



COPA

Quarterly Newsletter
California O&P Association

CONNECTION

FALL 2025

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Movement is Medicine. This guiding principle is more than a slogan—it’s a call to action. As professionals dedicated to restoring mobility and independence, we know that movement is essential to physical health, mental well-being, and full participation in life.

That’s why COPA is proud to align with the national So Every Body Can Move campaign, a transformative initiative aimed at expanding access to prosthetic and orthotic care that supports active lifestyles. Our goal is to ensure that Californians who use a prosthesis or orthosis have access to the devices they need—not just to walk, but to run, play, dance, and thrive.

We believe that movement should never be limited by outdated policies or narrow definitions of “medical necessity.” Through targeted legislation, COPA is working to redefine coverage standards so that activity-specific devices are recognized as essential tools for health and inclusion.

As we build momentum, we are also preparing to celebrate success at a landmark moment: the 2028 Paralympic Games in Los Angeles. This global event will showcase the power of adaptive sports and the incredible achievements of athletes who move differently—but no less powerfully. It’s a chance for California to lead by example, demonstrating our commitment to equity, innovation, and mobility for all.

We invite you to be part of this movement. Whether through advocacy, education, or sharing stories from your clinics, your voice is vital. Together, we can ensure that every Californian—regardless of ability—has the opportunity to move, compete, and live fully.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our field and to the patients we serve.

In service,

Spencer Greene

Spencer Greene, MS, CPO
sgreene@hanger.com
209-573-1806

2025 COPA SYMPOSIUM

Advancing Excellence in O & P:
Shaping Tomorrow Together

Hosted by CHALLENGED ATHLETES FOUNDATION

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
NOV. 13 & 14 • SAN DIEGO

SEE INSIDE FOR • PROGRAM SCHEDULE
• SPEAKERS • EXHIBITORS

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supporters
of COPA.**

2025 COPA SYMPOSIUM

Hosted
by



Advancing Excellence in O & P: Shaping Tomorrow Together

NOV

13 - 14
THU - FRI

2025

Challenged Athletes Foundation
9591 Waples St., San Diego, CA 92121

Event
Sponsors:



The **2025 COPA Symposium** is shaping up to be one of our best yet! Exhibits are officially sold out, speakers are confirmed, and the schedule is set—featuring a jam-packed lineup of nearly 20 educational sessions.

The Symposium will be returning to the **Challenged Athletes Foundation in San Diego** on **Thursday, November 13 and Friday, November 14**. Across two dynamic days, you'll experience educational seminars, keynote presentation, exhibits from leading manufacturers, and excellent networking opportunities.

Mark your calendar and secure your spot today—this year's COPA Symposium promises to deliver learning, connection, and growth like never before. We can't wait to see you there!

Sponsorship opportunities are still available—join our incredible sponsors and play a vital role in powering the 2025 COPA Symposium.

For companies who missed our booth exhibit registration this year, consider reserving a spot in our **Commercial Spotlight**—a continuous loop of 3-5 minute video advertisement on the main screen during high-traffic exhibit and lunch breaks throughout both days of the Symposium. You can showcase your products and business just as you would in a physical booth!

For more information and registration, visit californiaoandp.com

2025 COPA SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, November 13 & Friday, November 14 • Challenged Athletes Foundation, San Diego

EXHIBITOR LIST



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 13, 2025

8:55 – 9:00 am

Opening Remarks

Spencer Greene, MS, CPO, Hanger Clinic, COPA President

9:00 – 10:00 am

Keynote Presentation

So Every BODY Can Move Campaign – An Interview
Luis Mora, CP, Össur, Nicole Ver Kuilen & Kyle Stepp, SEBCM

10:00 – 10:15 am Break Time

10:15 – 10:45 am

Make Your Money and Keep Your Money

Katie Janiszewski, MSOP, CPO, Spectrum O&P & Linda Collins, Vice President, CPO Management Services

10:45 – 11:15 am

Measure Like a PRO(sthetist)

Samantha Stauffer, MSOP, CPO, Independence Prosthetics-Orthotics, Inc.

