

**ASC.04.04** Surgical care that includes the implanting of a medical device is planned with special consideration for how standard processes must be modified.

## Standards, Intent, and Measurable Elements

### *Organization and Management*

#### **Standard ASC.01.00**

The hospital provides sedation and anesthesia services to meet patient needs, and in accordance with professional practice standards and laws and regulations.

#### **Intent of ASC.01.00**

With the complexities involved in sedation and anesthesia care, the hospital must have a system in place for providing such services reflective of its patient population, clinical services offered, and health care practitioners' needs. Sedation and anesthesia are commonly viewed as a continuum from minimal sedation to full anesthesia. Sedation and anesthesia use are complex processes that must be integrated into patient care planning encompassing the stages of sedation and anesthesia. Sedation and anesthesia require a complete and comprehensive patient assessment (presedation/preanesthesia), continued patient monitoring (intraprocedure/intraoperative sedation/anesthesia), and objective recovery criteria (postprocedure/postoperative sedation/anesthesia). These services are provided according to professional practice standards for care, meet all applicable local and national laws and regulations, and must be available at all times for emergencies. It is the recommendation of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN, 2022) that the hospital provides the same standard of care (that is, patient monitoring and equipment) for patients who are receiving procedural sedation/analgesia and anesthesia in non-operating room anesthesia locations (for example, interventional cardiology, endoscopy, dental, radiology, office-based surgery) as for patients receiving moderate sedation/analgesia and anesthesia in the operating room.

Sedation and anesthesia services may be provided by the hospital, by agreement with a contracted service (for example, an individual anesthesiologist or anesthesia group practice), or both. Any use of contract anesthesia services is based on the recommendation of the qualified individual(s) responsible for managing the sedation and anesthesia services. Sedation and anesthesia services are under the direction of one or more individuals who are qualified by documented training, expertise, and experience, which are consistent with applicable laws and regulations. This individual(s) assumes professional and some management responsibilities for the anesthesia services provided.

## Measurable Elements of ASC.01.00

1. The hospital provides sedation and anesthesia services that meet the needs of the patients the hospital serves.
  2. The hospital provides sedation and anesthesia services that comply with laws and regulations.
  3. The hospital provides sedation and anesthesia services that comply with professional practice standards for care.
  4. A qualified individual(s) assumes professional responsibility for the anesthesia services provided regardless of the location at the hospital. Responsibilities include the following:
    - Developing, implementing, and maintaining policies and procedures
    - Providing administrative oversight
    - Maintaining any necessary quality improvement programs
    - Monitoring and reviewing all sedation and anesthesia services
  5. This qualified individual(s) is responsible for managing the sedation and anesthesia services, including ensuring the following:
    - Sedation and anesthesia services are uniform throughout the hospital.
    - Sedation and anesthesia services are available at all times for emergencies.
    - The responsibilities for monitoring and reviewing all sedation and anesthesia services are defined and carried out.
  6. © The hospital has a process for the selection of contract anesthesia services that includes the following:
    - An updated contract anesthesia service list must be used to select contract anesthesia services approved by hospital leaders and the qualified individual(s) professionally responsible for anesthesia services.
    - The contract anesthesia service must have acceptable records of performance and follow applicable laws and regulations.
    - The hospital must have a record of all the completed training and education for each contract anesthesia staff as required by the hospital.
    - There is a current contract in place when contract anesthesia services are used.
- (See also GLD.05.00, ME 3)

## Sedation Care

### Standard ASC.02.00

The administration of procedural sedation is standardized throughout the hospital.

#### Intent of ASC.02.00

Procedural sedation is often performed in many areas of the hospital outside of the operating theatre. Clinical practice guidelines and standardization of practices have demonstrated improvement in outcomes; in particular, processes that include protocols and checklists, which have proven to reduce patient harm through standardization and communication. As a result, standardized processes optimize moderate procedural sedation practices regardless of the site where the service is performed; guide appropriate patient selection; decrease the risk of adverse patient outcomes (for example, apnea, airway obstruction, respiratory arrest, cardiac arrest, death); promote sedation education, training, and research; and encourage the use of evidence-based data to promote cross-specialty uniformity for moderate sedation practices.

*Procedural sedation* is defined as “the technique of administering sedatives or dissociative agents with or without analgesics to an individual, in any setting, by any route, to induce an altered state of consciousness that allows the patient to tolerate painful or unpleasant procedures while preserving cardiorespiratory function.” Regardless