Cost**

$50 AOA Members
$75.00 NON-MEMBERS

**Register**


Post-test available until: November 4, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. CST. This activity has been approved for 1 AOA Category 2A CME credit.

---

**Home Isolation Guidance During COVID-19**

The Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) is encouraging people who have COVID-19, or those with symptoms, to stay away from others until they have fully recovered and can no longer transmit the virus. MCDPH has provided guidelines for home isolation for people who test positive or have symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

The guidelines are available in both English and Spanish versions.

Download the guidelines here.
COVID-19 Vaccine Providers

The CDC and ADHS are encouraging providers to sign up as a COVID-19 vaccine provider before 11/02/2020. Please complete the provider onboarding tool at the ADHS website https://redcapaipo.azdhs.gov/surveys/?s=DY8CA9LMJ8. Providers that have started the process, please check for next steps to complete. Download the checklist with some of the things you’ll need to complete the registration process, and what will be expected as a COVID vaccine provider.

Coverage: CMS has released billing and coverage information detailed below. Regional rates based on this guidance will be determined soon.

- Vaccine for COVID is Federally provided so no billing for the vaccine
- Administration fee for COVID vaccine will have new admin codes determined after FDA/ACIP approval
- CMS administration rates will be $16.94 & $28.39 – Rates will be geographically adjusted
- Out-of-Network providers should be reimbursed by most private and Medicaid plans at a reasonable rate
- No out-of-pocket cost for patient – Uninsured administration fee billed to HRSA

We Want Your Two Cents - Literally!

You can make Arizona Osteopathic Charities a big bucks winner by making a pledge in the Birdies for Charity competition at the 2020 Waste Management Phoenix Open. Arizona Osteopathic Charities will receive every penny of collected pledges. To make a pledge online go to birdiesforcharityaz.com.

Stay Safe This Halloween!

Tomorrow is Halloween. Many people are getting very creative with safe, social-distanced activities for enjoying this annual fright night.

Have a unique, contactless way to hand out treats? Wearing a spooky Halloween costume? Hosting a fun quaranteam party? Send us photos of you and your family and friends observing All Hallows Eve! Email them to communications@azosteo.org.
Patients are Looking for YOU!

**Update Your Profile!**

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.

**Join AOMA**

**Not an AOMA Member?**

Join today and be a part of the 99-year tradition of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association!

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 at $100 credit. Go to [www.az-osteo.org/Recruit](http://www.az-osteo.org/Recruit)

---

**Arizona Vaccine News**

**AzDHS Vaccine Newsletter**

**CDC Immunization Schedules**

**2020 T.I.P.S. Training is ONLINE**

---

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

- **AOMA 40th Annual Fall Seminar** - November 6 - 8, 2020 - Virtual Event
- **AOMA Board of Trustees Meeting** - February 6, 2021
- **AOMA 99th Annual Convention** - April 7-11, 2021

In case you missed a past issue of the AOMA Dispatch, visit the Archives [here](http://www.az-osteo.org).