



AMERICAN COLLEGE of PERIOPERATIVE MEDICINE

THE COMPETITIVE EDGE
Insight. Innovation. Outcomes.

Editor's Brief for March 2026

If you've been tracking the latest CMS updates for 2026, you know the landscape is changing. Bundles like TEAM and the ASM are now inclusive of other specialties beyond orthopedics and have expanded to include 25% of all U.S. hospitals. Even more telling is that the ASM model holds the physicians (and not the hospitals) accountable and that the ACCESS model finally starts to put real dollars behind the long-term, tech-enabled management of chronic conditions like MSK pain. For years, we've worked in silos where the hospital, the physicians, and the post-acute team each had different goals. Now, CMS is providing the framework for us to act as one and use models such as gain sharing.

You'll notice a new ACPM newsletter format designed to bring together policy, implementation, and practical insight across MSK and perioperative care.

At a Glance: The 2026 - 2027 CMS Rollout

Model	Status	Target	Key Focus
TEAM	LIVE (Jan 2026)	Hospitals (Mandatory)	Surgical Bundles (Bowel, Cardiac, Ortho, Spine)
ACCESS	Coming July 2026	Part B Providers	Tech-enabled Chronic Care (Pain, HTN, Diabetes)
ASMACCESS	Jan 2027	Specialists (Mandatory)	Outpatient Specialty Care (Heart Failure, Back Pain)



CMS MODELS CORNER

Understanding what CMS policy means for hospitals right now

Mandatory means operational now

Episode accountability is expanding beyond joint replacement to include *cardiac and other surgical episodes*. For health systems, this means no longer monitoring reform from a *distance*.

It is about building the governance, workflows, and accountability structure needed to manage episodes across the full surgical continuum.

WHAT HOSPITALS SHOULD BE DOING

- Clarifying leadership for episodes across perioperative and finance
- Defining dashboards for episode cost, complications, and post-acute outcomes
- Mapping discharge, post-acute, and follow-up care pathways
- **Nurses/care teams:** managing transitions across surgical episodes



OVBC IMPLEMENTATION SPOTLIGHT

Suspected DVT to receive same-day outpatient ultrasound imaging

Mandy McKay, Spine + Joint Institute
Program Coordinator / **Bozeman Health**

● **What was implemented:**

We launched a program pathway enabling post-operative elective hip and joint patients with suspected DVT to receive same-day outpatient ultrasound imaging rather than using the Emergency Department, improving timely imaging and reducing overall cost..

● **Send us Your Initiative:**

Share with everyone what you have done in your organization: newsletter@acpm.new

● **One metric that moved**

- Overall 30-Day Return to ED rate decreased from 8.7% (April-September 2025) to 6.8% (October 2025-January 2026).
- 30-Day ED Return DVT rule out
 - Pre-implementation: 14 unique visits
 - Post-implementation: 4 unique visits

● **One barrier encountered**

Outpatient radiology department only open during business hours on weekdays.



FEATURED INSIGHT

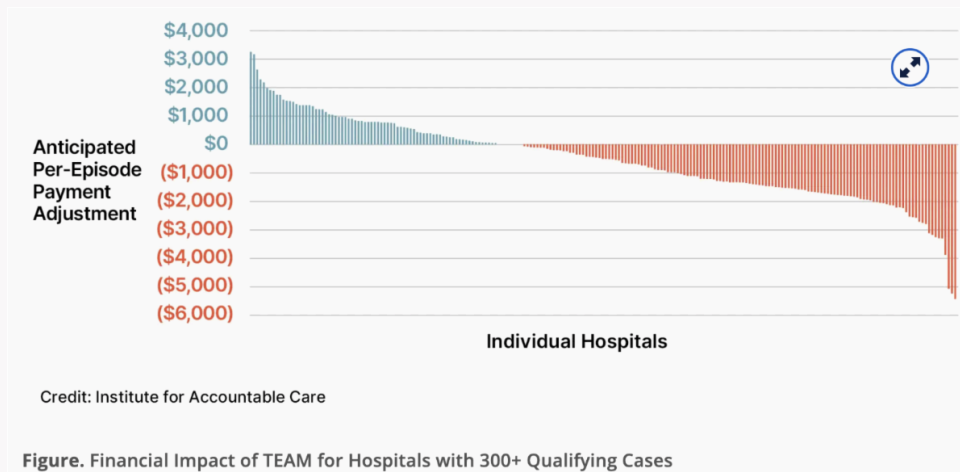
New TEAM Payment Model Brings Opportunities, Challenges for Surgeons and Hospitals

Geoffrey Hobika, MD, Matthew Coffron, MA, Macrae Kozody, Jennifer Perloff, MPA, PhD, and Clifford Y. Ko, MD, MS, MSHS, FACS

January 8, 2025

This guide details how the mandatory TEAM model uses gainsharing to align hospital and surgeon incentives. It explains how to legally share savings with the clinicians driving value across the five mandated surgical episodes—turning perioperative optimization into a shared financial reward for the entire team.

