

Today's Topics

1. Congressional Update
2. CRT Advocacy and News
3. Clinician Update
4. NRRTS Update
5. RESNA Presentation
6. Discussion and Q & A

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Congressional Update

Senate in Session; House is not; both in next two weeks.

Largely working to come to agreement on another \$10B COVID package, \$33B Ukraine relief & continue Title 42 public health immigration policy beyond 5/23 expiration.

CRT priority issues:

- Extend Telehealth flexibilities beyond PHE
- Coverage for power seat elevation and standing systems
- Provide additional industry relief

Public Health Emergency

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CRT Advocacy and News

Continued Pandemic Challenges for Manufacturers/Providers

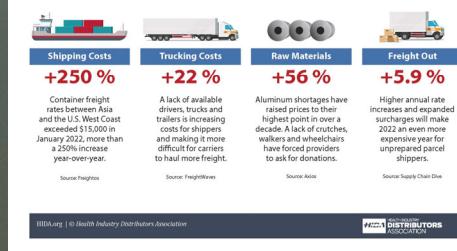
- Supply chain issues- backlogs and delays in obtaining products and parts
- Increased raw material and finished product costs
- Increased freight and distribution costs (shipping, gas prices) I
- Labor shortages and increased payroll costs
- CRT systems can consist of many components from different manufacturers; one delayed item can hold everything up
- Unlike typical business, providers cannot raise their prices; they are tied to fixed fee schedules

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CRT News (cont'd)

Supply Chain Issues Strike Home Health Care

Transportation costs are rising rapidly worldwide. This is driving increases in raw materials and finished products used to provide home health care. (Cost increases have averaged 10% per year for January 2022)



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CRT News (cont'd)

Medicare Coverage of Power Seat Elevation and Power Standing Systems

- Still waiting for CMS' next step- Open the NCD "reconsideration" for public comments
- ITEM Coalition and industry stakeholders continue to meet and push for CMS action
- Senator Duckworth (D-IL) and Representative Langevin (D-RI) meeting with CMS this week
- Once public comments requested, important to solicit supportive responses; educational website will be available to facilitate submissions to CMS

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CRT News (cont'd)

Permanent Telehealth After Public Health Emergency

- Multiple conversations within Congress
- NCART position paper requesting Congress "make permanent" current COVID-19 CRT telehealth flexibilities for individuals with disabilities
- Coordinating our work with broader work of APTA, AOTA, and ASHA
- Take action- go to www.protectmymobility.org for info and to email your Members of Congress

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CRT News (cont'd)

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

- Broad federal and state implications when Public Health Emergency (PHE) expires
- Major concerns at state level due to end of certain Medicaid waivers and related funding
- Currently extended through July 15, 2022
- Varied predictions when declaration will end
- HHS Secretary Becerra has said he will give stakeholders at least 60 days advance notice prior to expiration

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CRT News (cont'd)

National CRT Awareness Week

- Will take place August 15 to 19, 2022
- Annual event to allow all CRT stakeholders to help increase awareness of what CRT is all about
- People, process, benefits, access issues
- Over 100 organizations participated in 2021; looking to have even more engage this year
- Stay tune for ideas and suggestions; be creative
- More details to follow

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2022 Virtual CRT Congressional Fly-In

- Wednesday September 14 from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET
- Annual event that keeps Congress tuned in to CRT needs
- No registration fee
- More details coming soon. For now, save the date and plan to join us for a day of virtual advocacy!



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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Inspector General

Search Submit a Complaint

About OIG Reports Fraud Compliance Exclusions Newsroom Careers COVID-19 Portal

Some Medicare Advantage Organization Denials of Prior Authorization Requests Raise Concerns About Beneficiary Access to Medically Necessary Care

04-27-2022 | OEI-09-18-00260 | [Complete Report](#)

WHY WE DID THIS STUDY

A central concern about the capitated payment model used in Medicare Advantage is the potential incentive for Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs) to deny beneficiary access to services and deny payments to providers in an attempt to increase profits. Although MAOs approve the vast majority of requests for services and payment, they issue millions of denials each year, and CMS

<https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/OEI-09-18-00260.asp>

Related Information



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OIG Report – MAO Restrict Beneficiary Access to Medically Necessary Services

