

## *The Role of Anti-NGFs in Pain Management*

- Dr. Afsaneh Motamed-Khorasani, *Multibriefs 2013*

At present, pain management is performed by the use of non-opioid analgesics and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for mild conditions, and opioids for serious conditions. However, such drugs are associated with adverse effects such as nausea, vomiting, gastrointestinal bleeding and ulceration, constipation, hepatotoxicity, cardiovascular events and renal toxicity.

Many deaths have been reported in recent years as a result of the complications caused by NSAIDs in patients. So, there is a need for the development of new classes of drugs for acute and chronic pains.

Since NGF (nerve growth factor) signaling is involved in chronic pain development, drugs that could interfere with the NGF signaling are considered important. Recently, anti-NGF antibodies have been developed to address this problem.

Anti-NGF antibodies have been shown to provide relief from chronic pain in animal models for human diseases.

These animal pain models included femoral fracture, arthritis, pancreatic and cancer pain.

tanezumab is a humanized monoclonal antibody developed with a high affinity and specificity toward NGF. tanezumab interferes with the affinity between NGF and its receptors, TrkA and p75NTR. The safety, adverse effects and analgesic effects of tanezumab were tested by administering a dose with the range of 10-200 µg/kg in osteoarthritis patients.

Improvement in relief was observed with greater doses of tanezumab<sup>1</sup>, but greater doses had more adverse effects in the patients. The most frequent adverse effects included headache, upper respiratory tract infection and parasthesia.

A recent study evaluated the long-term safety and efficacy of repeated doses of tanezumab<sup>2</sup> on knee pain. Patients were administered tanezumab 50 µg/kg) on day 1 and day 56, and subsequent doses were administered at eight-week intervals.

*continued on page 10...*



### *In This Issue -*

Anti-NGFs in Pain Management	1
The AAAASF Board of Directors	2
AAAASF Educational Foundation	3
AAAASF President's Message	5
New Surveyor/Facility Policies	6
Week in Review is Launched	7
AAAASF International Update	8
New Accredited Facilities/Clinics	11
Executive Director Update	14
OPT, RHC Accreditation Update	15
Accreditation Fee Schedule	16



*The Gold Standard*

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If you would like to submit a new resource to be considered for this guide, report non-functional or updated links, [SUBMIT HERE](#) (please list the standard number or section number that relates to your submission).

REGULAR STANDARDS VERSION 12

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GENERAL RESOURCES

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 - Robert Singer, M.D.

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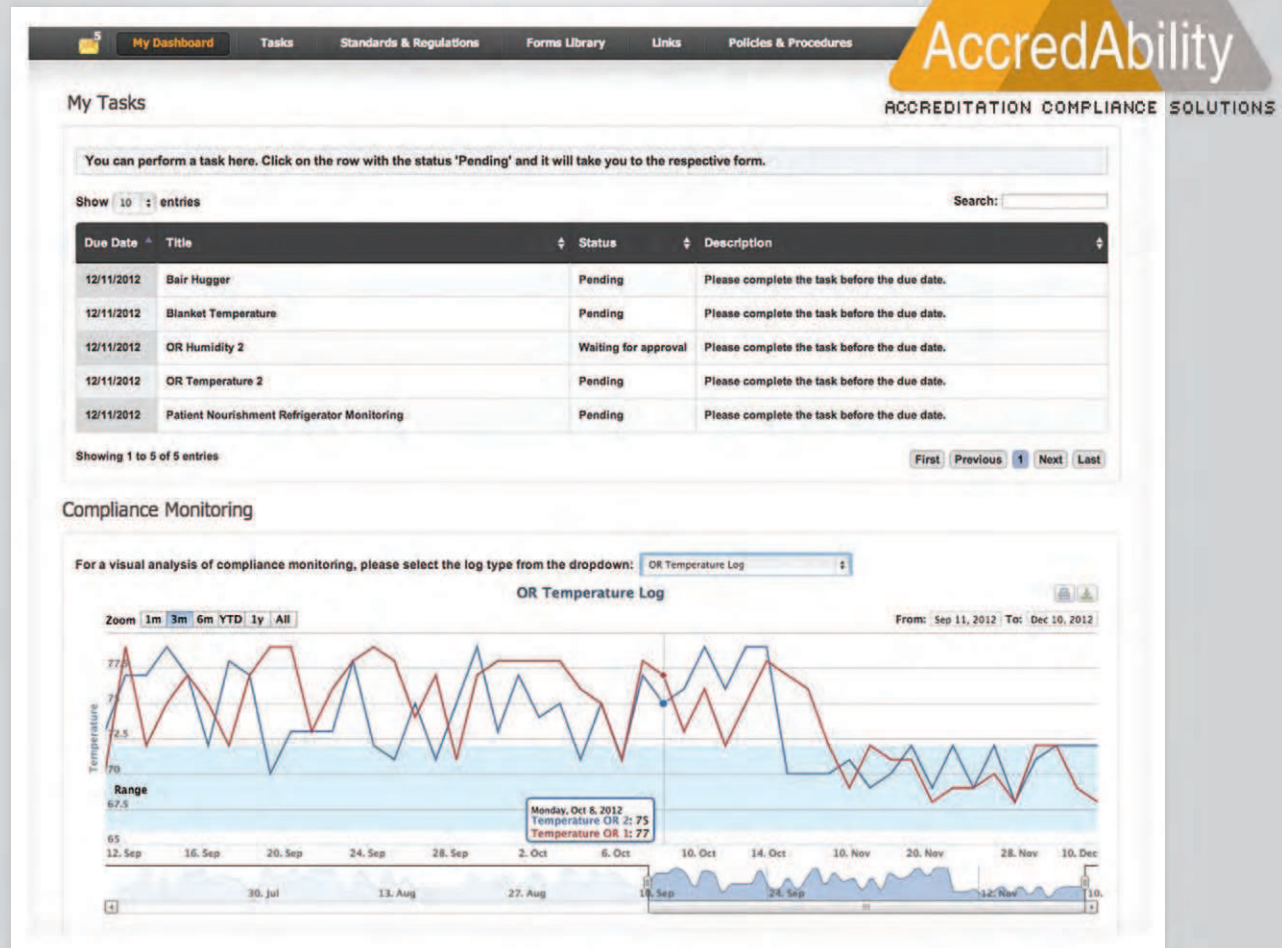
AAAASF surveyors can request that all or a portion of their \$500 honorarium be donated to the AAAASF Educational Foundation. After completing a survey, contact Adriana at the AAAASF Office at: 888-545-5222 or [adriana@aaaasf.org](mailto:adriana@aaaasf.org)



