Pursuant to Labor Code section 5307.1(g)(1), the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers’ Compensation orders that Title 8, California Code of Regulations, sections 9789.19 and 9789.19.1, pertaining to the Physician and Non-Physician Practitioner Services Fee Schedule portion of the Official Medical Fee Schedule, are adjusted to conform to relevant changes in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule final rule, published in the Federal Register (Vol. 83 FR 59452), November 23, 2018 titled, “Medicare Program; Revisions to Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Revisions to Part B for CY 2019; Medicare Shared Savings Program Requirements; Quality Payment Program; Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program; Quality Payment Program—Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstance Policy for the 2019 MIPS Payment Year; Provisions From the Medicare Shared Savings Program—Accountable Care Organizations—Pathways to Success; and Expanding the Use of Telehealth Services for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder Under the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention That Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) for Patients and Communities Act” (CMS-1693-F). The changes made by this order are effective for services rendered on or after January 1, 2019.

Section 9789.19 is amended to add a new subdivision (f) to the “Update Table” to adopt relevant changes contained in the CMS’ CY 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule final rule.

Section 9789.19.1 is amended to reflect changes to the adjusted anesthesia conversion factor by GPCI locality and anesthesia shares.

An explanation of the changes is attached to this Order. The effective date of the new rates is for physician services and non-physician practitioner services rendered on or after January 1, 2019. This Order and the explanation of the changes, the regulations, Medically Unlikely Edits file excerpt, and the National Correct Coding Initiative Policy Manual shall be published on the website of the Division of Workers’ Compensation: http://www.dir.ca.gov/DWC/OMFS9904.htm

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: December 4, 2018

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