[READ HERE](#)



FROM THE OVBC STAGE

This week, we are pleased to highlight a panel session on *CMS THA/TKA PRO-PM* given by **Dr. Bryan D. Springer**, the Chair for the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Mayo Clinic Florida. He is the Immediate Past Chair for the American Joint Replacement Registry (AJRR) and was the 2022 President of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons (AAHKS).

CMS THA/TKA PRO-PM



Bryan D. Springer, MD

Chair
Department of Orthopedic Surgery
Mayo Clinic Florida

OVBC 2025

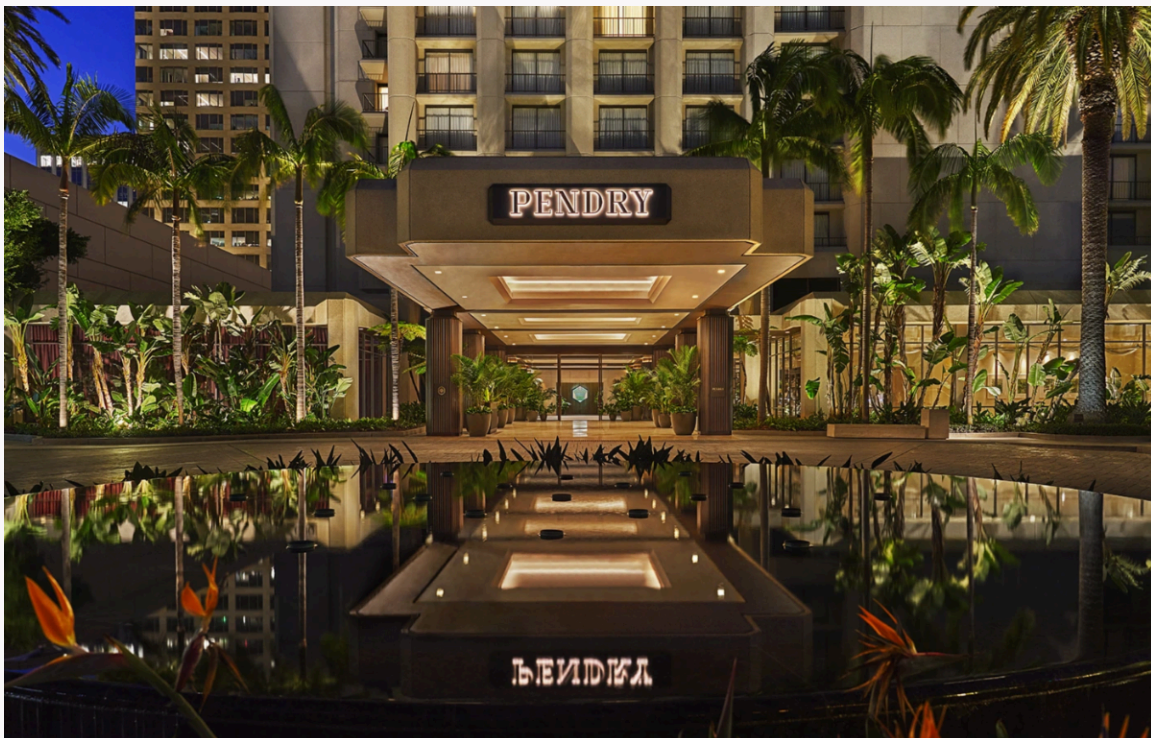
9th ANNUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE
ON ORTHOPEDIC VALUE-BASED CARE

[WATCH NOW](#)



OVBC 2027 UPDATE

OVBC 2027 will take place **April 2–3, 2027** at the 5-star Pendry Newport Beach where contemporary elegance meets California coastal luxury. Reduced block rates will be available when registration opens in June 2026 join us for exceptional dining, oceanside ambiance, and a world-class setting steps from the Pacific Ocean!



[SIGN UP FOR MORE DETAILS](#)

HOST YOUR WEBINAR / JOURNAL CLUB WITH US

Reach out to us for more details on how you can host your personalized webinar or journal club with the American College of Perioperative Medicine audience.

[EMAIL FOR MORE DETAILS](#)

Follow Us on



American College of Perioperative Medicine | [Contact Us](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

American College of Perioperative Medicine | 3334 E. Coast Hwy. #201 | Corona del Mar, CA 92625 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!