

The Sky Is Still Intact

BY BARRY H. BLOCK, DPM, JD

In the nearly four decades that *Podiatry Management* has published, there have been many predictions by podiatric pessimists that our medical specialty was doomed. In recent times, it has been the residency crisis, the student enrollment crisis, and just this summer, it was CMS' onerous proposal to segregate podiatry by creating separate E/M codes for us.

Fortunately, we are a resilient profession that mobilized to combat this latest significant threat to our very existence. Led by the APMA with the assistance of our colleges and other organizations, we successfully fought back and won. We would like to single out the particular efforts of the New York Podiatric Medical Association and its president Paul Liswood, DPM for wisely investing its resources to hire a prestigious law firm and to meet directly with CMS. We would also like to thank the thousands of individual podiatrists who took the time to write directly to CMS and to encourage their patients to follow suit.

This, undoubtedly, will not be the last challenge to face our profession. The lesson learned is that it takes a team effort to overcome obstacles. We are a small medical specialty which can only survive by having a large percentage of practitioners as members of APMA. DPMs should consider dues as a tax-deductible investment in your future.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dedicated to Practice Growth and Prosperity Since 1982

Volume 38, Number 1

Publisher	Scott C. Borowsky 610-645-6950
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Periodicals postage paid at Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 and additional entry.

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