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Tamar R. Glaser, RN and AAAASF Surveyor

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# AAAASF President's Message

## Our Commitment to Patient Safety

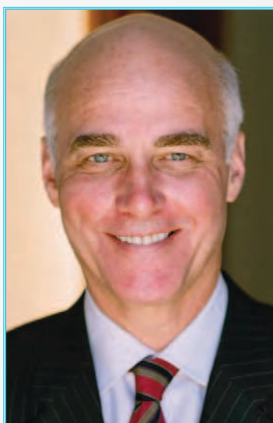
Healthcare in America is in a state of flux as the result of the impending start up of the Affordable Care Act. Patients and physicians will be required to navigate a variety of new insurance options in their effort to acquire and provide competent, affordable care.

Benchmarking of care provided will be increasingly used as a measure of quality and ultimately payment for healthcare services. Performance based reimbursement for delivered care may become commonplace using incentives to promote patient safety.

AAAASF has been at the forefront of patient safety since its inception and has continually developed methods to analyze care delivery in our surgery centers. Through mandating the reporting of random cases and unanticipated sequelae as part of our peer review process, we have over 3,000 physicians who have entered over 6 million cases into the database for analysis in the past 14 years.

This data has led to improvement in our standards for outpatient surgery. For example, the database-documented incidence of pulmonary embolism as the major cause of death in outpatient and hospital-based surgery has led to the inclusion (in our Standards) for mandatory venous thromboembolism (VTE) assessment of patients preoperatively and that documentation be included in the patient's chart of the potential occurrence of venous thromboembolism. This evaluation may be performed using the Caprini Risk Assessment Tool or the Antithrombotic Therapy and Prevention of Thrombosis, 9th ed: American College of Chest Physicians Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines.

The Investigation Committee, responsible for case evaluation, is looking closely at the incidence of venous thromboembolism (VTE) in patients who have had multiple procedures performed and preoperatively demonstrate a high risk for thromboembolism. It is recommended that great caution be used when considering multiple procedures on a patient, particularly when one of the procedures is an abdominoplasty.



Jeffrey Keyes, M.D.  
PRESIDENT

Over the years AAAASF has never lost focus on our mission to safeguard patient safety. We are proud of the collaboration between our accredited facilities and the Board of Directors in the quest for continual improvement in patient care.

Our organization has grown considerably over the past decade both domestically and internationally. This growth and the changing face of healthcare have necessitated changes in our organization to insure our preeminence in the field of outpatient surgery accreditation. Theresa Griffin-Rossi has replaced Jeff Percy as the acting Executive Director. She has demonstrated great leadership in this transition period.

We are focusing our attention on the efficient operation of AAAASF to better serve our facilities and their patients. There is great enthusiasm at the central office as we move forward in this effort. AAAASF is positioned to remain as the top outpatient surgery accrediting association in the world.

As we prepare for our next board meeting in October and the rest of 2013, we invite all accredited facility directors, physicians and nurses to contact us if you have an interest in becoming involved in this peer-driven accrediting association. Also, as our international operation evolves, through Surgery Facility Resources (SFR), the demand for proactive contributors grows.

There are many committees on which you can serve. We also welcome article submissions to the newsletter and constructive comments that improve or refine existing Standards or policies. Our organization has proven over the last thirty years that working in concert with our accredited facilities is the best way to maintain AAAASF as the Gold Standard in accreditation.

# Policy Changes for Surveyors and Facilities

## Surveyor Expense Reimbursement Update

Surveyors shall be reimbursed for the following expenses incurred when performing facility surveys:

- Personal meals and incidentals not to exceed a limit of \$100 per day – detailed receipts are required for reimbursement showing number of meals served. Receipts that only show a total dollar amount will not be reimbursed.
- Mileage for use of a personal vehicle (rate \$0.585). Internet mapping (Google maps or similar) with to/from addresses documenting mileage is required.
- Standard hotel room for one night (pre-approval by AAAASF accounting department for any additional lodging charges beyond one overnight stay is required for reimbursement). AAAASF will reimburse the average cost for hotel near the location of the survey. Should you choose to book at an above-standard hotel, the additional cost will be at your expense.
- Basic and reasonable ground transportation costs will be reimbursed. Should you choose ground transportation that exceeds average costs for the location of the survey, the additional cost will be at your expense.
- Coach or Supersaver airfare will be reimbursed for surveying locations beyond a reasonable driving distance. Airfare must be booked at least 21 days in advance of travel. If requested to perform an expedited survey that is scheduled less than 21 days in advance, pre-approval by the AAAASF accounting department is required for reimbursement.



