We are Constantly Evolving but Our Vision Remains the Same

WE ARE HONORED to have served the O,P&P profession and its many SUPERHEROES—certificants, practice owners, volunteers and educators—for 70 years and we hope to continue to help make the future bright for those who make a difference in the lives of their patients. Please join us at the AOPA National Assembly in Vancouver, BC, Canada, September 26-29 to share in the celebration!

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Privileging Changes— Effect on Residents and Students

WITH THE JANUARY 1, 2019 revision to the Orthotic, Prosthetic and Pedorthic Scope of Practice, non-credentialed caregivers can no longer be privileged to provide patient care. However, credentialed caregivers can still be privileged to provide services beyond their scope of practice.

The Direct Supervision definition was also revised and will require the supervisor to be physically on site while care is being provided. A new Support Personnel definition has been added to allow for certain tasks to be delegated to these non-credentialed staff. Refer to the Addendum to the ABC Scope of Practice on the ABC website (search ‘addendum’) for details about the upcoming changes. These changes will not affect residents or practitioner exam candidates. Active NCOPE residents and individuals who have completed their residency, applied to ABC to take their certification exams and are within their official exam eligibility window will not be affected by these changes.

NCOPE residents have their own set of supervision rules defined by the Standards for Accreditation for the Orthotic/Prosthetic Residency Training Program, which can be found at ncope.org/residents/responsibilities/. NCOPE residents are not considered non-credentialed caregivers as defined in the ABC Scope of Practice.
Help Advance the Future of the Orthotic Fitter Profession

ABC IS CONDUCTING an extensive survey of ABC certified orthotic fitters to collect detailed information necessary to develop a new Practice Analysis of this discipline.

It is critical that we obtain as many informed responses as possible to ensure that our analysis is a comprehensive representation of current practice. The survey results will be used in the development of valid and reliable exams; to determine current trends and future directions in practice; to provide a framework for education and accreditation and to convey to others outside our disciplines the scope of services provided by certified orthotic fitters. We need as many informed responses as possible to ensure the quality of the survey results. As an incentive, all participants that complete the survey will be awarded two Category I Scientific credits and be entered into a drawing for three $100 gift cards.

The survey was sent electronically in late August. If you didn’t receive an email survey link and wish to participate, please send your email address as soon as possible to CFoPAsurvey@abcop.org.

“A detailed practice analysis survey allows us to build the practice profiles of the contemporary orthotic fitter, and therefore identify the essential knowledge and skills needed in the delivery of proper patient care. Participation from the orthotic community is critical. Once the practice analysis is complete, it will serve as a blueprint for all of the aspects of contemporary practice,” according to Deborah M. Plescia, CPO and ABC President.

This is a great opportunity for certified orthotic fitters to provide vital information and contribute to the future of the profession by completing and returning the survey. Your shared knowledge will not only benefit the profession, but the patients who trust in you to provide the best care possible. We strongly encourage your support.

Separate Mastectomy Scope of Practice Created

THE ABC BOARD of Directors voted to create a separate Mastectomy Scope of Practice in order to recognize the unique challenges certified mastectomy professionals and accredited mastectomy facilities face. Creating a specific post-mastectomy care scope of practice document is consistent with the board’s decision in 2016 to create a separate set of facility accreditation standards explicitly for the provision of post-mastectomy items and services.

The most significant aspect of the newly created Mastectomy Scope of Practice is the continued ability of certified or licensed mastectomy fitters to supervise and privilege non-credentialed caregivers in the provision of care. This practice is currently allowed for all ABC credential holders. However, beginning January 2019, all other disciplines will no longer be allowed to privilege non-credentialed caregivers. The board believes that the existing supervision and privileging requirements appropriately address the elements needed to protect individuals in need of post-mastectomy items and services.

The new Mastectomy Scope of Practice is now available on the ABC website.
**Where’s Jim?**

- **Big Dam Bridge**
  — What Jim got to see after attending the Arkansas State Orthotics & Prosthetics Assn. meeting in Little Rock, Aug. 17-18. Big Dam Bridge is the world’s largest pedestrian-only bike bridge—built atop Murray Lock and Dam with a 4,226-foot span and 90-foot elevation above the Arkansas River. It was surely a sight to behold!

- **Campus Life**
  — What Jim gets to enjoy between traveling to state meetings. In August, he visited the practitioner students at the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas and he will speak to more MSOP students at Loma Linda University in November. It’s always a pleasure to meet the new faces of O&P.