11:15-11:45 am

Avior & SmartStep: Transforming the Future of O&P

Chad O'Connor, CP, BOCO, Blatchford

11:45 am – 1:15 pm Lunch/Exhibit

1:15 – 1:45 pm

Advanced Bionic Hands for Humans and Robots

Trevor Townsend, CPO, Valley Institute of Prosthetics & Orthotics & Aadeel Akhtar PhD, CEO, Founder, Psyonic

1:45 – 2:15 pm

Trulife Pace Family of Carbon Fiber AFOs: Enhancing Patient Compliance for Improved Outcomes

Kimberly Jones, MSOP, CPO, Redlands Prosthetic & Orthotic Group & Bryan Schloss, Director of Sales & Marketing, Trulife

2:15 – 2:30 pm Break Time

2:30 – 3:00 pm

Össur Interface Solutions

Luis Mora, CP, Össur

3:00 – 3:30 pm

Shaping the Future: Effective Management of Infant Headshapes with Sprout3D

Katie Toth, CPO, Surestep

3:30 – 4:00 pm

Meracus®: Advancing Prosthetic Foot Design with Pure Composite Innovation

Hampus Hedlund, Global Product Manager, Allard

4:00 – 4:15 pm Break Time

4:15 – 4:45 pm

Shock & Torsion: It's Not Just for the Guys on the Posters Anymore

Raymond Speelman, CP, Product Manager & Russell Cannon, Director of Sales, Lindhe Xtend

4:45 – 5:15 pm

CAF Grants Presentation

Spencer Greene, MS, CPO, Hanger Clinic, COPA President

5:30 – 7:30 pm Happy Hour at CAF

FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 14, 2025

8:00 – 8:30 am

2025: Facility Accreditation Standards: Ensuring Your Compliance

Jim Lawson, Outreach Development Manager, American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics

8:30 – 9:15 am

Advancing User Mobility: A Review of Novel Biomechanical Principles and Modular AFO Design

Spencer Greene, MS, CPO, Hanger Clinic, COPA President & Arni Thor, Elevate Movement

9:15 – 9:30 am Break Time

9:30 – 10:00 am

From Insight to Action: Real AI Tools for Everyday Clinical Practice

Katie Janiszewski, MSOP, CPO, Spectrum O&P

10:00 – 10:30 am

Medicare Coverage Expansion for K2 Patients

Brittany Gonzalez, CP, Össur

10:30 – 10:45 am Break Time

10:45 – 11:15 am

Do Braces Stimulate Curve Regression in Idiopathic Scoliosis and Prevent Surgery in Patients with Large Curves?

