Overview of Outpatient Care Settings and Ambulatory Surgery Centers

Agency for Health Care Administration
Molly McKinstry, Deputy Secretary
Health Quality Assurance

Surgical Settings

- Ambulatory Surgery Centers
- Hospital Inpatient Setting
  - Outpatient Under the Hospital License
- Physician Office Surgery Registration

Ambulatory Surgical Centers

[Florida Statutes ss.395.002(3)]

- Primary purpose is to provide elective surgical care.
- The patient is admitted to and discharged from the facility within the same working day.
- Overnight stays are not permitted.
- Licensed separately from a hospital.
- An ambulatory surgical center does not include an office maintained by a physician for the practice of medicine.

Ambulatory Surgical Centers

[State Procedures Allowed]

- No specific list of procedures in state regulation
- Governing board determines policies and activities of the Center
- Organized medical staff review and approve policies and activities of all departments
- Anesthesia policies and procedures must be developed by the anesthesia service, approved by the medical staff and the governing board, and reviewed annually

Ambulatory Surgical Centers

[Federal Regulation – 42 CFR §416.2]

- Federal regulations apply for Medicare participation
- State licensure required
- ASC is a distinct entity
- Operates exclusively for the provision of surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization, not to exceed 24 hours including pre- and post-operative
- Complies with Federal Conditions for Coverage
- Limitations apply to all of the ASC surgical services, not just to surgeries for Medicare beneficiaries

Ambulatory Surgical Centers

[Federal Procedures Allowed]

- ASC List of Covered Surgical Procedures
  - Addendum AA of the hospital outpatient prospective payment system.
  - http://cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/ASCPayment/index.html
- §416.42(a)(1) A physician must examine the patient immediately before surgery to evaluate the risk of anesthesia and of the procedure to be performed.

Ambulatory Surgical Centers Regulatory Criteria

- Overall Operations
- Surgical, Anesthesia, Nursing Services
- Appropriate Medical Record Maintenance
- Quality Assurance
- Risk Management and Adverse Incident Reporting
- Recovery and Discharge
- Infection Control
- Construction Standards

Ambulatory Surgical Centers Surveys

- Annual state licensure inspections are conducted at all non-accredited ASCs
- Accrediting organization survey reports are provided to the Agency
- State validation inspections are conducted annually on 5% of accredited ASCs to determine ongoing compliance with state licensure regulations
- Federal validation and re-certification surveys for those facilities that are Medicare certified
- Complaint Investigations (both state and federal)

Ambulatory Surgical Centers

- 429 licensed ASCs in Florida (As of August, 2015)
- 411 ASCs are Medicare and/or Medicaid certified
- 379 ASCs are accredited by a national accrediting organization
  - Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (296)
  - The Joint Commission (82)
  - The American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities (1)

Ambulatory Surgical Centers Reporting Requirements

- Patient data is submitted quarterly
- ASCs with fewer than 200 visits per quarter may request a quarterly exemption
- Collected by Agency's Florida Center
- Publish data through FloridaHealthFinder.gov

Florida Surgical Data
(Calendar 2014)

- 4,393,310 outpatient surgical procedures
  - 2,404,537 in licensed ASCs
  - 1,988,782 in hospital-based outpatient locations
  - Digestive system most common
    - One-third (1,502,781)
    - Includes endoscopy and colonoscopy
- 664,232 hospital inpatient surgical procedures
- Excludes physician office surgery

Top 5 CPT Surgical Code Categories Reported - 2014

Rank	Description	Freestanding ASCs	Hospital Based ASCs
1	Digestive System *(Includes colonoscopy and endoscopy procedures)*	960,700	542,081
2	Nervous System *(Includes steroidal & anesthetic spinal injections)*	451,446	123,877
3	Musculoskeletal System *(Includes a wide range of orthopedic surgery and arthroscopy)*	282,682	236,380
4	Eye and Ocular Adnexa *(Includes cataract removal)*	401,816	66,507
5	Integumentary System *(Includes plastic surgery and other procedures involving the skin and breast)*	111,780	243,302

Top 5 Major Diagnostic Category (MDC) Surgical Code Categories Inpatient - 2014

Rank	Description	Count
1	Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue	180,762
2	Circulatory System	110,971
3	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Puerperium	86,711
4	Digestive System	67,341
5	Hepatobiliary System and Pancreas	32,267

Total Discharges, 2014 – 2,741,984
(2,075,084 discharges had no procedure performed)

Physician Office Surgery Registration

- Physicians must register with Department of Health
- DOH inspects certain office surgery settings unless accredited
- Board of Medicine sets Standard of Care for Office Surgery
  - Anesthesia monitoring
  - Education
  - Scope of office surgery

Emergency / Urgent Care

- Hospital-based emergency departments
  - Hospital emergency departments (243)
    (86 hospitals do not have emergency departments)
  - Off-site emergency departments (22)
- Urgent care centers are not specifically defined
- Providers of urgent care may include
  - Physician offices
  - Health care clinics (1,812)
  - Health maintenance organization offering services (2)

Hospital Emergency Departments

- Operate under hospital license
- Emergency access - EMTALA
- Treat emergent medical conditions
- Specific services must be available
- Patient arrive by ambulance
- 24/7 operation with on-call specialists

Notice of Charge for Services

- Hospital licensure requires good faith estimate of charges upon request for nonemergency medical services upon written request.

- 2011 legislation requires urgent care centers publish and post a schedule of charges for medical services offered to patients.

Posting of Charges
Urgent Care Centers

- An offsite emergency department of a hospital that is presented to the general public in any manner as a department where immediate and not only emergent medical care is provided
- An offsite facility of a hospital or a joint venture between a hospital and a provider licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, that does not require a patient to make an appointment and is presented to the general public in any manner as a facility where immediate but not emergent medical care is provided
- A health care that maintains three or more locations using the same or a similar name, does not require a patient to make an appointment, and holds itself out to the general public in any manner as a facility or clinic where immediate but not emergent medical care is provided.

Posting of Charges
Urgent Care Centers Conditions

- Layperson description
- Prices for uninsured persons
- Conspicuously posted in reception area
- 50 most frequently provided services
- Size requirements for poster
- Fines for failure to comply