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Dear COPA Members,

As I reflect on the past five years serving as President of the California Orthotic and Prosthetic Association, I am filled with gratitude and pride. It has truly been an honor to lead this incredible organization and work alongside so many dedicated professionals who share a passion for advancing our field.

Together, we have accomplished so much, strengthening our advocacy efforts, expanding educational opportunities, and fostering a stronger community within our membership. These achievements are a testament to the commitment and collaboration of each of you.

The time has come for me to step down as President. I am pleased to share that Luis Mora has been elected as the new President of COPA.

Luis brings tremendous experience and vision, and I am confident he will lead our association to even greater success. I will remain on the board to support him and continue contributing to the work we all care so deeply about.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve. I am proud of what we have accomplished together and excited for what lies ahead.



Spencer Greene, MS, CPO  
COPA Immediate Past President

In service,

*Spencer Greene*

**Spencer Greene, MS, CPO**  
Hanger Clinic



Luis Mora  
COPA President

Dear COPA Members,

I am proud to have been elected President of COPA. I look forward to continuing the good work Spencer Greene and our COPA team have done. I had the pleasure of meeting several of you during our 2025 COPA Symposium at CAF in San Diego, CA, November 13th and 14th. For those of you I didn't get to meet, please allow me to introduce myself. I have been in and around the field of Orthotics and Prosthetics for over 30 years in various capacities. Beginning as a young teenage patient requiring prosthetic care for a limb I lost as a result of osteosarcoma. That loss soon

sparked an interest and a desire to understand the process of restoring function after limb loss. I graduated from California State Dominguez Hills Prosthetic Certificate program in 2009 and have been working as a Prosthetist since. I currently work for Össur as a Clinical Specialist. I have also provided direct patient care in both government and private sectors. My focus has always been the patient, and empowering the individuals who are involved in caring for them. Being the President of COPA affords me the opportunity to continue this work alongside you, my colleagues.

Together, we will continue to strengthen our advocacy efforts, expand educational opportunities, and foster a stronger sense of community within our membership. We each know the profound effect our work has on the lives of our patients. COPA will continue advocating and showcasing the importance of our profession in the Golden State.

I look forward to serving as COPA President and sincerely thank you for trusting me to do so.

With gratitude,

*Luis Mora*

Luis Mora, CP  
Össur Americas

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are proud  
supporters  
of COPA.**

# 2025 COPA SYMPOSIUM



Speaker Katie Janiszewski, MSOP, CPO, Spectrum O&P presenting at the COPA Symposium.



Attending **COPA's 2025 Symposium** was truly a memorable experience and one I'm grateful to have been part of. Held on November 13th and 14th and hosted by the Challenged Athletes Foundation in San Diego, the event brought together clinicians, manufacturers, distributors, and fellow O&P professionals in a setting that encouraged connection, learning, and meaningful conversation.

The theme, **"Advancing Excellence in O&P: Shaping Tomorrow Together,"** was reflected throughout the Symposium. Over the course of two days, I had the opportunity to engage with thought-provoking presentations covering topics such as outcome measures, artificial intelligence, accreditation, insurance coverage, and cutting-edge technological advancements. With 19 presentations offered and the chance to earn up to 10 ABC CEUs and 14 BOC CEUs, the Symposium was both educational and professionally rewarding.

Beyond the presentations, what stood out most was the sense of community and shared purpose within the O&P field. The Symposium shed light on COPA's mission and its commitment to advocacy. COPA's collaboration with the So Every BODY Can Move initiative (a national disability rights movement working to ensure equitable, life-changing access to prosthetic and orthotic care for physical activity), showcases their commitment to enhancing the field of O&P to improve the quality of life for those we serve.

Being part of this event reinforced how impactful COPA membership, Symposium attendance, and donations truly are in advancing disability rights in California. I'm thankful for everyone who attended, supported COPA's mission, and contributed to making the Symposium such a success. A special thank you to the Challenged Athletes Foundation for hosting such a meaningful event.

I'm already looking forward to continuing this momentum and reconnecting at the next COPA Symposium in November 2026.