Stephen Gaw, CPO, MSPO, MSBA, Coastal P&O

11:15 – 11:45 am

The OPRA Implant System by Integrum – Research and Reimbursement

Kurt Collier, CP, VP of Prosthetic Medical Education, Integrum

11:45 am – 12:45 am Lunch/Exhibit

12:45 – 1:15 pm

Ethnocare – Managing Limb Volume Variation with the Overlay

Marc-Antoine Malouin-Lizotte, CEO, Ethnocare

1:15 – 1:45 pm

INESS: An Extreme Leg

Aaron Jacobsen, CPO, ST&G USA Corporation

1:45 – 2:00 pm

Closing Remarks

Spencer Greene, MS, CPO, Hanger Clinic, COPA President

*Schedule is subject to change.
See website for latest update.*

RSVP: californiaoandp.com

2025 COPA SYMPOSIUM

SPEAKERS



Aadeel Akhtar, PhD
CEO, Founder, Psyonix



Russell Cannon
Director of Sales,
Lindhe Xtend



Kurt Collier, CP
Vice President,
Prosthetic Medical Education,
Integrum



Linda Collins
Vice President,
CPO Management Services



Stephen Gaw, CPO, MSPO, MSBA
Coastal P&O



Spencer Greene, MS, CPO
Hanger Clinic
COPA President



Brittany Gonzalez, CP
Ossur



Hampus Hedlund
Global Product Manager,
Allard



Aaron Jacobsen, CPO
ST&G USA Corporation



Katie Janiszewski, MSOP, CPO
Spectrum O&P



Kimberly Jones, MSOP, CPO
Redlands Prosthetic &
Orthotic Group



Jim Lawson
Outreach Development
Manager, ABC



Marc-Antoine Malouin-Lizotte
CEO, Ethnocare



Luis Mora, CP
Ossur
COPA Board Member



Chad O'Connor, CP, BOCO
Blatchford



Bryan Schloss
Director of Sales & Marketing, Trulife



Raymond Speelman, CP
Product Manager, Lindhe Xtend



Samantha Stauffer, MSOP, CPO
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Kyle Stepp
SEBCM



Arni Thor
Elevate Movement



Katie Toth, CPO
Surestep



Trevor Townsend, CPO
Valley Institute of Prosthetics & Orthotics
COPA Board Member



Nicole Ver Kuilen
SEBCM

RSVP: californiaoandp.com



DISRUPTING HEALTHCARE INEQUITIES FOR CALIFORNIA O&P PATIENTS – COPA WILL BUILD ON SUCCESS

In 2006, COPA sponsored Assembly Bill 2012 (Emmerson), Chapter 756, which clarified an existing requirement mandating that health plans and insurers “offer” coverage for medically necessary O&P devices and services consistent with the method and manner of other basic covered healthcare services. This bill was the only “mandated coverage” bill signed into law by then Governor Schwarzenegger and represents the most successful accomplishment for California patients with limb loss and limb indifference in nearly 50 years.

Correcting this coverage inequity garnered opposition from America’s Health Insurance Plans; Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies; California Association of Health Plans; California Chamber of Commerce; Health Net; and Kaiser Permanente. Irrespective of this opposition, AB 2012 enjoyed bipartisan support throughout the legislative process thanks in no small measure to relentless advocacy of COPA and the angelic testimony of Camille Baker, a very brave 10-year-old fifth grader from Galt, California.

COPA will once again be disrupting healthcare inequities for California O&P patients by joining forces with the national “So Every BODY Can Move” campaign. This effort is being led by the Amputee Coalition and AOPA with the goal of enacting legislation in 28 states by the 2028 Los Angeles Paralympics. In California the COPA effort will build off AB 2012 by creating insurance coverage for O&P devices and services for physical activity. COPA is eager to join the “28x28” campaign, so please stay tuned!

Governor Newsom Signs Historic and Record Setting \$322 Billion 2025-2026 State Budget

On June 27, 2025, Governor Newsom signed the 2025-2026 State Budget, which took effect on July 1, 2025. Most noteworthy for COPA was that the governor

proposed and the Legislature agreed to “sweeping” the Prop 35 – Managed Care Organization (MCO) Tax revenue to help offset a nearly \$12 billion budget deficit. Prop 35 was projected to generate \$4.2 billion annually and \$245 million of that was dedicated to “Community and Outpatient Services.” COPA continues to work with stakeholders and the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to try and restore these funds, which are intended to increase Medi-Cal provider reimbursement rates. NOTE: Click [HERE](#) to read more healthcare related highlights of the 2025-2026 State Budget.