### **Please Note:**

*Reimbursement of expenses shall not include the cost of resort or luxury lodging, spouse or companion travel, meals, or other expenses, limousines, rental of charter aircraft, or other unreasonable costs. All detailed receipts are required for reimbursement and auditing purposes. Expenses for tolls and other services that may not issue a receipt will be paid at the discretion of AAAASF. Should you have questions regarding the reimbursement policy, please call the AAAASF accounting department toll free at 1-888-545-5222.*

## Facility Payment Policy Update

First, we want to acknowledge your organization's success in achieving accreditation through AAAASF. We believe that accreditation is a reflection of an organization's commitment to patient safety and quality care.

Consistent with the increasingly prevalent trends toward achieving best clinical and business practices, we are continuously reviewing our internal processes that support our programs. Recently, we made adjustments to our invoicing/payment policies and procedures that we want to make you aware of.

***Effective September 15, 2013, accounts not paid within thirty (30) days of the invoice date will be subject to a two percent (2%) monthly finance charge on the total amount invoiced.***

We are committed to providing exceptional customer service, and must receive payment in order to continue to provide services in a timely manner maintaining the gold standard for which AAAASF is known. Thank you again for choosing AAAASF accreditation. If you have any questions regarding this policy or your invoice, please call the AAAASF accounting department toll free at 1-888-545-5222.



# Standards Version 14 is Approved for Release

- Tom Terranova, MA - Director of Accreditation

The American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities (AAAASF) is pleased to announce the approval of the AAAASF Surgical Standards Version 14. This edition of the standards represents the culmination of the dedicated work of volunteer clinicians to distill patient safety data, healthcare trends, and comments provided by accredited facility personnel and surveyors into an improved manual that continues to serve the AAAASF mission of patient safety.

AAAASF encourages all facilities to review the new manual carefully to ensure continued compliance with all standards. AAAASF does not grandfather existing facilities to exempt them from new requirements and your continued 100% compliance sets AAAASF accreditation apart as the Gold Standard. Careful attention to standards revisions in the pre-survey period will be even more valuable than usual for avoiding deficiency citations and the headaches that can accompany corrective action.

One noteworthy revision is Standard 100.010.005, which requires screening protocols for venous thromboembolism (VTE) risk factors. This standard originated from the peer review and unanticipated sequelae reporting system in which every accredited facility participates. Data indicates that the most prevalent major risk facing a patient in an accredited facility is VTE. By adding this standard, AAAASF aims to increase patient safety and demonstrate more conclusively that surgery in an accredited ambulatory surgery facility is safe and appropriate. This revision is a triumph of the AAAASF accreditation program and a testament to each accredited facility's commitment to patient safety.

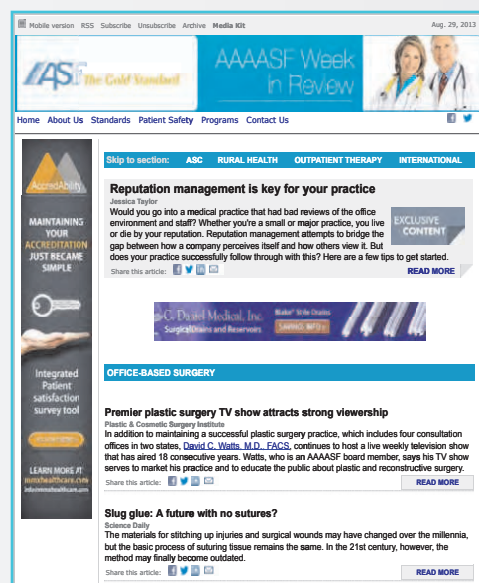
As the healthcare system wrestles with the concept of evidence-based medicine, AAAASF accredited facilities can be proud to be a decade ahead of the curve.

AAAASF will begin distributing Version 14 for use during self-evaluations and surveys in the first half of 2014. Please pay special attention to the materials that you receive with your next renewal for inclusion of the Version 14 standards. Version 14 does not apply to facilities participating in any of the AAAASF Medicare deeming, Procedural, or Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Programs. Thank you once again for continuing to participate in AAAASF accreditation.

## The AAAASF Week in Review Takes Off!

The new weekly e-newsletter was launched this spring and was an instant success! Thousands of people read and share the articles from the Week in Review each week. Look for the email every Thursday featuring a collection of trade related articles gathered for every program that AAAASF has to offer. Plus, every week we spotlight an accredited facility from the U.S. and an accredited clinic from our international program. **Visit our home page ([aaaasf.org](http://aaaasf.org)) to subscribe if you are not receiving it. Also, check your spam folder to make sure your email program is not sending it there!**

**If you are an accredited facility or clinic and want to be featured in our Week in Review, please email [Allyson@aaaasf.org](mailto:Allyson@aaaasf.org) or [Jaime@aaaasf.org](mailto:Jaime@aaaasf.org) with the details and a link to your web site. Photos and press releases are always welcome!**



# AAAASF International Accrediting Clinics in 13 Countries



AAAASF accreditation surveys are performed by surgeons and dentists who also understand local customs and culture. There is a peer-based Global Standards Advisory Committee ready to review subtle nuances, along with vast differences in AAAASF Standards appropriate for each country. [www.aaaasfi.org](http://www.aaaasfi.org)