By:  
Kimberly Jones, MSOP, CPO  
COPA Board Member

Hosted by



COPA Immediate Past President (L) receiving an Appreciation Award from Luis Mora, COPA President (R).



COPA President Luis Mora (L) presenting an Appreciation Award to Bob Babbitt, Co-Founder of our host venue, Challenged Athletes Foundation (R).

View more event photos at  
<https://californiaoandp.com/2025-copa-symposium-photo-gallery/>



Interview with So Every BODY Can Move representatives, (seated L-R), Nicole Ver Kuilen & Kyle Stepp with COPA Past President Spencer Greene, Hanger Clinic, at the podium and COPA President Luis Mora, Össur.



COPA President Luis Mora, Össur, with So Every BODY Can Move representatives (L-R): Nicole Ver Kuilen, Kyle Stepp & Annika Berlin.



COPA President Luis Mora with COPA Board member Michel Davis.

Exhibitor Chance Endsley, Martin Bionics, with COPA Treasurer, Brendan Erickson, SPS.



Aadeel Akhtar PhD, CEO, Founder, Psyonic, during his presentation, "Advanced Bionic Hands for Humans and Robots."



Lindhe Xtend Product Manager Raymond Speelman, CP, during his presentation, "Shock & Torsion: It's Not Just for the Guys on the Posters Anymore"

COPA Board Member MJ McNeece, Lindhe Xtend (L) with Sarah Nakamota, Cascade Orthopedic Supply, LP, past COPA Board member.



Attendees (L-R): DJ Harrison, Blatchford, and Joe Antorietto, Hanger Clinic.



COPA Board member Katie Janiszewski, MSOP, CPO, Spectrum O&P.

Happy Hour at the end of the first day of the Symposium.



Presentation on "Meracus®: Advancing Prosthetic Foot Design with Pure Composite Innovation" by David Slider, Allard.



# SO EVERYBODY CAN MOVE CALIFORNIA

by Annika Berlin, Grassroots Advocacy  
Contractor, Amputee Coalition



**So Every BODY Can Move California** is officially underway. At this year's COPA Conference, our national leads, Nicole Ver Kuilen and Kyle Stepp, along with California State Lead Luis Mora, delivered powerful presentations about their lived experiences navigating access to orthotic and prosthetic care. Their stories helped lay the groundwork for the exciting phase we are now entering in California.

As we gear up for the 2026 legislative session, our goal is to introduce So Every BODY Can Move legislation this year. This bill will ensure coverage for activity-specific prosthetic and orthotic devices, as well as medically necessary bathing and showering prostheses—giving individuals with limb loss and limb difference the tools needed to stay active, safe, independent, and fully engaged in their lives. For clinicians, this means having the ability to provide the devices your patients truly need to improve, maintain, and navigate daily living without facing avoidable coverage barriers.

Our coalition continues to grow, and we are actively welcoming clinicians and community members from across the state to join us. Whether you're interested in sharing your story, supporting outreach efforts, participating in legislative meetings, or simply staying informed, we'd love to keep you in the loop. To receive updates and get plugged into the California coalition, please fill out our interest form here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdPK2b1-Fi9MD2\\_9EaR2cSDr1a5YpaHVibzacinu5AqFnApZow/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdPK2b1-Fi9MD2_9EaR2cSDr1a5YpaHVibzacinu5AqFnApZow/viewform)

We really look forward to connecting with you and moving this work forward together!



*So Every BODY Can Move representatives (L-R), Nicole Ver Kuilen and Kyle Stepp with COPA President Luis Mora, Össur during an interview session at the recent COPA Symposium in San Diego.*

## 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.



Want to learn more?  
Tune in to this episode  
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SPS Sales Account Manager  
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mpurvis@spsco.com

**SPS**  
MORE THAN DISTRIBUTION  
PARTNERSHIP

## COPA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

COPA proudly represents the providers, distributors, and manufacturers who make high-quality orthotic and prosthetic care possible throughout California. Together, we advance strong advocacy, deliver valuable education, foster meaningful professional connections, and create business opportunities that support our members and strengthen patient access to essential O&P services.