In addition to the “sweep” of Prop 35 funds, the governor and the Legislature also took steps to bridge the budget deficit by instituting two new key provisions in the Medi-Cal Program. These utilization and eligibility controls include the following:

- **Enrollment Freeze for Full-Scope Medi-Cal Expansion to Undocumented Californians (Adults Ages 19 and Older)** – A “freeze” on new enrollment to full-scope coverage for undocumented individuals aged 19 and over, effective no sooner than January 1, 2026. Estimated General Fund savings are \$77.9 million in 2025-26, increasing to \$3.3 billion by 2028-29. NOTE: Click [HERE](#) for guidance on the “freeze” provided to COPA by DHCS.
- **Medi-Cal Premiums for Adults with Unsatisfactory Immigration Status (Ages 19-59)** – Implementation of \$30 monthly premiums for individuals with unsatisfactory immigration status aged 19 to 59, effective July 1, 2027. Estimated General Fund savings are \$695.7 million in 2027-28 and \$675 million in 2028-29 and annually thereafter.

“If you miss a day ‘Under the Dome,’ you miss a lot!”



CMS SUSPENDS BOC FACILITY ACCREDITATION IN 4 MAJOR STATES: WHAT CLINICS NEED TO KNOW

by Kimberly Jones, MSOP, CPO

In a significant development for the Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics & Supplies (DME-POS) community, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has placed a three-year hold on all accreditation and reaccreditation activities conducted by the Board of Certification/Accreditation (BOC) in four key states: California, Florida, New York, and Texas.

This decision stems from revelations involving a former BOC contractor, who admitted to accepting bribes and forming DME companies using fraudulent information. The misconduct prompted CMS to take swift action as part of an ongoing investigation into the extent of the contractor's actions and their impact on the accreditation process.

BOC Responds to CMS Decision

In response to the CMS announcement, BOC has reaffirmed its commitment to quality and regulatory compliance. The organization emphasized that it is fully cooperating with the investigation and taking steps to uphold the integrity of its accreditation program. You can read BOC's full statement [HERE](#).

What Does This Mean for Your Clinic?

If your clinic is currently accredited through BOC and located in California, Florida, New York, or Texas, the BOC says you remain fully accredited and recognized. However, if you need re-accreditation during this period, you will need to seek accreditation from an alternative CMS-approved organization in order to maintain Medicare billing privileges.

One such alternative is the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics (ABC). ABC is fully recognized by CMS and offers a streamlined transition process for facilities needing new accreditation. Clinics can review eligibility requirements and begin the application process on the ABC website: [Apply Now](#).

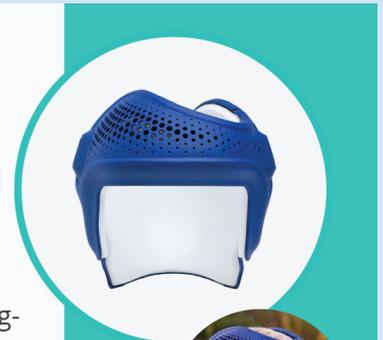
What's Next?

While the CMS hold is in place, affected clinics are strongly encouraged to act promptly to prevent any disruption in service or Medicare billing capabilities. If your BOC re-accreditation falls within this three-year hold, then accreditation from an alternative agency will be required.

Stay tuned for further updates as CMS continues its investigation and as BOC works to restore its accreditation privileges in these states.

Surestep Sprout3D™ 3D cranial remolding, reimagined

The Surestep Sprout3D™ Cranial Remolding Orthosis (CRO) is transforming cranial care with a cutting-edge 3D design that delivers precision, comfort, and efficiency. Developed by leading cranial specialists, Sprout3D leverages over 10,000 data points, decades of expertise, and extensive 3D fabrication resources to ensure the best possible patient outcomes.



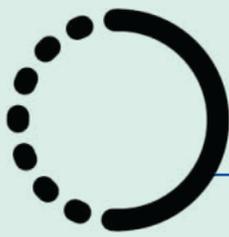
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TURNING HOURS INTO MINUTES: THE POWER OF O&P ASSIST

*By Katie Janiszewski MSOP, CPO,
Co-Founder of Align Medical Media*

In an O&P clinic, the work doesn't stop when the patient walks out the door. Every visit comes with documentation to write, forms to fill out, and claims to prepare. These tasks are essential, but they can also take up hours of your day. That's time you'd rather spend listening to your patients, solving fit problems, or making adjustments that help someone walk more comfortably.