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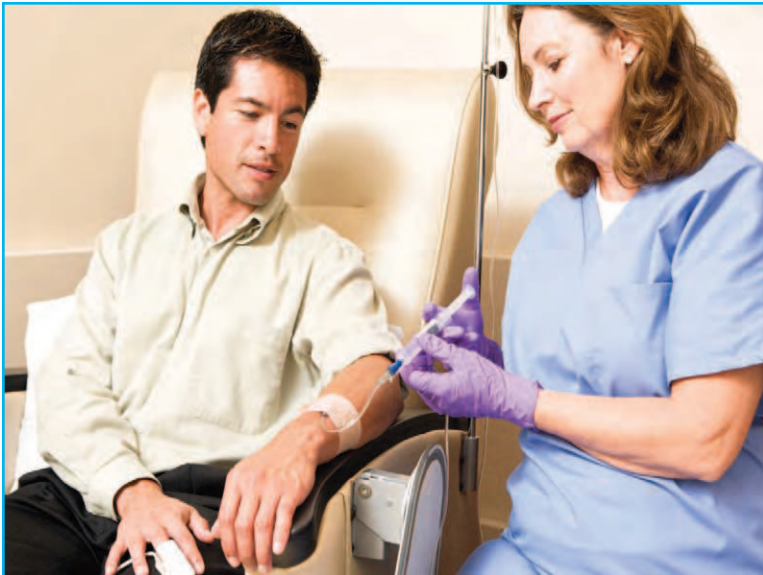


## Cancer Care Center Focuses on Total Patient Well-Being

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With 23 oncology specialists in the practice, Astorga Oncology Clinic has become a leading cancer care center with a growing international profile. Accredited by AAAASF International, Astorga Oncology Clinic offers a range of services designed to meet the needs of patients on many levels.

From devising a personalized treatment strategy to managing pain, the professional staff at Astorga Oncology Clinic are focused on total patient care and specialized attention.



The Astorga facilities continue that focus on individual needs, offering separate areas for patient comfort, even while maintaining the highest degree of safety as providers prepare drug therapies on-site.

Astorga Oncology Clinic earned AAAASF International accreditation in 2012 and is an IPS Health Service Provider of clinical oncology, hematology, radiotherapy, surgical oncology, bone marrow transplant and pain management/palliative care.

Visit their web site:  
[clinicadeoncologia.com](http://clinicadeoncologia.com)

## Publications Committee Wants To Hear From You

The ambulatory health care landscape is broad and we want to provide articles and content that are valuable to our accredited facilities, so please reach out and let us know what type of practice information you want to read about. If you or an associate has written a patient safety related article and you want to share it with the rest of your accreditation peers, please let us know.

The demographic makeup of AAAASF's population of accredited facilities has evolved over time, and with it the interests and needs of the accredited population. As we work to protect patients, it is critical to be aware of the changing medical issues affecting all of those providing care to the public.

For those practicing in our largest growth specialties such as Infertility, Gastroenterology, Oral Surgery, Pain Management, Urology, and Rehabilitation, it is especially important to weigh in. Your participation is critical to AAAASF's understanding of your specialty and the best way to ensure that the accredited community can responsibly maintain a culture of patient safety.



***Please email [jaime@aaaasf.org](mailto:jaime@aaaasf.org) to share your thoughts and contribute to ASF publications.***

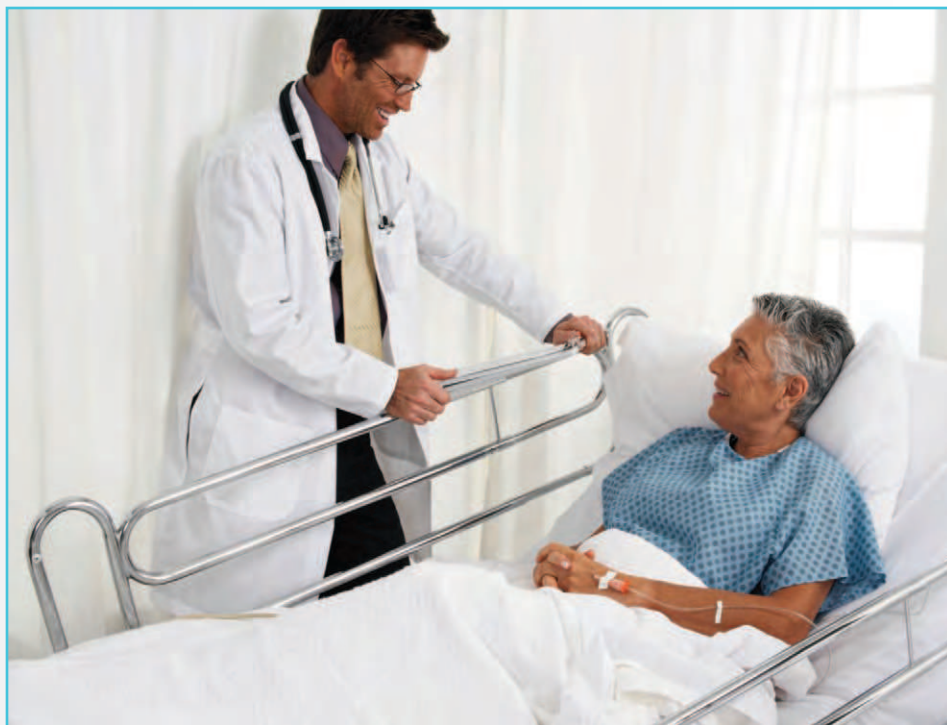
Patients experienced a marked relief from the pain and experienced some improvements in their physical functions over 56 weeks. Pain relief was about 18 percent from the baseline. The treatment-related adverse effects were decreased with repeated doses of tanezumab administration.

