

**Special points of interest:**

- Medicaid Committee
- Licensure Committee
- Parity Committee
- Upcoming Events
- Sponsors

**Message From President**

Hello Everyone,

I hope this letter finds you all busy in this rapidly changing healthcare climate. Through discussions with many OP&P business owners and practitioners, it seems that 2009 started off slowly for many of us –due in large part to the uncertainty and confusion created by a struggling economy and new administration in the White House with its sights set squarely on overhauling our nation’s healthcare system. For many, things seemed to have stabilized a bit in recent weeks and months... we should not assume we’re out of the woods yet. This economic crisis, along with the looming changes in health insurance, serves to reinforce the important role that WSOPP plays in the Wisconsin OP&P industry. If we stand united, we can certainly affect the situation here at home... if not on a national level.

In this issue of the WSOPP newsletter you will find our individual committee reports for your consideration. I urge

you to please take a close look at them.

As you will see, Jake and his

committee on parity have been working diligently and putting in many hours, but it looks like now is the time for all of us to pitch in and help out.

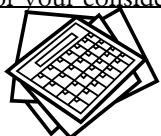
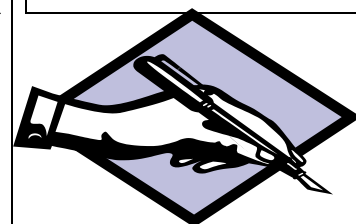
The Licensure and Medicaid committees continue to make progress. As we move forward in the consideration of state licensure it will become much clearer how we accomplish that goal based on our experience with parity.

Thank you to Greg Gruman for arranging with Medicaid to have a representative attend our upcoming meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Andrea Pavlik has spearheaded another wonderful continuing education opportunity for the meeting, as well. Based on the variety and number of qualified presenters, it looks like we’ll be eligible for more CEU’s than ever before!

**Wisconsin Prosthetic  
Parity Bill:  
LRB-0992**

On April 27 , 2009 WSOPP Parity Committee received news that an office bill number was assigned to the Wisconsin Parity Bill. Bill Number LRB-0992 has generated both support and opposition in the recent weeks. WSOPP urges every facility to utilize the Parity Bill Facility Packets that were mailed to each office in state of Wisconsin. If you did not receive a packet or need more brochures, etc please contact Jake Wood at 414-257-2727 or [kwoodk@aol.com](mailto:kwoodk@aol.com)



**Calendar of Events**

*Topics of Discussion:*

- Human and Prosthetic Knee Function
- Dynamic Response AFO’s
- Member Meeting
- PLUS Supplier Expo

**Semi-Annual  
Membership  
Meeting**

October 9, 2009

8:00 to 5:00

Country Springs Hotel  
Pewaukee, WI

CEUS applied for from ABC

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## Minutes: September 26, 2008 Membership Meeting

April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009

WSOPP Spring Conference

Submitted by: Mick Batton, Secretary

Conference opened at 8:40 am with Dennis Janisse President of WSOPP announcing the morning agenda.

8:45 to 10:00: Greg Gruman, C.P lead a brainstorming meeting on Medicaid information based on Pam Hoffman’s input and new changes within the program. Ms Hoffman requested a list of proper codes for a CROW walker AFO. WSOPP membership have developed a list of appropriate codes which will be submitted to the Prior Auth Unit. The next issue was the Therapeutic Shoe Program and what is and what was not covered, Ms. Hoffman wanted to express that shoes that look like an atheletic shoe are not covered and only 1 pair of inserts are covered at a time. There was a lively discussion on both issues of orthotics in understanding how to properly code and how to document so that offices can present a clean billing claim. Greg also requested information on Preparatory Prosthesis and component

limitations. Finally, Greg indicated that Medicaid continues to work towards hiring an O&P professional to handle prior authorizations

At 10:00 am 10:15 am Dennis Farrell C.P. announced that the Eric Westover of UpperEx was unable to attend due to a personal emergency. Brochures were given out to any who needed them.

At 10:45 am- 12:15 pm Mick Batton, C.O. introduced Dr. Lisa Kokontis and her presentation “Movement Disorders.” Dr Kokontis works at Neuroscience Group of Northeast Wisconsin.

12:15 pm 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm 2:30 pm Mick Batton, C.O. lead a Movement Disorders Workshop where Practitioners were to evaluate 3 different patients for possible diagnosis and what appliance could be used to best aid the patient in ambulation if any.

3:00 pm 4:00pm Business meeting. Dennis Janisse, CPed lead the business meeting which covered reports for the Parity Committee for Jake Wood who was unable to attend. We informed the members that the final draft has been returned from the Drafters and we are now waiting for a Bill number to be

assigned so that it can be taken to committee.

Licensure committee: led by Mick Batton, C.O. A draft licensure bill has been approved by the Board. Members can request a copy of the bill via the webpage.