O&P Assist is a software tool designed specifically for O and P clinics. Unlike general medical software, it understands the unique challenges of our field. It's built to help both practitioners and office staff save time, stay accurate, and reduce the stress that often comes with paperwork.

For practitioners, O&P Assist takes much of the pain out of documentation. Instead of typing everything from scratch, you can use voice-to-text, pick from smart templates, and let the software fill in common details automatically. That means your notes are complete, consistent, and done in minutes—not hours. It also helps ensure your notes include the details payers want to see, so you're not scrambling to add missing information later.

Billing and administrative staff get big benefits too. O&P Assist can help match the right codes, check for errors, and flag anything that might cause a claim to be denied.

One of the most valuable features is the way O&P Assist checks compliance in real time. As you write notes or prepare a claim, it compares your work to Medicare and other payer requirements. If something is missing or doesn't meet the rules, it alerts you before you submit. This can make a huge difference in avoiding denials and cutting down the time and frustration of appeals.

The software can also support your team when denials do happen. It organizes the information you need, helps draft appeal letters, and keeps track of where each case stands. This saves hours of back-and-forth and helps prevent the same mistakes from happening again.

At the end of the day, O&P Assist isn't just about faster notes or fewer billing errors—it's about giving you back control over your schedule. By making the behind-the-scenes work simpler and more reliable, it helps you reclaim your time, protect your revenue, and focus on what you do best: providing quality care to your patients.

Note: *This article mentions specific tools and companies, but no endorsements are implied. These are simply examples of how AI is currently being used creatively in the O&P field.*



SAN DIEGO TRIATHLON CHALLENGE

Fueled by Toyota

October 26, 2025

La Jolla Cove, La Jolla, CA



Be part of something bigger at the San Diego Triathlon Challenge (SDTC) fueled by TOYOTA on October 26, 2025! Experience the power of sport, resilience, and community in an inclusive event featuring a Triathlon, 5K Walk and Roll presented by Nike, and Tour de Cove presented by EoS Fitness.

CAF's SDTC fueled by Toyota raises funds to provide individuals with physical disabilities access to sports and an active lifestyle. Move with us, fundraise with us, and help redefine what's possible.

Register today and make a difference!
challengedathletes.org/sdtk

COPA HAPPY HOUR RECAP: BRINGING THE O&P COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN LONG BEACH

COPA extends a heartfelt thank you to our generous sponsors, **SPS** and **BrainRobotics**, for hosting a lively and well-attended Happy Hour on August 28 at Ballast Point Brewing in Long Beach.

Over 40 clinicians, students, and O&P industry colleagues came together for a relaxed evening of networking, meaningful conversation, and beautiful views of sailboats gliding through Alamitos Bay at sunset. Events like this remind us why community matters.

A special thank you to MJ McNeece of Lindhe Xtend for the thoughtful donation of the Prosthetic Barbie and Ken raffle prizes. We're also deeply grateful to Michelle Purvis and Brendan Erickson of SPS and Richard



Archuleta of BrainRobotics for their hospitality and commitment to uniting the Southern California O&P community. Your support is instrumental in strengthening the connections that define our profession.

It was especially inspiring to see such strong representation from CSUDH students and faculty, who continue to bring fresh energy and passion to our field.

Events like these are a clear reminder of what makes COPA membership so valuable. The smiles, shared stories, and sense of connection that define our profession across the California O&P community are truly what make it special.

DIDN'T SECURE A BOOTH AT THE 2025 COPA SYMPOSIUM?

Don't worry, we got you!

You can still showcase your products or business with a 3–5 minute video on our **Commercial Spotlight** that will be featured on the main screen during high-traffic exhibit and break times throughout both days of the symposium.

It's the perfect way to get in front of attendees— even without a booth!



Just RSVP with a payment of \$750 per spot at californiaoandp.com



2025 COPA SYMPOSIUM