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## BONESOURCE ALERT

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June 2020 Issue

### NOF UPDATES

Throughout [National Osteoporosis Month](#), the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF) generated awareness and learning about the critical importance of good bone health and osteoporosis prevention.

During the month of May, NOF invited participants to join the [#10kStepsADayInMay](#) Challenge and commit to taking 10,000 steps each day during the month, with the goal of raising awareness about osteoporosis while providing a fun and inspirational way to get involved. Why 10k steps a day? It adds up to about five miles each day for most people, which includes about 30 minutes of daily exercise — satisfying the CDC's recommendation of [at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week](#). Each day, participants were asked to post a photo or screen shot of their "step counter" on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram showing completion of 10,000 steps and "tagging" NOF. Throughout the month, winners were randomly selected for prizes including fitness DVD's, NOF cookbooks and NOF branded tote bags! Congratulations to our winners and thank you to everyone who participated in the challenge!

NOF held a [webinar](#) on May 13th on [The Economic Impact of Osteoporotic Fractures](#). Last Fall, NOF released a

### BONE HEALTH RESOURCES

#### ECHO SESSIONS



#### NOF FLS Bone Health TeleECHO

Join us for the FLS Bone Health ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) project sessions that take place the second Thursday of each month, from 3-4pm Eastern. These one-hour Tele ECHO Clinic sessions offer case-based clinical discussions on a wide range of topics of interest. By participating, attendees will be able to receive free CME, connect with experts in the field, share case studies, and much more!

#### Upcoming FLS Bone Health ECHO sessions:

[Thursday, June 11, 2020 03:00 PM-4:00 PM Eastern Time](#)

Speaker: Dr. Doris Brown

Topic: Radiation Treatment and the Use of Anabolics

[Thursday, July 9, 2020 03:00 PM-4:00 PM Eastern Time](#)

report from the actuarial firm, Milliman, on the economic burden of osteoporosis fractures based on Medicare data. This webinar shares highlights from the report and discussed the policy agenda NOF has created based on the report findings. If you are interested in viewing the full Milliman report, [click here](#).

We are happy to announce the appointment of [Claire B. Gill as Chief Executive Officer for the National Osteoporosis Foundation \(NOF\)](#), effective May 15, 2020. Ms. Gill brings her wealth of knowledge and prior experience to advance the field of bone health while reenergizing and refocusing NOF. Please join us in congratulating Ms. Gill on her new role, as we move into the next decade of working toward NOF's mission of preventing osteoporosis and promoting awareness about bone health.

### **COVID-19 Updates and Resources**

#### [COVID-19 and Osteoporosis Treatment: Webinar for Healthcare Professionals](#)

The National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF) held two webinars that featured an expert panel that reviewed what new rules and legislation mean for clinicians caring for osteoporosis patients.

Due to the unprecedented healthcare crisis caused by the respiratory illness brought on by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), Congress and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have been releasing new resources and relaxing many rules to allow for flexibility in treating patients during this crisis period. This new information includes updates on telemedicine, reimbursement and delivery of treatment.

These webinars also called upon providers in all clinical settings to share how they have been adapting their practices during this crisis and what challenges they are encountering in their ability to provide the best patient care and

Speaker: Dr. Joseph Lane  
Topic: Stress Fractures

[Sign up here to join our email list](#) and receive information on FLS ECHO sessions as they are planned.

### **MNI Great Lake ECHO Managing Vertebral Compression Fractures: Adjacent Level Fracture-True or False?**

The Michigan Neurosurgical Institute (MNI) Great Lakes ECHO branch is one of the first ECHO providers in the state of Michigan. The Great Lakes ECHO brings better care to patients across the country using new methods made possible by modern technology.

Below are upcoming MNI Great Lakes ECHO sessions:

[Friday, June 5, 2020 at 12:00 PM-1:00PM](#)  
Eastern Time

Speaker: Dr. Avery M. Jackson III, MD

Managing Vertebral Compression Fractures A  
Clinical Care Pathway  
Topic: Adjacent Level Fracture: True or  
False?

