



Academy Leader

Executive Brief

Parity Initiative Direction Defined

Dianne Farabi, Executive Director, O.O.P.A.

Parity activities for the past several months have focused on education for facilities, patients, amputee support groups and legislators. Patient education brochures to distribute to all Ohio O & P facilities were developed by OOPA and printed by Otto Bock. The brochures outline concerns about elimination or capping of insurance coverage for prosthetic services.

Initiatives in other states have demonstrated the need for patient involvement and for the patient population to be the visible voice advocating for adequate prosthetic coverage.

To that end, leaders in the initiative have been meeting with

amputee support groups across the state over the last six weeks to encourage their participation through writing letters and making telephone calls to legislators.

An important part of the project involves the need for fundraising and David Kozersky (Capital Prosthetic and Orthotic Center, Inc.) has lead the drive to raise funds to support the costs related to engaging lobbying services. "Most people understand the importance of this issue and what it means for their future" Kozersky says. "Some companies have contributed to the initiative, but more funding will be needed".

The OOPA Board met with Steve Wermuth a lobbyist with



Ms. Farabi

Strategic Health Care, in late August to discuss further strategy for the initiative. Official engagement with Strategic Health Care will begin September 1, 2006.

Even though most legislators are now heavily involved in election activities and there will be few legislative sessions, the months

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between now and January will be busy for them.(us?).Items to be addressed include:

- ◆ Data collecting (for example #'s of amputees in Ohio, etc.)
- ◆ Cost reports from the national level
- ◆ Identifying friends and build relationships
- ◆ Identify groups/agencies to work with
- ◆ Drafting language for the bill
- ◆ Identify bill sponsor

The OOPA Board and Wermuth agreed that the first and most important task is determining "how to sell the message".

Wermuth suggested that, "We might be better-served to avoid using the term 'Parity' and by all means, we must not use 'Mandate' in relation to our efforts. The temperament of Ohio's legislature is conservative and mandates of any kind are not well received. Rather the message will be crafted to center around serving the patient and 'Cost effectiveness' factor, i.e., when patients are able to stay productive, there is not a cost-burden to be borne by the state or other support system."

The group suggested that facility owners continue to identify patient "stories" and scenarios that can be used to tell the story and strengthen the position.

To date, three states have actually passed legislation to assure coverage for O & P patients and a bill in Massachusetts bill currently awaits the Governor's signature. In

addition, a number of other states are in various stages of parity initiatives.

"We continue to urge all facility owners and managers to invite state legislators for a facility visit to learn more about O & P. and the patients that are served" One face-to-face visit accomplishes ten times more in information sharing and relationship building than letter-writing or telephone calls", advises Dianne Farabi (OOPA Executive Director).

Please contact Ms. Farabi if you have questions about the Initiative, if you need assistance identifying or contacting your legislator or need information about how to set up a facility visit. (Ohio O & P Assn. 614-659-0197). ■ ■



Mark Your Calendar

April 21, 2007

Ohio Chapter—AAOP

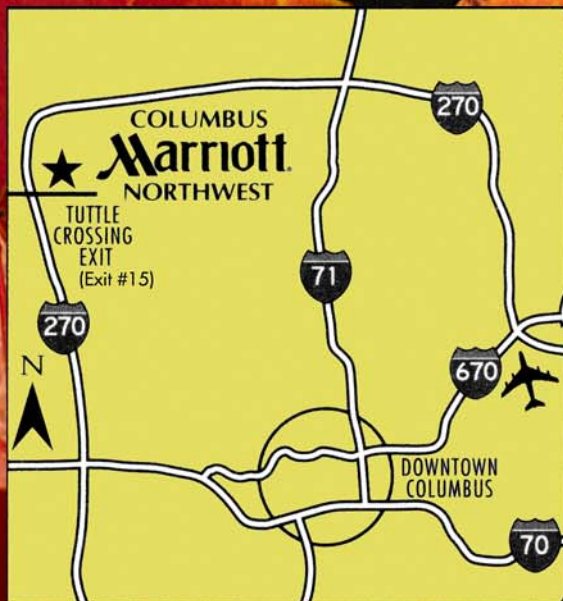
*2007 Annual
Spring Technical Meeting*

*Hilton Hotel Columbus
at
Easton Town Center*

The Ohio Chapter ~ ~ AAOP

2006 Annual Fall Scientific Meeting

October 14, 2006
Marriott Columbus Northwest



Accommodations

Columbus Marriott Northwest

5605 Blazer Parkway
Dublin, Ohio 43016
Phone: 614/791-1000 Fax: 614/336-1001

Directions from North, South, East and West.

Take 270 (Columbus' beltway) to the northeast side and take the Tuttle Crossing exit (# 15). Head east then turn left on Blazer Parkway, about 1/4 mile. Hotel is on the left.

The room block releases on September 28, 2006. Although rooms may be available at regular rates after that, make your reservations early and ask for the Ohio Chapter room rate of \$119. To make your reservation, call 614/791-1000.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please call the state office at 614/659-0197

2006 Annual Fall Scientific Meeting

October 14, 2006
Marriott Columbus Northwest

PROGRAM

8:00–8:30..... Registration/Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 9:00 Update: Licensure and Parity

Mark Horwitz, CPO, LPO
OrPro Prosthetics & Orthotics, Inc.—Dayton, OH

9:00 - 10:00... Orthotics Research: Where We are Now and Where We're Headed.