The effectiveness of tanezumab therapy in patients suffering from lower back pain was studied in a proof-of-concept clinical trial. Patients received an IV dose of tanezumab (200 µg/kg) plus an oral placebo, an IV placebo plus an oral naproxen 500 mg twice a day, and an IV placebo plus an oral placebo. Among these three groups, the percentage of the pain relief from the baseline was 52, 37 and 29 percent, respectively. The treatment-related adverse effects in the three groups were 30.7, 18.2, and 22 percent, respectively.

In another clinical trial, the use of tanezumab for the treatment of interstitial cystitis was studied. Patients received a single dose of tanezumab for a period of six weeks. The results indicated that tanezumab was more effective than placebo in pain relief. Reduction in pain from the baseline was 36 percent for tanezumab and 9 percent for placebo.

A proof-of-concept clinical trial was also conducted to evaluate the role of tanezumab in chronic prostatitis and bone metastases. Furthermore, tanezumab therapy in cancer patients who suffer from a pain due to bone metastases is underway.

In summary, tanezumab is an anti-NGF that gives relief to moderate as well as severe pain. Tanezumab therapy is effective for pain relief for a longer



period and without an increase in treatment-related adverse effects. Clinical trials of tanezumab for the treatment of osteoarthritis, lower back pain, and interstitial cystitis indicated that tanezumab therapy was more effective in pain relief as compared to the placebo treatment.

*Dr. Afsaneh Motamed-Khorasani is a medical and scientific affairs specialist with a strong background in biomedical sciences, clinical trial/research and medical/regulatory writing/submission. She is the president and managing director of Neometrix Consulting Inc., which helps global pharmaceutical and medical device companies with their medical and regulatory writing and submissions as well as medical affairs.*

1. *J Neurochem.* 2013 Feb;124(3):276-89. doi: 10.1111/jnc.12093.

*Nerve growth factor-mediated regulation of pain signalling and proposed new intervention strategies in clinical pain management.*

*McKelvey L, Shorten GD, O'Keeffe*

*GW.*

*Source: Department of Anatomy and Neuroscience, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland.*

2. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage.* 2011 Jun;19(6):639-46. doi: 10.1016/j.joca.2011.01.009. Epub 2011 Jan 18.

*Long-term open-label study of tanezumab for moderate to severe osteoarthritic knee pain.*

*Schnitzer TJ, Lane NE, Birbara C, Smith MD, Simpson SL, Brown MT.*

*Source: Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL 60611, USA. tjs@northwestern.edu*

# Newly Accredited Facilities

PROGRAM	FACILITY NAME	CLASS	PRIMARY SPECIALTY	CITY	STATE	Director
AAAASF Oral Maxillofacial	Widner and Alford Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery LLC	R1C	Oral Maxillofacial Surgery	Austin	TX	
AAAASF Procedural	Amen Clinics Inc A Medical Corporation	R1C-M	Nuclear Medicine	Newport Beach	CA	
AAAASF Procedural	Murrieta Specialty Care Surgery Center	R1C-M	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation - Pain Medicine	Murrieta	CA	
AAAASF Procedural	Physicians for Womens Health	R1C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	West Hartford	CT	
AAAASF Procedural	Physicians for Womens Health LLC	R1C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Farmington	CT	
AAAASF Procedural	Outpatient Procedure Centers LLC	R1C-M	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation - Pain Medicine	Dover	DE	
AAAASF Procedural	Doctor's Pain Management Associates	R1C	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation - Pain Medicine	Kissimmee	FL	Paul S. Webster, M.D.
AAAASF Procedural	Boston IVF at The Womens Hospital	R1C	Obstetrics and Gynecology - Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility	Newburgh	IN	
AAAASF Procedural	IVF Indiana	R2C	Obstetrics and Gynecology - Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility	Indianapolis	IN	
AAAASF Procedural	Union OBGYN And Infertility Group PA	R1C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Union	NJ	
AAAASF Procedural	NJ Gastro LLC	R1C	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Newark	NJ	
AAAASF Procedural	Fertility Institute of NJ and NY	R2C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology - Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility	Westwood	NJ	
AAAASF Procedural	East Coast IVF A Division of Regional Womens Health Group LLC	R1C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology - Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility	Little Silver	NJ	
AAAASF Procedural	Granite Surgery Center	R1C-M		Las Vegas	NV	Bruce S. Shapiro, M.D.
AAAASF Procedural	Advanced PainCare LLP	R1C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	Henderson	NV	
AAAASF Procedural	URO Partners PLLC	R1C-M	Urology	Brooklyn	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	NYU Great Neck Medical	R1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Great Neck	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Integrated Medical Professionals PLLC	R6C	Urology	Bethpage	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Elena Ocher Medical, PC	R1C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	New York	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Cardiovascular and Vein Center of NY	R1C	Internal Medicine - Cardiovascular Disease	Staten Island	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Beer and Beer MD PLLC	R1C-M	Urology	Latham	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Advanced Gynecology and Surgery PLLC	R1C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Brooklyn	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Chinatown Cardiology PC	R1B	Internal Medicine - Cardiovascular Disease	New York	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Leela Kasturi MD PC	R1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Hollis	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Pavel Alexandrov Medical	R1C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	Bronx	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	RSO Medical Associates PLLC	R1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Rosedale	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Samuel Cho MD PC	R1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Flushing	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Buriana Surgical Suite PLLC	R2C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	New York	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Anna Feldman MD PC	R2C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	New York	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Long Island Fertility PLLC	R4C	Obstetrics and Gynecology - Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility	Melville	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	St Nicholas Gastroenterology PC	R2C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Brooklyn	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Interborough Interventional Pain Management	R1C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	Bronx	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Hudson Ambulatory Medical PC	R1C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	New York	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Pavlidis & Benson OBGYN Associates PC	R2C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Staten Island	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Advanced Solutions Pain Management	R2C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	White Plains	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Queens Gastroenterology Associates LLC	R2C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Woodside	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Rajiv Bansal MD PC	R1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Lake Success	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Dynamic Medical PC	R1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Richmond Hill	NY	
AAAASF Procedural	Integrity Family Health	R1A	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Philadelphia	PA	
AAAASF Procedural	Carolina Nephrology PA	R2B	Internal Medicine - Nephrology	Greenville	SC	
AAAASF Procedural	Coastal Gastroenterology and Hepatology LLC	R1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Charleston	SC	
AAAASF Procedural	Platinum Surgery Suites	R1A	Anesthesiology	Dallas	TX	
AAAASF Procedural	Pedro M Arguello MD PA	R1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Houston	TX	
AAAASF Procedural	Northwest OBGYN PS	R4C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Spokane	WA	
AAAASF Procedural	Wisconsin Pain Management SC	R1C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	Burlington	WI	
AAAASF Surgical	Birmingham Plastic Surgery Clinic	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Birmingham	AL	Ben H. Johnson, M.D.
AAAASF Surgical	Aesthetic and Reconstructive Plastic Surgery Medical Associates	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Danville	CA	