Your membership is vital to sustaining this work. If you have not yet renewed, please take a moment to do so at [www.californiaoandp.com](http://www.californiaoandp.com).

Your continued support ensures that our collective voice remains strong and effective.

## What does the So Every BODY Can Move Initiative aim to accomplish?

“So Every BODY Can Move” began as “So Kids Can Move,” an initiative to clarify that insurance coverage of medically necessary prosthetic limbs and custom orthopedic braces includes coverage of activity-specific orthotic and prosthetic (O&P) care designed to enable individuals with limb loss and limb difference to participate in exercise, recreation, and physical activities to remain healthy, fit, and functional. The initiative was initially viewed as most relevant to growing children with limb loss and limb difference but expanded to include all children and adults who strive to remain healthy, fit and functional.

## What is the public health problem?

There are over 500,000 Californians living with limb loss, limb difference, and/or mobility impairment. For these constituents, access to orthotic and prosthetic (O&P) care is vital to living independently, maintaining employment, and participating in their communities. However, insurance companies often exclude coverage of devices intended for physical activity as “not medically necessary,” forcing patients to choose between incurring prohibitive out-of-pocket costs, risking harm/injury using an improper device, or being forced into a more sedentary lifestyle and its associated health complications.

While the total population of those with limb loss and limb difference is around 500,000, we estimate that only 10 to 15% of those constituents will need access to activity specific care. However, the impact on the lives of residents who gain this access is immeasurable.

## How does the SEBCM bill planned for 2026 introduction fix it?

California passed a law back in 2006, AB 1012, which required health plans to “offer” coverage for daily use orthotic and prosthetic devices and services, including repair and replacement of such devices when prescribed by a physician. So-called “Insurance Fairness” or “Parity” legislation of this type has experienced widespread support across the country, with 24 other states enacting similar legislation into law over the past 20 years.<sup>1</sup>

Building upon this law, the SEBCM California coalition plans to introduce legislation that would amend the law to require plans to cover (not just require an “offer” to cover) custom orthotic and prosthetic devices matching coverage to Medicare-level coverage for daily use devices and cover orthotic and prosthetic devices designed for performing physical activity.

## Which health plans would this bill apply to?

This bill will apply to all fully insured commercial health plans (both on and off the healthcare exchange) in California. This bill does not apply to self-funded employer plans, which are preempted by the federal law, ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act), or to Medicare/Medicare Advantage plans, Medi-Cal or Medicaid managed care plans, TRICARE, VA or Workers Comp plans.

## What is the bill’s potential financial impact?

Studies of Insurance Fairness in nine states have shown that ensuring appropriate O&P coverage results in average health premium increases of only \$0.12 to \$0.14 PMPM.<sup>2</sup> Covering devices intended for physical activity has yielded similar results. A published study estimates that a proposed law in Texas, a state similar to California in population size and number of people with limb loss and limb difference would result in premium increases of just \$0.01 to \$0.19 PMPM and a net annual savings of \$1,122,521,477.<sup>3</sup>

California has an opportunity for extensive savings, as providing O&P care lowers overall healthcare costs in the long run. The Amputee Coalition has found that every dollar spent on rehabilitation results in savings of more than \$11 in disability benefits. In addition, knee or hip problems resulting from lack of appropriate prosthetic care can result in healthcare costs ranging from \$80,000 to \$150,000 over the course of a single patient’s lifetime.<sup>4</sup> A benefit-cost analysis of providing O&P coverage conducted by Colorado projected savings of nearly \$500,000 per year through the reduction of costly secondary health conditions including heart disease, diabetes, and obesity,<sup>2</sup> which collectively cost the U.S. healthcare system \$626 billion each year.<sup>5</sup>

### Supported by:

**COPA** – COPA works on behalf of providers, distributors, and manufacturers engaged in the delivery of orthotic and prosthetic care in California. Our association creates advocacy, education, networking, and business opportunities that benefit our members and enhance patient access to orthotic and prosthetic care.

**So Every Body Can Move** is a policy and advocacy initiative working to expand access to prostheses and orthoses utilized for physical activity as medically necessary healthcare for children and adults on a state-by-state basis. It is the result of a collaboration between the American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association (AOPA), the National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics (NAAOP), the Amputee Coalition, and the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists (AAOP).



