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INFORMATIONAL LETTER #2009-03

DATE: July 24, 2009

TO: ALL AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTERS IN IDAHO

FROM: DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief
Bureau of Facility Standards

SUBJECT: CMS S&C-09-37 State Operations Manual (SOM) Appendix L,
Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC) Comprehensive Revision

The Survey and Certification Letter listed above was released by CMS on May 15, 2009, and can be found online at www.facilitystandards.idaho.gov.

New ASC Conditions for Coverage (CFCs) took effect on May 18, 2009. Appendix L of *The State Operations Manual* has been revised: "Part 1, Survey Protocol" has been added. The "Interpretive Guidelines" have been extensively updated to reflect the new and revised CFCs, as well as to provide more detailed guidance for existing CFCs.

In addition there is a CMS-sponsored satellite training on the new survey process. Anyone can access this site at <http://surveyortraining.cms.hhs.gov> (click on the *Archived Webcasts* link). The training date is May 14, 2009, and is titled "New Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs) Survey Process". I would encourage you and your staff to take the time to view the course as it will help you understand the rationale for the survey changes and what you can expect when the survey team arrives at your facility. The survey is composed of two components conducted by two different teams, the health care portion and the fire safety portion. The fire safety portion might be conducted during the health survey or some time after the health survey. With the significant changes in the process, you can anticipate the health care survey to take two to three days.

Enclosed is a copy of the infection control surveyor worksheet for you to review and use in your quality assurance and quality improvement process.

In response to the revised regulations, we have received the following frequently asked questions:

Question	Answer
Is Idaho exempted from the requirement for physician supervision of CRNAs in accordance with section "Q-0063 - Administration of Anesthesia"?	Yes
Where can patients or their representatives report complaints to, as required in "Q-0222 - Notice of Rights"?	Complaints can be submitted to: Bureau of Facility Standards - DHW PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0036 (208) 334-6626

For more information about Ambulatory Surgery Centers, please visit our Web site at www.facilitystandards.idaho.gov and follow these steps:

- Click on the *Non-Long Term Care* link on the left side.
- Scroll part way down the page and click on the *Appendix L - Ambulatory Surgery Centers* link.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Wisenor, QMRP or Sylvia Creswell, LSW, QMRP in our office at (208) 334-6626.



DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief
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Enclosure