To Register Email:  
[MNIGreatLakesEcho@gmail.com](mailto:MNIGreatLakesEcho@gmail.com)

## **BONE EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Osteoporosis Case Clinics**

In collaboration with the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and Haymarket Medical Education (HME), the following courses are intended for family physicians, endocrinologists, internists, obstetrician-gynecologists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants who manage the care of patients with or at risk for osteoporosis. Participants can earn AMA PRA Category 1 Credit at no cost!  
Register now to gain access to these courses:

keep their business intact.  
[Download the NOF COVID-19 fact sheet.](#)  
[Download the PDF presentation.](#)  
[Click here to watch the recording.](#)

[Joint Guidance on Osteoporosis Management in the Era of COVID-19 from the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research \(ASBMR\), American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists \(AACE\), Endocrine Society, European Calcified Tissue Society \(ECTS\) and National Osteoporosis Foundation \(NOF\)](#)

The current pandemic has required the implementation of social distancing strategies that have the potential to disrupt the medical care of patients with osteoporosis. We acknowledge that there is a paucity of data to provide clear guidance. The guidance has been created to assist clinicians in the management of patients with osteoporosis in the era of COVID-19.

[Click here to read the full document](#)

[FDA Temporarily Allows Self-injection or injection by lay caregiver of Prolia during COVID-19](#)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is temporarily allowing self-administration or injection by a caregiver of Prolia®, during the COVID-19 pandemic. While administration of Prolia® by a healthcare provider is preferred, the provider may determine that self-administration or administration by a caregiver may be warranted due to local COVID-19-related guidelines and restrictions based on your individual medication situation. Read the [FDA-approved Prescribing Information](#). Amgen has also released [instructions](#), [FAQS](#), and a [video demonstration of self-administration](#).

### **Professional Learning Center**

NOF is committed to supporting healthcare professionals and your continuing education needs.

[Case Clinic 1: Osteoporosis Risk Factors and Screening Protocols](#)

[Case Clinic 2: Initiating Osteoporosis Treatment and Shared Decision-Making](#)

[Case Clinic 3: Osteoporosis Treatment Follow-up and Adherence](#)

These activities are supported by educational funding provided by Amgen.

### **Own the Bone Symposium: Bone Health and Fragility Fractures**

The Own the Bone Symposium is going virtual for the first time ever! Due to unprecedented circumstances regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the originally scheduled symposium in Baltimore will instead be pivoted to a four-part interactive online format via Zoom. [Online Registration is open now!](#)

Friday, June 12, 2020  
9:00am - 11:00am EDT

Wednesday, June 24, 2020  
5:00pm-7:00pm EDT

Wednesday, July 8, 2020  
5:00pm-7:00pm EDT

Wednesday, July 15, 2020  
8:30pm EDT - 10:00pm EDT

This certificate program, jointly provided by The American Orthopaedic Association (AOA) and the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses (NAON), will underscore the knowledge necessary to establish and run an orthopaedic bone health program.

### **Young Investigator Initiative (YII) Grant Mentoring and Career Development Program**

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ROUND OF APPLICATIONS: JULY 15, 2020  
Fall Workshop – October 23-25, 2020

Sixty-one percent (61%) of participants of the Young Investigator Initiative (YII) have been awarded more than \$500 million in grants

NOF provides a variety of continuing medical education programs for professionals. The [Professional Learning Center](#) offers a single place for you to participate in bone health education programs as well as track your participation to meet your licensure and professional requirements.

BoneSource™, NOF's professional program, promotes excellence in clinical care for all healthcare professionals involved in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis. Through the BoneSource™ website, we offer a variety of programs, tools and resources to meet the unique needs of healthcare professionals who provide care to individuals at risk of or who have osteoporosis and associated fractures.

Visit the [Professional Learning Center](#) to learn more and participate in sessions.

## ADVOCACY UPDATE



### **National Bone Health Policy Institute**

NOF's [Bone Health Policy Institute](#) has been moving forward on action steps after the release of our Economic and Human Impact of Osteoporosis report commissioned by NOF and conducted by the actuarial firm, Milliman. March through May, we've continued discussions with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) including the Center for Clinical Standards and Quality (CCSQ) and (Merit-Based Incentive Payment) MIPS teams. Our discussions have included the FLS care pathway and providing FLS research studies for reference and determining what the best plan is to

since entering the program. The YII is now open for the next round of applications from young investigators who seek funding to undertake research studies on musculoskeletal health questions and pursue a career in research. The YII provides early-career investigators an opportunity to work with experienced researchers in our field to assist them in securing funding and other survival skills required for pursuing an academic career.