Dennis Janisse, CPed, lead discussion for what will be on the agenda for the Fall WSOPP meeting which will include elections. We will be sending out on the website the ability to receive a copy of the current form of the Parity and Licensure Bill

Dennis Janisse adjourned the meeting at meeting at 4:00 pm.

Number of Attendees:  
32 Members, 2 non-member  
14 suppliers

Total Membership:  
51 Members/Affiliates  
8 Corporate Sponsors  
6 Supplier Sponsors



**“We learn by example and by direct experience because there are real limits to the adequacy of verbal instruction.”**  
**-Malcolm Gladwell**



The lack of access to prosthetics prevents people with limb loss from living productive lives, leads to poor rehabilitation outcomes, and places amputees at risk for dangerous and costly secondary conditions such as obesity, cardiovascular disease and additional amputation.  
-ACA webpage

## UPDATE: Parity Committee

The establishment of Wisconsin Parity Bill #LRB-0992 represents three long years of dedicated work by our Parity Committee and WSOPP members. But our work is still far from over. We still need your assistance to solidify our grass-roots patient movement to support this bill. Everyone has received their **Parity Bill Facility Packets**. The packets contain petitions, posters and instructions on how to inform your patients of our parity Bill. We continue to need your support and our patients supporting LRB-0992.

The Wisconsin Society

of Podiatric Medicine have Representative John Townsend offering a friendly amendment, #AB-331, to Bill #LRB-0992. This amendment will require insurance coverage of Orthotic and Prosthetic devices and services for Podiatrists.

Ms. Morgan Sheets from Amputee Coalition of America (ACA) is working hard to do all they can to advance prosthetic and orthotic coverage within healthcare reform. Rep. Tammy Baldwin is a key leader in the efforts. We are looking at the possibility of pulling together a meeting with her in Madison during the Au-

gust recess. ACA is working with lobbyist Scott Klug on this item. Scott Klug may be in touch with us to talk about trying to identify a small (but strong/ articulate) group of amputees and

providers to meet with Rep. Baldwin. **I am asking WSOPP members** to contact me immediately with names of patients and/or providers (with their phone numbers) that will participate. I may only have a few days notice for this event.

We are so close to Wisconsin Parity Bill #LRB-

## Parity Committee Members

Following are WSOPP members that are active on the Parity committee:

*Chairman:*

Jake Wood, CP

*Committee Members:*

Tom Flatley, Jr

Glen Goranson

Jerry Henderson

Jack Schultz

If you would like to join the Parity committee, or have questions, comments or concerns regarding this committee, please contact the chairman:

Jake Wood, CP

## Creating a Grass Roots Support

### LRB-0992

..... A bill that concerns each and every one of us and our PATIENTS.

.... A bill that will IMPACT the future of O&P in the State of Wisconsin

.... A bill that NEEDS your support

.....A Bill patients WANT to support.

This is a chance in your career to help your patients by doing more then fitting them

with a device, by helping to make sure that they will be able to continue to obtain your services and the O&P care that they need.

Please discuss the Wisconsin Parity Bill with your patients and ask them to sign our petition and/or contact their legislators to request that they support LRB-0992. Petitions and sample letters are on the CD mailed to your facility

Don't know who your legislators are?

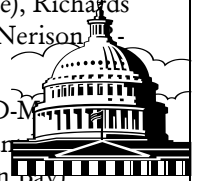
Visit

[www.legis.wisconsin.gov](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov) and click on the "who's my Legislator" link.

Every letter, email and phone call will help to solidify our grass roots effort. To date the following legislators have co-sponsored LRB-0992:

Assembly: Soletski (D-Green Bay), Berceau (D-Madison), Turner (D-Racine), Richards (D-Milwaukee), Nerison (D-Westby)

Senate: Taylor (D-Madison), Wirch (D-Pleasanton), Hansen (D-Green Bay)



## UPDATE: Licensure Committee

The Board of Directors and members of the Licensure Committee meet on March 13, 2009 to review the 26- page preliminary Licensure bill section-by-section for revisions and alterations. A second session on April 17, 2009 completed the section-by section analysis. At that time, both the Board of Directors and members of the Licensure committee worked on a draft of the regulatory bill. It has become evident that WSOPP will be responsible for regulating any Licensure obtained in the state of Wisconsin. The Board of Directors strongly feels that all information regarding potential costs to facilities and practi-

tioners along with WSOPP's financial responsibility must be made clear prior to their approving the bill for progression to the membership. A copy of the current Licensure bill can be obtained via our webpage at [www.wsopp.org](http://www.wsopp.org)

Final approval of the Licensure bill will be made once a cost analysis has been performed and submitted to the Board of Directors.

