

# Background and Overview: Ambulatory Surgery Center Survey on Patient Safety Culture

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### Background on the Ambulatory Surgery Center Survey



- Latest addition to Surveys on Patient Safety Culture family of surveys:
  - Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture
  - Nursing Home Survey on Patient Safety Culture
  - Medical Office Survey on Patient Safety Culture
  - Community Pharmacy Survey on Patient Safety Culture
- Surveys and related material available at:

http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patientsafety/patientsafetyculture/index.html

## **Current state of ASCs**



- More than 25 million procedures are performed in ASCs each year (2014)
- Nearly two-thirds of US surgeries are performed in ambulatory facilities (2015)

(2014). AHRQ Safety Program for Ambulatory Surgery. December 2014. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD. http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/hais/tools/ambulatory-surgery/index.html

(2015). American Hospital Association. Utilization and volume. In: Trends Affecting Hospitals and Health Systems, chapter 3. http://www.aha.org/research/reports/tw/chartbook/index.shtml. Accessed July 18, 2015.

## **Overview of ASCs**



- The majority of ASCs are:
  - Single-specialty (65%) (2009)
  - Partially or completely physician owned (74%-90%) (2015)
- A growing number of ASCs are:
  - Owned or managed by multifacility chains (22%) (2011)

(2009) Koenig L, Doherty J, Dreyfus J, et al. An analysis of recent growth of ambulatory surgery centers. In: KNG Health Consulting, LLC. ASC Coalition.

(2015) Medicare Payment Advisory Commission. Ambulatory Surgical Center Services. Report to the Congress: Medicare Payment Policy.

(2011) Koonsman, G, O'Sullivan, J, Murski A, et al. Ambulatory surgery center financial & operational benchmarking study. Dallas, TX: VMG Health.

## **Patient Safety in ASCs**



- On average, preventable patient safety events in ASCs are low (≈ less than 1 per 1,000 admissions) (2015)
- However, there is significant variability across outpatient surgery facilities in the rates of (2015):
  - > 30-day venous thromboembolism (0-3.4%)
  - > 30-day admission rates (0-7.7%)
  - > 30-day emergency department visits (0-22.8%)

(2015). ASC Quality Collaboration Quality Report: 1st Quarter 2015. Accessed at http://www.ascquality.org/qualityreport.cfm.
(2015). Parina R, Chang D, Saad AN, Coe T, Gosman AA. Quality and safety outcomes of ambulatory plastic surgery facilities in California. Plast Reconstr Surg. Mar;135(3):791-7. doi: 10.1097/PRS.000000000001041.

### AHRQ Safety Program for Ambulatory Surgery



- 4-year project developed to apply principles of the Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP) in ASCs
- Goal: implement a surgical safety checklist-centered quality improvement intervention to reduce surgical site infections (SSIs) and other major complications related to ambulatory surgery while improving teamwork and communication

