Whereas, Negative payment decisions have and are being made related to the use of high molecular weight hyaluronic acid (HMWHA) based partially upon the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeon’s (AAOS) Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) and Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) on knee osteoarthritis published in 2013; and

Whereas, The AAOS Clinical Practice Guidelines recommended that payment decisions should not be based upon its opinion for the usage of hyaluronic acid; and

Whereas, Conclusions drawn from recent reviews of studies indicate one of the most efficacious treatment modalities for knee osteoarthritis is hyaluronic acid; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate for reimbursement and national coverage for high molecular weight hyaluronic acid intraarticular injections as appropriate care and treatment for patients with mild to moderate osteoarthritis of the knee. (New HOD Policy)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

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\(^1\) 2013 AAOS Clinical Practice Guidelines: TREATMENT OF OSTEOARTHRITIS OF THE KNEE

\(^2\) AANA Nov. 13, 2017 letter to Anthem Re: Evidence supporting the value of high molecular weight hyaluronic acid for the care and treatment for patients with mild to moderate osteoarthritis of the knee.