

American Association of



Ambulatory Surgery Centers

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December 6, 2005

Bob Pokras

Chief, Health Care Statistics Branch
National Center for Health Statistics, CDC

Dear Mr. Pokras:

We understand that the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is conducting the National Survey of Ambulatory Surgery (NSAS) in 2006.

The American Association of Ambulatory Surgery Centers is the national association dedicated to advancing high quality, physician led and patient centered care in ambulatory surgery centers ("ASCs"). Information from the NSAS and the NHDS will be used by hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, federal and state governments, researchers in public health and health services researchers, medical product manufacturers and others such as the news media. We recognize the need for national data on ambulatory surgery and are delighted to participate.

We support the Agency's effort and will encourage the nation's ASCs to participate in the NSAS to ensure a high response rate and improve the quality of data from the survey. Please let us know how we can be of assistance. Should you have any questions, please contact our Executive Director, Craig Jeffries, at 423.915.1001.

Sincerely,

John Duggan, MD
President