Pursuant to Labor Code section 5307.1(g)(1),(2), 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 corrections made by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on January 22, 2020, to the 2020 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. CMS has adopted a revised Addendum E to the 2020 Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule and a revised Relative Value Unit zip file, RVU20A (Updated 01/22/2020), correcting the Geographic Practice Cost Index (GPCI) initially adopted by CMS. The Medicare correction is effective January 1, 2020.

The 2020 Physician and Non-Physician Fee Schedule update was adopted by Administrative Director Order dated December 10, 2019, based upon the CMS’ Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule, published in the Federal Register (Vol. 84 FR 62568), November 15, 2019 titled, “Medicare Program; CY 2020 Revisions to Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Changes to Part B Payment Policies; Medicare Shared Savings Program Requirements; Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Program Requirements for Eligible Professionals; Establishment of an Ambulance Data Collection System; Updates to the Quality Payment Program; Medicare Enrollment of Opioid Treatment Programs and Enhancements to Provider Enrollment Regulations Concerning Improper Prescribing and Patient Harm; and Amendments to Physician Self-Referral Law Advisory Opinion Regulations Final Rule; and Coding and Payment for Evaluation and Management, Observation and Provision of Self-Administered Esketamine Interim Final Rule” (CMS-1715-F and IFC). On January 22, 2020, CMS issued updated documents to make corrections to the GPCIs, effective January 1, 2020. This Order adopts amendments to conform to the GPCI corrections.

Title 8, California Code of Regulations section 9789.19 and 9789.19.1 are amended as set forth in strikethrough and underline on the text of regulation adopted by this Order. Section 9789.19 is amended to change the references in the subdivision (g), from “RVU20A” to “RVU20A (Updated 01-22-2020)” in order to conform to the Geographic Practice Cost Index corrections adopted by CMS.
Section 9789.19.1 is amended to reflect changes to the adjusted anesthesia conversion factor by GPCI locality and anesthesia shares. The Table A 2020 RVU20A Updated 01-22-2020 is adopted and incorporated by reference into section 9789.19.1.

An explanation of the changes is attached and incorporated into this Order. The amendments adopted by this order, which conform to Medicare corrections, are effective for physician services and non-physician practitioner services rendered on or after January 1, 2020. This Order and the explanation of the changes, the regulations, and the Medically Unlikely Edits file excerpt 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: January 27, 2020

/S/ George Parisotto
GEORGE P. PARISOTTO
Administrative Director of the
Division of Workers’ Compensation