



Outpatient • Office Based • Non-Operating Room

Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia Response to the Leapfrog Group Survey

12/15/2019

The Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA) is the premier society for ambulatory physician anesthesiologists, with membership available to all physicians and professionals with interest in ambulatory surgical care.

We disagree with some of the negative unsupported comments made by the Leapfrog group representatives in the preliminary findings of their ASC survey. In response we wish to highlight our organization's efforts to advance patient safety. The goal of SAMBA is to improve patient care in all ambulatory surgical settings including freestanding ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs), hospital outpatient departments, non-operating room procedure suites (including GI suites, cath labs) and office-based surgery settings.

The primary focus of SAMBA is medical education, patient safety, and practice management. To achieve these goals SAMBA conducts regular conferences and webinars, and publishes evidence-based guidelines and statements with the following objectives:

1. Inform medical professionals and the public about the role of physician anesthesiologists in the perioperative care of patients having ambulatory surgery in all locations.
2. Educate ambulatory anesthesiologists about best practices in ambulatory care of patients to improve quality in hospitals, ASCs, and non-operating room anesthesia (NORA) and office-based locations.
3. Support professional societies and organizations, such as the American Society of Anesthesiologists, by providing educational content related to ambulatory anesthesia.
4. Promote patient safety in all aspects of ambulatory anesthesia care.
5. Establish clinical guidelines for high quality, safe ambulatory anesthesiology practices.
6. Establish guidelines for subspecialty training in ambulatory anesthesia and NORA.
7. Encourage high-quality medical research to advance the care and safety of ambulatory surgery patients in collaboration with the International Anesthesia Research Society.
8. Establish meaningful and fruitful collaborations and associations with related organizations that share similar goals.

SAMBA will host a collaborative meeting with the Ambulatory Surgery Centers Association (ASCA) in Orlando, FL May 13-16, 2020. This conference will provide opportunities for physicians, allied health providers, administrators, executives and industry leaders to interact and share best practices. The joint medical director pathway will focus on many issues outlined in the Leapfrog report.

SAMBA offers *ambulatory surgery center membership* to encourage medical directors, anesthesiologists, other physicians and staff to participate in educational activities related to ambulatory surgery and

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provide a platform to share information and educational tools among the industry's most talented practitioners.

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