<sup>1</sup> Amputee Coalition, State Issues: <https://www.amputee-coalition.org/advocacy-awareness/state-issues/>  
<sup>2</sup> Amputee Coalition, Insurance Fairness for Amputees: An Analysis of the Impact of Insurance Fairness for Amputees on Jobs, Policy, and Community: <https://3w568y1pmc7umeynn2o6c1my-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/insurance-fairness-white-paper.pdf>  
<sup>3</sup> Malouff, S et al., 2024. A Multistate Analysis of the Fiscal Impact of Commercial Insurance Coverage For General-Use and Activity-Specific Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices in the United States. Medical Research Archives, European Society of Medicine 12(3). <https://doi.org/10.18103/mra.v12i3.5104>

<sup>4</sup> Amputee Coalition, Help Us Introduce the Insurance Fairness for Amputees Act: <https://3w568y1pmc7umeynn2o6c1my-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/insurance-fairness-amputees-act.pdf>  
<sup>5</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health and Economic Costs of Chronic Diseases: <https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/about/costs/index.htm>



# CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS VISIT SANTA CLARA FACILITY, PROSTHETIC SOLUTIONS TO ADVANCE ACCESS FOR ALL

On December 9, 2025, Prosthetic Solutions hosted a landmark legislative outreach event, welcoming representatives from two California legislative offices to discuss critical issues impacting individuals with limb loss and limb difference. The meeting focused on advancing the So Every BODY Can Move (SEBCM) initiative, a national movement aimed at improving access to prosthetic and orthotic care.



*Barbara Ledesma Rhineholt, Field Rep for CA Senator Dr. Aisha Wahab, with Assemblyman Patrick Ahrens at the Prosthetic Solutions clinic in Santa Clara.*



*Barbara Ledesma Rhineholt, Field Rep for CA Senator Dr. Aisha Wahab (middle).*



*Assemblyman Patrick Ahrens (L) at the Prosthetic Solutions clinic.*

### Event Highlights

- **Legislative Engagement:** Attendees included **Barbara Ledesma Rhineholt, District Representative for Senator Wahab (SD-10), Assistant Majority Leader; Assemblymember Patrick Ahrens (D-26);** and **Victoria Pham, Field Representative for Assemblymember Ahrens.**
- **Community Voices:** Patients from diverse backgrounds—ranging from high school students to seniors aged 85—shared personal stories about the life-changing impact of prosthetic technology.
- **Advocacy in Action:** The Prosthetic Solutions team showcased their involvement in July's 28x28 fundraising challenge, reinforcing the community's commitment to equitable access.

### Commitments from Legislators

Assemblymember Ahrens expressed willingness to sponsor or co-sponsor a bill supporting SEBCM, while Senator Wahab's office indicated strong interest in championing the cause. Both offices received SEBCM informational materials and will review proposed bill language.

### Next Steps

Prosthetic Solutions plans to share photos and videos from the event on social media, tagging legislative offices and SEBCMCA to amplify awareness. Additional outreach is underway in Northern California, where Assemblymember Matt Haney's office has shown interest in the initiative.

### Why This Matters

Access to prosthetic and orthotic care is essential for mobility, independence, and quality of life. Legislative action in California would align the state with a growing national movement to ensure that every individual—regardless of income or insurance limitations—can move freely and live fully.



*Susan Stenman, CP, Clinic Director/Director of Clinical Education, Prosthetic Solutions and Barbara Ledesma Rhineholt.*

*Photos courtesy of Susan Stenman of Prosthetic Solutions.*



# RESPONSIBLE AI USE IN O&P: PRACTICAL GUARDRAILS FOR CLINICIANS

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

Artificial intelligence is becoming increasingly visible in health-care, including orthotics and prosthetics. Many clinicians are already using AI tools for tasks such as documentation support. The challenge is no longer whether AI will be used, but how to use it responsibly in a clinical environment where trust, accuracy, and accountability matter.

