

December 10, 2005

Dear Colleagues:

The National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is conducting the National Survey of Ambulatory Surgery (NSAS) in 2006. This important national survey was last conducted in 1994-96. Along with data from NCHS's National Hospital Discharge Survey, the NSAS will provide a more complete picture of surgical care in the United States.

The Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia recognizes the need for national data on ambulatory surgery and encourages you to participate. Information from the NSAS and the NHDS will be used by hospitals, freestanding 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.

By participating in the NSAS you will ensure a higher response rate and improve the quality of data from the survey.

Sincerely,



Lucinda L. Everett, M.D.
President