# Newly Accredited Surgical Facilities, International and OPT/RA Clinics

PROGRAM	FACILITY NAME	CLASS	PRIMARY SPECIALTY	CITY	STATE	DirECTor
AAAAAF Surgical	Foothill Ranch Surgery and Medical Center	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Foothill Ranch	CA	
AAAAAF Surgical	Marina View Surgery Center	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Marina Del Rey	CA	
AAAAAF Surgical	Encino Surgical Institute A Medical Corp	R2C	Plastic Surgery	Encino	CA	
AAAAAF Surgical	American Surgical Center OC	R1C	Obstetrics and Gynecology - Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility	Costa Mesa	CA	
AAAAAF Surgical	RPH Surgery Center Corp	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Beverly Hills	CA	
AAAAAF Surgical	Grossmont Outpatient Surgical Center	R2C-M	Otolaryngology	La Mesa	CA	
AAAAAF Surgical	Rinaldi Surgery Center LLC	R2C	Otolaryngology	Stockton	CA	
AAAAAF Surgical	Reproductive Surgical Associates	R2C	Obstetrics and Gynecology - Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility	Newport Beach	CA	
AAAAAF Surgical	20/20 Institute LLC	R1A	Ophthalmology	Englewood	CO	James Edmund Montgomery, M.D.
AAAAAF Surgical	Colorado Aesthetic and Plastic Surgery PC	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Greenwood Village	CO	
AAAAAF Surgical	Terrence P. Murphy MD PC	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Englewood	CO	
AAAAAF Surgical	Palms Wellington Plastic Surgery	R1C	Plastic Surgery	West Palm Beach	FL	
AAAAAF Surgical	Ralph Garramone MD PA	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Fort Myers	FL	
AAAAAF Surgical	Suria Plastic Surgery	R1C-M	Plastic Surgery	Plantation	FL	
AAAAAF Surgical	Orthopedic and Spine Surgery of Atlanta	R3C	Orthopaedic Surgery	Atlanta	GA	
AAAAAF Surgical	Hogan Surgical Center PA	R2C-M	Ophthalmology	Gulfport	MS	
AAAAAF Surgical	Independent Practitioners of America	R1C-M	Plastic Surgery	Bismarck	ND	
AAAAAF Surgical	Sanford Bismarck	R1C	Plastic Surgery	Bismarck	ND	
AAAAAF Surgical	Holmdel Multispecialty Surgical Associates LLC	R1C-M	Urology	Holmdel	NJ	
AAAAAF Surgical	American Healthcare Services PC	R2C	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Elizabeth	NJ	
AAAAAF Surgical	American Healthcare Services PC	R2C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Englewood	NJ	
AAAAAF Surgical	Herricks Medical Office Bldg, LLC	R1C	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Garden City Park	NY	Frank Dolisi, M.D.
AAAAAF Surgical	New York Plastic Surgical Grp DBA Long Island Plastic Surgical Grp	R6C	Plastic Surgery	New York	NY	
AAAAAF Surgical	One Surgical PLLC	R1C	Surgery	New York	NY	
AAAAAF Surgical	Michael J Paciorek MD	R1C	Otolaryngology	Syracuse	NY	
AAAAAF Surgical	Manhattan Plastic Surgery	R1C	Otolaryngology	New York	NY	
AAAAAF Surgical	Park Avenue Medical Suite PLLC	R1C	Plastic Surgery	New York	NY	
AAAAAF Surgical	Barry Weintraub MD PC	R1C	Plastic Surgery	New York	NY	
AAAAAF Surgical	Busquets Plastic Surgery	R1C	Plastic Surgery	San Juan	PR	
AAAAAF Surgical	Advanced Fertility and Reproductive Endocrinology Institute LLC	R1C-M	Obstetrics and Gynecology	West Columbia	SC	Gail F. Whitman Elia, M.D.
AAAAAF Surgical	Aesthetic Surgery Center of Texas	R1B	Plastic Surgery	Sugarland	TX	Peter Chang, M.D.
ASFI Dental	Sonortica Dent All Group	I3S	Dental	San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora	MX	
ASFI Dental	Luciano Retana Implant & Reconstructive Dentistry	I3S	Dental	San Jose, Costa Rica	CR	
ASFI Dental	Dr. Alberto Gonzalez / Mydreamsmile.net	ID1	Dental	San Jose, Costa Rica	CR	
ASFI Dental	Clinica Hasbun	I3S	Dental	San Salvador, El Salvador	SV	
ASFI Surgical	Poell Klink	I3S	Plastic Surgery	St. Gallen, Switzerland	CH	Jan G. Poell
ASFI Surgical	Cosmetologia Medica Clinica de Corta Estancia. SA de CV	I3S	Plastic Surgery	Tijuana	MX	
ASFI Surgical	The American Center for Plastic Surgery	ID1	Plastic Surgery	Athens, Greece	GR	
ASFI Surgical	Centro Internacional de Cancer	I9M	Medical Oncology	San Salvador, El Salvador	SV	
CMS Rehabilitation	Mountain Land Rehabilitation Inc	RA5	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Newport Beach	CA	
CMS Rehabilitation	Solaris Health & Wellness	RA5	RA/OPT	Bonita Springs	FL	
CMS Rehabilitation	Solaris Rehab, LLC	RA5	RA/OPT	Clearwater	FL	
CMS Rehabilitation	Five Star Rehabilitation and Wellness at Lake Spivey	RA5	RA/OPT	Jonesboro	GA	
CMS Rehabilitation	Vantage Rehab	RA5	RA/OPT	Shenandoah	IA	
CMS Rehabilitation	Kindred Rehab Services, Inc.	RA5	RA/OPT	Bedford	IN	
CMS Rehabilitation	Genesis Eldercare Rehabilitation Services, Inc.	RA11	RA/OPT	Westland	MI	