A practical starting point is deciding which tasks are appropriate to delegate to AI. In most O&P practices, AI works best after the clinical decision has already been made. For example, once an evaluation and treatment plan are complete, AI can be used to help organize visit notes, summarize lengthy referral documentation, or draft non-clinical correspondence after a clinical decision has already been made. This allows clinicians to maintain full control over care while reducing time spent on repetitive administrative writing.

Clinicians should also set a clear internal rule that AI outputs are never final. Any text generated for documentation, education, or communication should be reviewed the same way a note written by a resident or assistant would be reviewed. In practice, this means reading for clinical accuracy, tone, and clarity before anything is saved to the chart or shared with a patient. A simple habit of asking, "Would I sign my name to this as written?" helps maintain accountability.

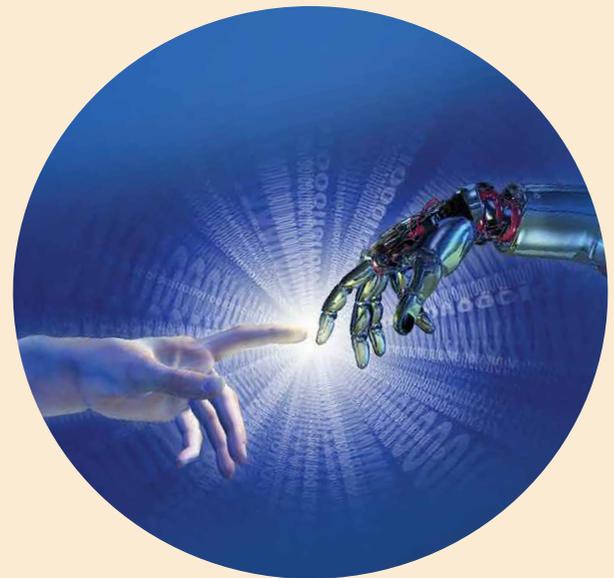
Another practical guardrail is limiting AI use to non-decision-making roles. AI should not be used to determine device selection, justify medical necessity without clinician input, or respond independently to patient-specific clinical questions. If a tool begins influencing clinical reasoning rather than supporting it, that is a signal to step back. Many practices find it helpful to reserve AI for drafting and organizing information rather than interpreting it.

Data handling is another area where small decisions matter. Clinicians should avoid entering unnecessary identifiers into AI platforms and should be intentional about which tools are used for which tasks. Establishing a habit of minimizing protected health information helps reduce exposure while still gaining efficiency.

Practices may also benefit from aligning expectations across the team. Even a brief internal conversation about acceptable AI use can prevent confusion or misuse. Agreeing that AI is a support tool, not a shortcut, helps maintain consistency and protects both patients and clinicians. This is especially important as staff members experiment with different tools at varying comfort levels.

A helpful rule of thumb for day-to-day decision-making is to treat AI like a clinical extender that requires supervision. If a task would require review when delegated to a trainee, it should require the same level of review when delegated to AI. This mindset keeps responsibility where it belongs and reinforces professional standards.

Used with clear boundaries, AI can reduce administrative friction, improve patient understanding, and support clinician efficiency without compromising care. Responsible use is less about policy statements and more about daily habits that keep clinical judgment firmly in human hands.



## MESSAGE FOR PRACTITIONERS!

**Trulife has initiated a program where they provide Free Sach feet to low activity amputees without insurance, or to amputees that have a unique life story that prevents them from being able to get the Sach foot that they need.**

**Practitioners can submit requests for Free Sach feet, on behalf of their patients to:**

**Thomas Larkin, U.S. Sales & Marketing Liaison: [tlarkin@trulife.com](mailto:tlarkin@trulife.com).**

**All submissions will be reviewed based on need and unique circumstance.**



COPA is proud to announce that the **2026 COPA Symposium** will be held on **Thursday, November 12** and **Friday, November 13** at the **Challenged Athletes Foundation, San Diego**—a venue that has generously agreed to host our event again. Save the date and we'll see you next year!



*Wishing You  
A Happy  
New Year!*

*COPA wishes all our members  
a successful, fulfilling, and  
inspiring New Year.*

*In 2026, may you experience growth,  
new opportunities, and continued achievements.*



California Orthotic & Prosthetic Association