Stepahnia Fatone, Ph.D., BPO, Research Assistant Professor
Feinberg School of Medicine—Northwest University Prosthetics Research Lab and Rehabilitation Engineering Program—Chicago, IL

10:15 - 11:00. Falls of Amputees: A Case for Ankle Articulation Prostheses

Tim Norman, Ph.D.
Cedarville University—Cedarville, OH

11:00 - 11:45. DynamicArm: Otto Bock Electric Elbow Overview

Shawn Swanson, OTR/L
Otto Bock Health Care—Houston, TX

12:00 – 1:15 .. Lunch & Ohio Chapter Annual Business Meeting

1:15 - 2:00 AK Solutions Utilizing the Seal-In Liner

Kurt Gruben, MSBE, CPO
Ossur North America—Aliso Viejo, CA

2:00 - 3:15 Pre-Preg/Composite Workshop

Jake Godak, RTP
University of Michigan Orthotics/Prosthetics Clinic—Ann Arbor, MI

3:30 - 4:15 Problems Areas and Trends in L-Coding

Michael S. O'Donnell, CPO, FAAOP
Hanger Orthopedics, Inc.—Parkersburg, WV

4:15 - 5:00 Transfemoral Initial Fitting: Conventional Knees vs. Microprocessor Controlled Knees

David Garcia, LP, LPED.
Manuel Garcia Prosthetics Lab, Inc.—Strongsville, OH

Mike O'Donnell (3:30–4:15 pm) invites attendees to send questions about L-coding in advance of his talk so he can take time to review and format the best answers possible for his presentation.

Please send your questions either to Mike at Hanger Orthopedics, Inc.; 1212 Garfield Ave., Suite 100; Parkersburg, WV 26101 (e-mail: modonnell@hanger.com), or send to Ohio Chapter at the address below or e-mail to butchko1@columbus.rr.com.

Meeting Registration Form

(For additional names, please copy this form, or attach list)

Please Enter Ohio Chapter Member ID # (from envelope label)

Name: _____ Company: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____ E-mail: _____
Current Certifications (include cert. #): ABC _____ C.Ped. _____ BOC _____ Other _____
Ohio License Number(s): _____

| Meeting Registration: | | (Before 10/6/06) | (after 10/6/06 & at door) |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------|---------------------------|
| Member, Ohio Chapter AAOP * | = | \$135.00 _____ | \$160.00 _____ |
| Non-member | = | \$195.00 _____ | \$220.00 _____ |
| Total Enclosed | = | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |

Registration includes: Admittance to sessions, continental breakfast, lunch, breaks and Friday evening reception.

Make check payable to: **Ohio Chapter, AAOP**
and mail with registration form to:
Ohio Chapter, AAOP
PO Box 3188
Dublin, OH 43016-0088

PCE's Applied for

* If you are a member of the Ohio Chapter, your ID # will appear on the address portion of your envelope. If no number appears, you are not a current member. Please call 614/659-0197 for further information.

Don't forget the attendee/presenter reception on Friday, October 13, 2006 from 6:30-8:00 pm)

Cancellation Policy: Full refunds, minus a 10% processing fee, will be provided up to 10/6/06. Sorry, no refunds after 10/6/06. **Cancellations must be in writing** to be eligible for refund.

Licensing Option Pathways Narrow 1/1/2008

In the post-grandfathering period — the grandfathering “window” having closed in 2002 — several “pathways” have existed for a candidate in Orthotics &/or Prosthetics to qualify for licensure or to sit for exam. While **all current options require a Bachelors degree**, allowances exist until 2008 for practitioners with various combinations of other qualifications to sit for exam. For applications received by January 1, 2008, the following options pathways are allowed under the Practice Act (all require at least a Bachelors degree):

- A. 3 years’ experience* with ABC or BOC certification
- B. Residency Program with ABC or BOC certification
- C. 3 years’ experience* with Certificate Program (post-grad course of study)

*for dual-profession applicants: 6 years experience

All candidates must sit for exam; however, the license exam is comprised of the Written and Written Simulation components of the ABC certification exam. Thus, **candidates who are ABC certified by exam are not required to re-take** the exam.

Also ending January 2008 is the allowance per Board policy for a “**relaxed**” cut-score on the exam to achieve Ohio licensure. For examinees during the last half of 2006 and all of 2007, the Board will accept as passing a score that achieves 95% of the ABC requirements. As of January 2008, the ABC standard will apply, but the CPM component will still not be required.

Beginning January 2008, only two pathway options will be available:

1. Bachelors in O&P + 8 months supervision** + Residency
2. Bachelors - any + 8 months supervision** + Residency + Certificate Program

** An Ohio residency fulfills the supervision requirements. Supervision must be under an Ohio-licensed practitioner.

Temporary licensure is available for a candidate who has completed a residency but has not yet taken/passed the exam.

For more information, contact the Board office at 614-466-1157, or by email at: BOPP@exchange.state.oh.us



Mark Levy



Ohio Chapter
THE AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF ORTHOTISTS AND PROSTHETISTS, INC.

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Executive Brief Newsletter
September, 2006

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