# Newly Accredited OPT/RA and Rural Health Clinics

PROGRAM	FACILITY NAME	CLASS	PRIMARY SPECIALTY	CITY	STATE	Director
CMS Rehabilitation	Legacy Healthcare Services, Inc	RA5	RA/OPT	St. Louis	MO	
CMS Rehabilitation	Sundance Rehabilitation Agency of Oklahoma	RA5	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Claremore	OK	
CMS Rehabilitation	Five Star Rehabilitation and Wellness at Belmont	RA5	RA/OPT	Nashville	TN	
CMS Rehabilitation	Little Lighthouse Children's Rehab LLC	RA11	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Los Fresnos	TX	Rick Perez
CMS Rehabilitation	A+ Therapy LLC	RA11	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Mission	TX	Carmen Villaneva-Hiles
CMS Rehabilitation	Little Lighthouse Children's Rehab	RA5	RA/OPT	Alice	TX	
CMS Rehabilitation	Complete Rehab Services, PLLC	RA5	RA/OPT	Brownsville	TX	
CMS Rehabilitation	Green Apple Rehab, LLC	RA5	RA/OPT	Weatherford	TX	
CMS Rehabilitation	Autistic Treatment Center, Inc	RA5	RA/OPT	Fort Worth	TX	
CMS Rehabilitation	Fiskal Rehab Center, Inc.	RA5	RA/OPT	Laredo	TX	
CMS Rehabilitation	Carepath Therapy Services, LLC	RA5	RA/OPT	Arlington	TX	
CMS Rehabilitation	Brighton Rehabilitation at Willapa Harbor	RA5	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Raymond	WA	
CMS Rehabilitation	Select Outpatient Services	RA5	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Newcastle	WA	
CMS Rehabilitation	Advanced Institute of Rehabilitations Services, LLC	RA5	RA/OPT	Hales Corners	WI	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Horizon Healthcare, LLC	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Valley Head	AL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Midway Medical Clinic, LLC	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Holly Pond	AL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Horizon Medical Clinic, LLC	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Baileyton	AL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Premier Medical Clinic, LLC	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Scottsboro	AL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Pottsville Primary Care	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Pottsville	AR	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Baptist Health	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Gurdon	AR	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Reedley Community Hospital	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Cutler	CA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Oroville Women's Health	RHC3	Rural Health Clinic	Oroville	CA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Reedley Community Hospital	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Reedley	CA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Adventist Health Community Care-Riverdale	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Riverdale	CA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Adventist Health Community Care- Caruthers East	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Caruthers	CA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Adventist Health Community Care-Kerman Central	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Kerman	CA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Reedley Community Hospital	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Corcoran	CA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Reedley Community Hospital	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Avenal	CA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Atkins Family Medical Clinic	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Atkins	IA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Shell Rock Clinic	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Shell Rock	IA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Belmond Medical Center	RHC3	Rural Health Clinic	Belmond	IA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Syringa General Hospital District	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Kooskia	ID	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Syringa General Hospital	RHC3	Rural Health Clinic	Grangeville	ID	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Hamilton Memorial Family Clinic	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Norris City	IL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Milford Clinic	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Milford	IL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Crossroads Family Medicine of Benton	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Benton	IL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Crossroads Family Medicine of Wayne City	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Wayne City	IL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Crossroads Family Medicine of Mt. Vernon	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Mt. Vernon	IL	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Colby Medical Services	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Colby	KS	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Family Care Clinic	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Mangham	LA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Crossroads-Holloway Health Clinic, LLC	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Pineville	LA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Hope's Children & Family Care Clinic, LLC	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	LA	LA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Jonesville Health Care	RHC3	Rural Health Clinic	Marksville	LA	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Grand View Clinic	RHC3	Rural Health Clinic	Jonesville	MI	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Great Lakes Medical, P.C.	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Ironwood	MI	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Hillis & Dales General Hospital	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Mt. Pleasant	MI	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Laird Hospital, Inc	RHC3	Rural Health Clinic	Cass City	MI	
				Philadelphia	MS	

## A Note from the Acting Executive Director, Theresa Griffin-Rossi

Fall has always been my favorite season. The spectacular display of color heralding that change is in the air reminds me that we live in a world of stark contrasts. While some aspects of our lives remain constant, others are in a perpetual state of fluctuation. Change can be stimulating, invigorating and challenging.

