Pursuant to Labor Code section 5307.1(g)(2), the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers’ Compensation orders that Title 8, California Code of Regulations, sections 9789.30 through 9789.39, pertaining to Hospital Outpatient Departments and Ambulatory Surgical Centers Fee Schedule in the Official Medical Fee Schedule, are adjusted to conform to CMS’ hospital outpatient prospective payment system (HOPPS) final rule of November 21, 2018 and correction of December 28, 2018, to the final rule; and the wage index values in CMS’ hospital inpatient prospective payment system (IPPS) final rule of August 17, 2018, and correction notice of October 3, 2018, to the IPPS final rule; and certain codes used, in part, to define surgical codes, in CMS’ Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems final rule of November 21, 2018 and correction of December 28, 2018, to the final rule.

For services rendered on or after February 15, 2019, section 9789.30, subdivisions (a) adjusted conversion factor, (f) APC payment rate, (g) APC relative weight, (s) labor-related share, (t) market basket inflation factor, and (aa) wage index, are adjusted to conform to the CMS’ HOPPS CY 2019 final rule and correction to the final rule, and the wage index values in the CMS’ IPPS FY 2019 final rule and correction to the IPPS final rule. The adjustments to these subdivisions are specified in section 9789.39 by date of service.

For services rendered on or after February 15, 2019, section 9789.31, subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (e), (f), and (g) are amended to incorporate by reference selected addenda, certain parts of selected addenda, tables, payment rules, and data files of the updated calendar year 2019 version of CMS’ HOPPS and ASC and the updated fiscal year 2019 version of CMS’ IPPS. The adjustments to these subdivisions are specified in section 9789.39 by date of service. Subdivision (h) is adjusted to incorporate by reference the 2019 revision of the American Medical Associations’ Physician “Current Procedural Terminology;” and subdivision (i) is adjusted to incorporate by reference the 2019 revision of CMS’ Alphanumeric “Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System.”

Section 9789.32 is adjusted to conform to updated surgical procedures payable under CMS’ 2019 CY HOPPS.
Section 9789.33 is adjusted to conform to CMS’ CY 2019 HOPPS final rule. For services rendered on or after February 15, 2019, see Section 9789.39 for the APC relative weight and APC payment rate by date of service.

Amended section 9789.34 reflects the changes to the wage index value by county and an updated conversion factor. Amended section 9789.35 reflects the changes to the hospital-specific wage index and an updated conversion factor for the listed California Hospital Outpatient Departments. An explanation of the changes is attached.

Subdivision (a) of section 9789.39 specifies the sections of 42 C.F.R. part 419 that are added or amended and incorporated by reference by date of service. Subdivision (b) of section 9789.39 is amended to conform to the CMS’ CY 2019 update to the HOPPS; wage index values published in the CMS’ FY 2019 update to the IPPS; and certain codes used, in part, to define surgical codes, in CMS’ CY 2019 update to the ASC payment system.

The effective date of the new rates is for visits and procedures described in section 9789.32 rendered on or after February 15, 2019. This Order, sections 9789.30 through 9789.39, and the explanation of the changes shall be published on the website for the Division of Workers’ Compensation: http://www.dir.ca.gov/DWC/OMFS9904.htm

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: January 10, 2019

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

GEORGE P. PARISOTTO
Administrative Director of the
Division of Workers’ Compensation