- Random sample of 250 prior authorization denials and 250 payment denials issued by 15 of the largest MAOs during **June 1-7, 2019**
- Determined that MAOs **sometimes** delayed or denied Medicare Advantage beneficiaries' access to services, even though the requests met Medicare coverage rules
- Denied requests that meet Medicare coverage rules may prevent or delay beneficiaries from receiving medically necessary care and can burden providers
- Prior authorization requests that MAOs denied, 13 percent met Medicare coverage rules; in other words, these services likely would have been approved for these beneficiaries under original Medicare

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OIG Report (Cont'd)

OIG Recommend that CMS:

- Issue new guidance on the appropriate use of MAO clinical criteria in medical necessity reviews;
- Update its audit protocols to address the issues identified in this report, such as MAO use of clinical criteria and/or examining particular service types; and
- Direct MAOs to take additional steps to identify and address vulnerabilities that can lead to manual review errors and system errors

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OIG Report (Cont'd)

Assisting the Beneficiary:

- Attempt to work with the MA regarding the issue BUT if that doesn't work
- If the beneficiary has Medicaid they can change once per quarter
- If there is a different plan in their area that is a 5 star plans they can change anytime if there are documented issues of being denied services that are medically necessary
- Call Medicare and file a **formal complaint** with details 1-800-Medicare
- What was promised in the policy (the sales pitch)
- What was not provided and when (be specific)
- Indicate they feel they were deceived by the MA
- Request to change to Medicare FFS

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Clinician Task Force

- Recent member webinar by Jean and Michelle
- "Policy Analysis on Power Seat Elevation Systems" accepted by

Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

This publication and the "Policy Analysis on Power Standing Systems" will be used to advocate for Medicare coverage of these systems, but can also be used to advocate coverage to other funding sources.

Best part? Both are open access!

(link to them and/or download now!)

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Clinician Task Force

- Check out our new IG page!
- And, of course, follow us on



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NRRTS Is 30 --- Save The Date

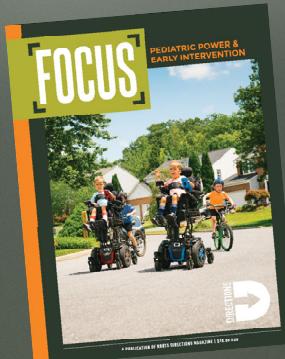
Save The Date: Wednesday, July 27



NRRTS
Annual Open Meeting & Birthday Bash

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FOCUS



48 Page Publication Dedicated to Pediatric Power and Early Intervention

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FOCUS

Articles by Leading Content Experts

6 FROM THE NRRTS OFFICE Introduction	30 LIFE ON WHEELS Power Mobility: The Key to My Successful Childhood
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FOCUS CEU Article

CLINICAL PERSPECTIVE - CEU ARTICLE

THE TIME IS NOW: SUPPORTING POWER MOBILITY USE IN YOUNG CHILDREN WHO HAVE MOBILITY LIMITATIONS

Written by LISA K. KENYON, PT, DPT, PhD, PCS



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FOCUS



Available Exclusively on NRRTS' Website

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Upcoming Webinars – May/June

NRRTS Live Webinars for May / June

REGISTER https://b.link/CH_LWeb

 Tuesday, May 17, 7PM ET The Seated Posture: How Can It Impact The Quality Of The Life Of The Elderly Population Ana Endsjo, MOTR/L, CLT	 Thursday, May 19, 7PM ET Alternative Funding Sources For Wheelchairs And Seating Systems Across Canada Rosalie Wang, PhD, OT Reg. (Ont)	 Wednesday, June 8, 7PM ET Supporting Respiratory Equipment on Mobility Bases Michelle Lange, OTR/L, ABDA, ATP/SMS Sponsored by Stealth Products	 Wednesday, June 15, 3PM ET Practicalities For Bridging The Gap: Prioritizing The Individual In A Dynamic World Alexandra Chesney, OTR, ATP/SMS
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Webinar - Tuesday, May 17

NRRTS CE ACCREDITED VACET PROVIDER

Live Webinar <https://b.link/NLWAE>

Tuesday 5/17, 7PM ET
The Seated Posture: How Can it Impact the Quality of Life of the Elderly Population?