Participants consider this program instrumental to their success. They rate highly the one-on-one mentoring with experienced researchers, the opportunity for interdisciplinary and peer-to-peer exchange, and collaborations established during workshops.

YII is open to promising junior faculty, senior fellows or post-doctoral researchers nominated by their department or division chairs seeking to pursue a career in clinical or basic research. It is also open to senior fellows or residents that are doing research and have a faculty appointment in place or confirmed. Basic and clinical investigators, without or with training awards, are invited to apply. Investigators selected to take part in the program attend two workshops, 12-18 months apart, and work with faculty between workshops to develop their grant applications. The unique aspect of this program is the opportunity for attendees to maintain a relationship with mentors until their application is funded.

Apply:  
<https://www.usbj.org/programs/yii/application-information>

The United States Bone and Joint Initiative (USBJI) and Bone and Joint Canada, which jointly offer the program, are dedicated to increasing research of musculoskeletal diseases. To keep pace with the high and increasing burden of these diseases, a higher level of research in the musculoskeletal diseases is required. Thus, the number of young investigators skilled in the development of highly competitive grant proposals must be increased. This is particularly important given the current

provide quality measures / reimbursement for osteoporosis care.

The NOF Team has worked with our experts to build COVID-19 surveys to collect information from providers and patients about how the pandemic has affected care. These results have been assisting us provide comments to CMS and Members of Congress with about how the new rules and relaxing of some restrictions are impacting patients. Thank you to everyone who has participated in these surveys!

## SUPPORT NOF

Critical to NOF's ability to successfully carry out its mission is the need for fundraising support from individual donors and family foundations. NOF depends on the generosity of individuals across the country to educate the public and health professionals on ways to prevent, diagnose and treat osteoporosis.

In 2020, NOF will undertake greater efforts to share the impact of the organization and the need for funding to reach more of the 54 million Americans currently suffering from osteoporosis and low bone mass and to prevent the 2 million debilitating fractures that happen to patients each year in the U.S.

For over 35 years, NOF has been the primary resource for patients and caregivers about bone health and osteoporosis. Our online community has grown to more than 50,000 members in the past decade, clearly demonstrating the increased need for people to connect and support one another through their osteoporosis journey.

Generosity comes in many forms, and it's often the best way for you to support important causes that matter the most to you in your life. When you give to National

environment for research funding, and academic careers.

## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

### FLS Coding Guide

NOF's Fracture Liaison Service (FLS) Coding Guide provides details on currently available quality and value-based codes to help offset costs for FLS implementation in various settings. This is a general guide offering a broad overview to help get you started. Please refer to your individual institution for more details. Proper coding is vitally important as reimbursement for services can vary on the state and/or specialty as the type of provider who bills for and performs the service. In order to ensure that you are being fully reimbursed and remain in compliance with payer requirements, we recommend that you discuss the codes that are the best fit for your FLS with your FLS billing specialist.

[Download the 2020 FLS Coding Guide](#)

### Vertebral Compression Fracture Bundle 2019-2021

Thanks to support received from Medtronic, NOF's Professional Learning Center contains the Vertebral Compression Fracture Bundle 2019-2021. [This bundle](#) includes informative activities on the identifying, understanding, management of vertebral fractures.

## NOF MEMBERSHIP



NOF members are at the forefront of patient care and the first to receive breaking news, research updates, practice tools, patient education materials, and notification of public comment opportunities related to important

Osteoporosis Foundation, you help us make a difference.

If fundraising is an interest or skill you have and you would like to find out more about how you can help NOF with this important process, please contact our CEO, Claire Gill, at [claire.gill@nof.org](mailto:claire.gill@nof.org).

government initiatives. Membership in NOF will help build your practice, keep your team informed, provide CME credits, and allow you access to key osteoporosis experts.

For more information on professional membership, please [click here](#).

The National Osteoporosis Foundation is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians and accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

### Contact

[Membership@nof.org](mailto:Membership@nof.org)

## JOIN NOF

### Contact

[Education@nof.org](mailto:Education@nof.org)



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