



ASC MEDICAID PILOT PROJECT - Phase One

WASCA Members,

On behalf of WASCA we are writing to you about a unique and unprecedented agreement with the State on Medicaid reimbursement. For the past eight months negotiations between WASCA and the Health Care Authority, who oversees Medicaid, have taken place.

We would be remiss if we did not recognize and thank Governor Gregoire, Secretary Doug Porter and his staff, along with Rep. Joe Schmick, R- District 9. Rep. Schmick chaired each of our work sessions.

It is WASCA's belief that something had to be done with addressing Medicaid's impact on the State budget. We asserted that appropriate Medicaid patients should be sent to less costly providers where they could receive quality care. We also asserted that ASCs can be part of a Medicaid solution while reimbursing ASCs in a fair manner.

We are pleased to report that Phase One of our strategic partnership with the State includes 91 procedures which have been identified for increased reimbursement, including reimbursement for implants for some of the codes. You will find the codes and reimbursement amounts on the website labeled "ASC MEDICAID PILOT PROJECT EFF 1 01 12.xls". The codes were selected by the Health Care Authority because they were codes that were most often performed in a hospital out-patient or in-patient setting, that could safely be performed in an ASC. Codes already done more often in an ASC were not selected. The point of the project is to save the State money, while at the same time providing quality care in a safe setting.

The Health Care Authority was responsive to each and every one of the concerns raised by the WASCA stakeholder group. The ball is now in the court of providers....as this pilot project will not be successful unless physicians bring their Medicaid patients to ASCs. We urge you to review the materials and to consider treating those patients.

Sincerely,

Wendy Taylor

Wendy Taylor, Executive Director
Overlake Surgery Center
WASCA Treasurer

David Fitzgerald

David Fitzgerald, CEO
Proliance Surgeons
WASCA Board of Directors