



Anesthesiology News Updates

**OCTOBER
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FY 13 HHS OIG Workplan to Include Review of Personally Performed Anesthesia Services

The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has posted notice of the issues it intends to review for FY2013. One of the Medicare Part B issues that OIG will review concerns anesthesia services. [Read More](#)

Evaluating Anesthesia Engagement Models for Hospitals

(Type of material sent monthly to CEO's)

Hospital executives have a variety of options to choose from when deciding how to source their anesthesia department. A lack of options is never a concern. Rather, it is selecting which engagement model will best serve the needs of the patient mix and the hospital's mission in today's evolving healthcare environment. [Read More](#)

Survey Shows Physicians Limiting Practice Access for Medicare and Medicaid Patients

More than 50 percent of physicians have limited access to their practice for Medicare patients or are planning to do so in the future according to a recent survey commissioned by the Physicians Foundation. In addition, 26 percent of survey respondents have stopped seeing additional Medicaid patients at this time. [Read More](#)

Financial Assistance Policies of Charitable Hospitals

In recent years, hospitals and health systems have faced an increase in delivering charitable care and, as a result, have adjusted their policies and approach in order to fulfill their charitable care obligations. Authored by four healthcare provider executives, this HFMA white paper provides background on charity care in the United States, examples of the charity care processes currently used, and recommendations that could better support the federal government's goals for charity care. [Read More](#)

Compliance Corner – Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC)

MAC is a covered service when the anesthesia service and the procedure for which MAC is given are both a Medicare benefit and medically reasonable and necessary.

CMS requirements for MAC are the same as for general anesthesia with regard to the performance of pre-anesthetic examination, prescription of the anesthesia care, the completion of an anesthesia record, the administration of necessary oral or parenteral medications and the provision of indicated post-operative anesthesia care. Appropriate documentation must be available to reflect pre- and post-anesthetic evaluations as well as intraoperative monitoring. [Read More](#)