The Licensure committee is chaired by:

Mick Batton, CO

920-725-6200

[Mick.Batton@physiocorp.com](mailto:Mick.Batton@physiocorp.com)



Academy has joined with AOPA, NAAOP, ABC, and BOC and approved an historic agreement to jointly recommend to CMS that there be specific minimum education and training requirements, consistent with those now in place at ABC, for those who will be allowed to bill for providing custom orthotics and prosthetics to Medicare beneficiaries



## Licensure Committee Members

Following are WSOPP members that are active on the Licensure committee:

*Chairman:*

Mick Batton, CO

*Committee Members:*

Ken Crooker

Tom Current

Mark Gilles

Jeremy Janisse

James Lewallen

If you would like to join the Licensure committee, or have questions, comments or concerns regarding this committee, please contact the chairman:

Mick Batton, CO

920-725-6200

## Treasury Report

The books for Fiscal Year 2009 have been maintained by current Treasurer Jim Sadjak, C.Ped.

Current Treasury statement:

As of August 11, 2009 WSOPP is in a sound financial position. We currently have a cash balance of \$26,188.06.

All expenditures have been paid in full and include Directors insurance, Spring meeting

## Communication Committee

Don't forget.....

Please place your vote for the 2010 election. Ballots are due by September 30, 2009 and have been pre-stamped for your convenience.

Don't forget....

The Fall Membership meeting will be held on October 9, 2009 in Waukesha. This is a great CEU opportunity. The long awaited Licensure Bill will be handed out to all members.

Have an idea for a CEU presentation at one of your meetings or an article for this newsletter?

We would love to hear your ideas and comments.

Contact Andrea Pavlik at [andrea.pavlik@physiocorp.com](mailto:andrea.pavlik@physiocorp.com)



## UPDATE: Medicaid Committee

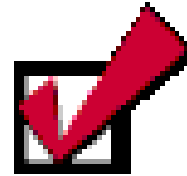
The Medicaid committee has been in contact with the State DHS and Medicaid Staff since the Membership meeting in April. During this time, we have made a formal request through the appropriate channels requesting that a consultant position be opened to assist in the review of Prior Authorization requests. The proposed consultant would be an O&P professional and advise only on O&P prior authorization requests. The committee has also requested that the DHS consider adopting the CMS Fee Schedule for Orthotic, Prosthetic and Pedorthic services. A response on either issue has not been received to date.

At the April meeting, a group session resulted in a consensus opinion on which codes to use for a CROW Walker. This was at the request of the Prior Authorization Unit. The consensus made by WSOPP membership was that CROW should be coded with a base code for a solid ankle AFO, codes for a pre-tibial shell, interface, inversion/ eversion control and a rocker sole. The goal of producing a consensus on proper coding for this device is to produce consistency between providers, which Wisconsin Medicaid indicates will result in less confusion and faster approvals.

Pam Hoffman, MS, PT, will address the WSOPP membership at the Fall Membership Meeting in October 9, 2009.

If you have a Medicaid question that you wish to be addressed at the Fall Meeting, please forward via email to:

Greg Gruman, CP  
ggruman@winkley.com



## Update: Medicaid Committee

The Medicaid Committee has been inactive due to Medicaid's rollout of the new Forward Health Portal. Following are WSOPP members that are active on the Medicaid committee:

*Chairman:*

Greg Gruman, CP

*Committee Members:*

- David Castellanos
- Kathy Kannenburg
- David Sisson
- Xenon Wojcik

If you would like to join the Medicaid committee, or have questions, comments or concerns regarding this committee, please contact the chairman:

Greg Gruman

## ForwardHealth: Coding Tips

Did you know..... Medicaid does not follow the same guidelines as the Medicare Diabetic Shoe Program? Here are some pointers on processing claims for Diabetic/ Therapeutic Shoes:

1. Shoes that have an outward appearance of an athletic shoe will not be approved unless there is a specific feature that is medically necessary.
2. Only one pair of inserts may be dispensed at a time. The patient is eligi-

ble for up to 3 pairs of inserts per year based on medical necessity, but they must be dispensed and billed one pair at a time.

3. All items require a PA.

The following codes are considered appropriate for use when billing a CROW walker....

- L1960: AFO base code
- L2232 Rocker bottom sole
- L2270 Varus/valgus control,

plastic  
L2340 Pre-tibial shell  
A5513 Removable insole (only if patient qualifies under Therapeutic Shoe Program)  
Other codes are allowed but must be individually justified. Proper diagnosis codes are required as well.

Do you have a Medicaid billing question?

Contact :  
Greg Gruman

“A single conversation with a wise man is better than 10 years of study.”- Chinese Proverb



# WSOPP

**Wisconsin Society of  
Orthotists, Prosthetists &  
Pedorthists**

WSOPP— Communications  
ATTN: Andrea Pavlik, CO  
1344 North Taylor Drive  
Sheboygan, WI 53083

Phone: 920-803-9610  
Fax: 920-803-9611

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*Wisconsin P&O*

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Mick Batton, CO  
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Jack Schultz, CO

James Shippy, CPed  
David Sisson, CP  
Ronald Wibel, CPed  
Jake Wood, CO

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RPA*

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*Thomas David, CFO*

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