Sponsored By **permobil**



Ana Endsjo
MOTR/L, CLT

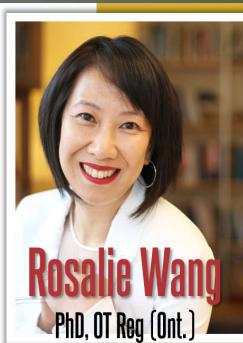
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Webinar – Thursday May 19

Live Webinar
<https://b.link/afrw>

Alternative Funding Sources for Wheelchairs & Seating Systems Across Canada

Thursday, May 19, 7PM ET



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Webinar – Wednesday June 8

Live Webinar

Wednesday, June 8, 7PM



Supporting Respiratory Equipment on Mobility Bases

MICHELLE L. LANGE, OTR/L, ABDA, ATP/SMS

Sponsored By **Stealth Products**

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Webinar – Wednesday June 15

NRRTS CE ACCREDITED IACET PROVIDED Live Webinar <https://b.link/BTGAC>

Wednesday, 6/15 3PM ET

Practicalities For Bridging The Gap: Prioritizing The Individual In A Dynamic World

Sponsored By 


Alexandra Chesney
OTR, ATP/SMS

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DIRECTIONS Clinical Editorial

 The Importance of a Team Approach During the Seating & Wheeled Mobility Evaluation
Read it On-Line in DIRECTIONS Magazine


Tabatha James
OTR/L, ATP, SMS

The seating and wheeled mobility team approach is a holistic and interdependent effort grounded in academic rigor, skill and compassion.

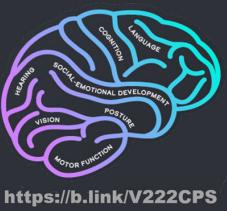
<https://b.link/V222CES>

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DIRECTIONS CEU Article

 **Clinical Perspective – CEU Article**
THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTING THE EQUIPMENT NEEDS OF PEDIATRIC CLIENTS WITH COMPLEX NEUROMOTOR DISORDERS


Melissa Tally
PT, MPT, ATP




Erin Pope
PT, MPT, ATP

<https://b.link/V222CPS>

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DIRECTIONS Canada

 **BLIND BIDDING IN CANADA** <https://b.link/V222DCS>

Within the CRT industry, a practice pervades in varying degrees across Canada which compromises the integrity of the supplier's business practices and one could argue, their integrity...

Steve Cranna
Director of New Business Development & Government Relations at VGM Group Services



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RESNA 2022 Virtual Conference

- July 13, 14, 15
- Earn over 3.0 IACET CEUs
- 24 educational sessions, 12 “buzz” sessions
- 3 Master Classes for Advanced Practitioners
- Seating and Mobility Track, including CRT
- Certification Town Hall
- Session recordings (and CE) available for 6 mos
- Save with Group Registration!
- Early bird ends May 23

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Also at Conference

- Plenary Sessions
- Coffee Chats every morning
- Poster Minute Madness
- Scientific Paper Platform Sessions
- Student Design Challenge
- Developer’s Showcase
- Awards Ceremony
- International Session To Be Announced

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Plenaries



Kevin Malta
Product Manager
WAYMO



Prof Tom
Shakespeare



Dr. Jan Pojgar
Colin McLaurin
Lecture

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Hope to See You There!



www.resna.org

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RESNA News

- Professional Standards Board is seeking volunteers to help with item writing and serve as subject matter experts
- Education Committee is seeking new members
- Board elections are happening now
- Strategic Market Research Study is in the field – deadline is May 16
- New Position Paper: AT Capacity in K-12 Schools
- Updated Wheelchair Service Provision Guide by end of the year

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Position Paper Working Groups

- Power Assist – Jennith Bernstein, PT, DPT, ATP/SMS
- Tilt/Recline Update – Jillian Stamatelos, MOTR/L, ATP/SMS
- 24/7 Posture Care Management – Tamara Kittelson, MS, OTR/L, ATP/SMS

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Webinar Wrap Up

- Thanks for your commitment to CRT access
- Tomorrow's email with handout/recording
- Let us know of suggested webinar topics

Next CRT Industry Webinar

Thursday June 30 at 4:00 PM ET

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