- **The Hills are Alive... in Wisconsin**
  — Jim will attend the Midwest Chapter of the Academy meeting on Sept. 13-15, located again this year at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva. With 1,300 acres of lush woodlands and beautiful rolling hills, don’t be surprised if you hear him singing Sound of Music between speaking and exhibiting!

- **Gal Power**
  — Debbie Ayres and Megan Matijevich will represent ABC at the Virginia Orthotic and Prosthetic Assoc. meeting on Oct. 18-20 while Jim is away attending the Michigan Orthotic and Prosthetic Assoc. meeting in Lansing Oct. 19. VOPA celebrates their 10th Anniversary conference this year at the Hyatt Regency in Reston. Stop by and say hello.

- **O&P Takeover on the Jersey Shore**
  — The New Jersey Academy of O&P’s 23rd Annual Continuing Education Seminar is back in Atlantic City on Nov. 7-9. Jim is happy to return to Harrah’s Resort and Casino as the first speaker of the largest O&P state meeting in the nation. With an abundance of workshops, scientific sessions and clinical symposiums on the program, there will be tons of opportunities to learn and earn CEUs!

- **Corn Hole Champ?**
  — We’ll see, come Nov. 15-17 when Jim attends the Pedorthic Footcare Association’s symposium in St. Louis. Not only is this the largest educational event solely dedicated to the practice of pedorthics, but PFA is also adding a Corn Hole tournament to their repertoire and Jim is up for the challenge.
**The American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics, Inc.**

330 John Carlyle Street, Suite 210
Alexandria, VA 22314-5760

Phone: 703.836.7114
Fax: 703.836.0838
abcop.org

### Calendar of Events

**September**

4-5: Northern Plains Chapter Academy Annual Fall Seminar

Vadnais Heights, MN

18-20: Virginia Orthotic & Prosthetic Assn. Annual Meeting

Reston

19: Michigan Orthotic & Prosthetic Assn. Administrative Meeting

Lansing

**November**

1: Application Deadline for Winter CPM Exams

4-6: Pennsylvania Orthotic & Prosthetic Society Annual Meeting

Harrisburg

5-10: Written and Written Simulation Certification Exams

Over 300 Locations Nationwide

7-9: New Jersey Chapter Academy Annual Meeting

Atlantic City

15-17: Pedorthic Footcare Assn. Annual Symposium & Exhibition

St. Louis

28-30: New England Chapter Academy Annual Meeting

Uncasville, CT

**December**

1: Residency Completion Deadline for January Certification Exams

**October**

1: Application Deadline for Winter CPM Exams

1: Residency Completion Deadline for November Certification Exams

1: Application Deadline for ABC/OPERF Student Award for Academic Achievement.

For more info or to apply, go to operf.org.

**Don’t Miss These Super Events...**

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ALL ASSEMBLY LONG

ABC Superheroes Unite—Stop by our booth #538 throughout the conference to unite with fellow ABC Superheroes and take part in an epic and interactive photo op!

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27 / 12:15 PM

Technical Fabrication Contest

(Sponsored by ABC)—Watch as technicians battle it out on the show floor to prove they’re the best technical fabricator in O&P.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27 / 1:30-5 PM

Pedorthic Insight 7: Certification/Accreditation: What Does It Mean to the Pedorthist—Learn ABC’s strategies, solutions and ideas to improve your practice and patient care.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28 / 1:30-3 PM

The Impact of Professional Women in O&P—Join ABC’s Executive Director, Cathy Carter and other female leaders in O&P as they describe the journey of how professional women across our industry have helped shape the world of O&P we know today!

FRIDAY, SEPT. 26 / 5-6 PM

Pizza & Beer for All!—We’ll be serving up gourmet pizzas along with an array of Canadian beers and cider at this year’s Exhibitor Happy Hour, because even superheroes have to eat (and drink)!

SATURDAY. SEPT. 29 / 1-2:30 PM

ALL NEW ABC Workshop: Practice of the Future—Learn about different practice models and how changes in the delivery of patient care can help your business.

ABC to participate in O&P Virtual Recruitment Fair

NCOPE WILL HOST their second O&P Virtual Recruitment Fair for current students and residents on Friday, Sept. 21. This unique one-day event will create a forum for technician and practitioner students as well as residents to discover the resources available from O&P professional organizations. Attendees will also get tips and techniques for obtaining a position upon graduation and/or completion of their residency. For practitioner students, there will also be an opportunity to connect with potential residency sites.

ABC is participating in the virtual education session and will share insights on how we help young professionals as they enter the world of O&P. For more information, visit NCOPE at ncope.org.