



SCASCA

SOUTH CAROLINA AMBULATORY
SURGERY CENTER ASSOCIATION

A publication of the South Carolina Ambulatory Surgery Center Association

Summer 2019

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Upcoming Events

Membership Meeting

August 15-16, 2019

This meeting will be held in coordination with the GSASC/SCASCA Joint Semi-Annual Conference and Trade Show.

Sponsored by:



Save-the-date!

Membership Meeting

October 8, 2019

Columbia

Guest Speaker:

President's Letter

Dear SCASCA Members,

First of all, thank you to our members who attended our quarterly membership meeting and luncheon on April 9th at Lexington Surgery Center-Irmo in Greensboro. Thank you to Derrick Jones, Investigator IV/Marshall, with the Department of Health and Environmental Control, who gave an informative presentation on "Life Safety Surveys in ASCs". Thank you to ImageFirst and Bankers Healthcare Group for sponsoring our meeting.

The August joint semi-annual conference in Savannah is quickly approaching. It is a wonderful summer-themed event filled with education and sunshine. This fall will also bring opportunities for education and networking starting with the SCASCA Infection Control Seminar, which is designed for ASC staff to further their knowledge and earn valuable CE contact hours. More details will be provided soon!

We are also working diligently on a benchmarking survey to send to SCASCA members. Please be on the lookout for an email to complete the survey!

Frances Faulkner, Lexington Medical Center

Board of Directors Elections to be held this fall

SCASCA Members will receive a Call for

Ann Geier, SIS

*Orientation & Competencies: Managing
the Fundamentals*

Sponsored by:



Welcome New Members!

Center for Advanced Surgery
Ladsden

Thank You Vendor Members!



**Check out the SCASCA Job
Board and post your job
openings!**

Nominations later this summer (self-nominations only) for candidates with leadership and management experience to serve on the Board of Directors.

Members of the Board provide leadership, a shared vision and sense of mission, and are responsible for the fiscal health of our association. We are looking for leaders with:

- proven performance and commitment to SCASCA
- time and ability to serve
- understanding of team work
- sound judgment and integrity
- enthusiasm and the ability to be a strategic, visionary thinker.

Board members play a crucial role in the guidance of SCASCA policy and leadership of the ASC industry in South Carolina. SCASCA is poised to be a leader in the healthcare debate and needs passionate individuals to work together to protect the interests of all South Carolina ASCs.

Q&A: Informed Consent

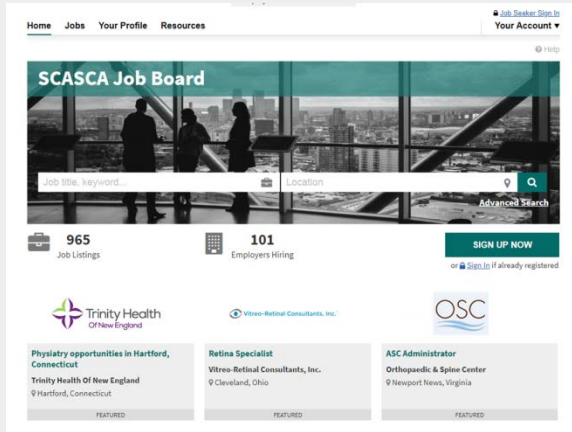
*By Sandra Jones, Ambulatory Strategies Inc. and
ASD Management.
sjones@aboutasc.com*

Sandra Jones, MBA, MSM, CHPRM, CASC,
CHPQM, FHFMA

Question:

A group of surgery center administrators talked about informed consent and what documents they have in their ASC. This led to discussion about what their surgery centers do when a patient is incapacitated or incompetent. What should be done prior to admission to know if this will be an issue on the day of surgery? What happens when the patient is not "with it" on the day of surgery? Who can consent for the patient?

Answer:



Join the SCASCA Online Community!

The SCASCA member community is a place to easily ask questions, and to share ideas and experiences with other members through discussion forums and opt-in email discussion list-servs. Login to your [member profile](#) and make connections with fellow ASC professionals today!

Are We Up-to-Date?

Do we have your correct mailing address, phone number, and email address? Have you renewed your 2019 dues? Make sure you log in to your account at www.scasca.org and confirm we have the correct information for you.

Need assistance logging in? Contact Allyson Williams at allyson@ascmember.org.

SCASCA Officers 2019

President

Frances Faulkner
Lexington Medical Center

Vice President/Treasurer

Patti Zarzuela
Lexington Medical Center

You should consult with legal counsel if you have questions about your processes. The following is not legal advice. However, it may help you evaluate your practices and learn areas on which you should seek advice from your medical malpractice carrier and/or legal counsel about how to handle the consent process at your ASC.

The question is really two topics: (1) who can sign acknowledgement that an informed consent process occurred and (2) what is an informed consent process. Since informed consent begins with the provider discussing with the patient the condition that can be addressed through a procedure and the risks and rewards of that procedure, the process can afford your facility the time to prepare for who can sign a consent. Since who can sign a consent was been recently discussed at meetings, this article will cover who can sign. In the next newsletter issue, the informed consent process will be discussed.

Determining incompetency is difficult and is not accomplished in the pre-operative area; it is determined through a legal process. Based upon medical assessments of the patient, courts make the legal declaration of incompetency. Courts have ruled that forgetfulness and periods of confusion could not be used as basis for appointment of a guardian, because the patient exhibited lucid periods of being fully aware of treatment choices.^[1] Lack of decision-making capacity is not always permanent and can be impacted by the time of day, medications given or withheld, familiarity with surroundings, depression, and anxiety, among other things.

[Click here](#) to read Sandra's full article.

Joint Semi-Annual Conference in August!

This summer is the perfect time for meeting up with old friends, making new contacts, and learning about the latest industry trends. The GSASC/SCASCA Joint Conference will take place August 15-16, 2019 in Savannah,

Secretary
Marion Sylvia
Bluffton Oakatie Outpatient Center

The mission of SCASCA is to:

Establish acceptable standards of care and outcome benchmarks of ASCs in South Carolina.

Promote staffing effectiveness and efficiencies through professional development and skills assessment.

Promote benefits of ASCs among the public and medical community.

Explore and promote new technologies and treatment modalities, which utilize SCASCA.

Assess existing state laws and regulations, which apply to ASCs and make appropriate recommendations to regulatory agencies.

Collaborate with other health care organizations towards achieving common goals and meeting the needs of the health care consumer.



SCASCA

SOUTH CAROLINA AMBULATORY
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Georgia at The DeSoto.

Don't miss this opportunity to receive first-class education, network with ASC professionals, and discover great products and services from our conference sponsors. All surgery center administrators, nurses, physicians, owners, and other center staff are invited to attend.

Education sessions will be held on Thursday, August 15th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm and on Friday, August 16th from 8:45 am to 12:00 pm. In addition, there will be a three hour Infection Prevention Seminar offered on Thursday morning. Join your colleagues for our Social event and other fun activities on Thursday.

Check out the website at www.gsasc.org for more details or to register. Early registration and group hotel rates end July 23rd.

EXPAREL Approved by CMS for Medicare Reimbursement in ASCs

On November 2, 2018, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) published the final ambulatory surgery center (ASC) Medicare rules and regulations for 2019. Under the new rules, the HCPCS code C9290 that is assigned to EXPAREL was assigned a payment status of "allowed" when used in Medicare-approved surgical procedures in Medicare-certified ASCs. Acute care hospitals, hospital outpatient departments (HOPDs), and hospital-based same-day surgery centers were not included in the rule; therefore, will not be reimbursed separately for EXPAREL.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

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