As the country begins to acclimate to new models in healthcare generated by the Affordable Care Act, AAAASF stands at a crossroad where change is inevitable. Over the last several years, the organization has grown exponentially by adding two Medicare deemed programs for Rural Health and Outpatient Physical Therapy. ASFI, the international division of our association, is recognized as the global leader in accreditation, while our existing domestic programs have steadily expanded, and that growth has compelled the Board to forge a new direction. A key component to our ongoing success has been flexibility and the ability to adapt in a fluid environment. Those sensitive to change tend to adjust their compass to navigate the best course. This style of leadership has made our mission relevant and our cause noteworthy.

I'm sure you've heard the old saying, "Don't rock the boat," which indicates that most of us find comfort in stability. While in the midst of internal and external change, AAAASF sets its course steadied by the hand of continuity of our Board of Directors and Trustees; a group of surgeons, medical professionals and public members whose commitment to patient safety has established the gold standard recognized around the world. It is the unwavering dedication of a few unique individuals who have effected change for so many.

The highlight of my career has been to serve this organization for the last 13 years. As I step into my new role I realize that many changes have occurred over the years and more are yet to come, but what has remained prevalent is the leadership that guides Quad A. In that knowledge is the assurance that more great endeavors still lie ahead and I am energized to be a part of it.

Consider engaging in new opportunities by volunteering your time to serve as a surveyor, committee member, or contributor to this newsletter. I value and welcome your comments, suggestions and feedback at [theresa@aaaasf.org](mailto:theresa@aaaasf.org)

### Newly Accredited Clinics and ASCs ...continued from page 13

PROGRAM	FACILITY NAME	CLASS	PRIMARY SPECIALTY	CITY	STATE	Director
CMS Rural Healthcare	Woodward Clinic	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Woodward	OK	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Woodward Clinic	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Woodward	OK	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Woodward Clinic	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Woodward	OK	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Woodward Clinic	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Woodward	OK	
CMS Rural Healthcare	JFHW Rural Clinic, P.A.	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Jasper	TX	
CMS Rural Healthcare	ETMC First Physicians Clinic Center III	RHC3	Rural Health Clinic	Center	TX	
CMS Rural Healthcare	ETMC First Physicians' Clinic Athens	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Athens	TX	
CMS Rural Healthcare	BSZ Medical PA	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Jourdanton	TX	
CMS Rural Healthcare	BSZ Medical PA	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Jourdanton	TX	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Upland Hills Health Clinic Highland	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Highland	WI	
CMS Rural Healthcare	Upland Hills Health Clinic Montfort	RHC1	Rural Health Clinic	Montfort	WI	
CMS Rural Healthcare	St. Croix Regional Medical Ctr. - Ingalls/Frederic Clinics	RHC2	Rural Health Clinic	Webster	WI	
CMS Surgical	Reproductive Specialty Surgical Center Inc	M1C	Obstetrics and Gynecology - Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility	Irvine	CA	
CMS Surgical	Corona Pain Management Ctr	M1C	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation - Pain Medicine	Corona	CA	
CMS Surgical	Beverly Hills Penthouse Surgery Center Inc	M1C	Plastic Surgery	Beverly Hills	CA	
CMS Surgical	Encino Outpatient Surgery Center LLC	M7C	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation - Pain Medicine	Encino	CA	
CMS Surgical	Del Rey Surgery Center	M1C	Otolaryngology	Marina Del Rey	CA	
CMS Surgical	Oceanview Ambulatory Surgical Center	M1C	Plastic Surgery	Laguna Beach	CA	
CMS Surgical	A&A Surgery Center	M1C	Internal Medicine - Cardiovascular Disease	Victorville	CA	
CMS Surgical	Pacific Specialist Surgical Center, LLC	M1C	Plastic Surgery	San Francisco	CA	
CMS Surgical	Emory Aesthetic Center	M6C	Plastic Surgery	Atlanta	GA	T. Roderick Hester, M.D.
CMS Surgical	Hemlock Ambulatory Surgery Center, LLC	M1C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	Macon	GA	
CMS Surgical	The Eye Surgery Center of West Georgia, INC	M4C	Ophthalmology	Columbus	GA	
CMS Surgical	Newbridge Surgery Center	M2C-M	Anesthesiology - Pain Medicine	Waldorf	MD	
CMS Surgical	The Gastro Surgi Center of New Jersey, LLC	M5C	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Mountainside	NJ	Marvin Lipsky, M.D.
CMS Surgical	Surplex, LLC	M1C	Plastic Surgery	Paramus	NJ	
CMS Surgical	Bogdan Surgery Center, PC	M1C-M	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation - Pain Medicine	Freehold	NJ	
CMS Surgical	Physician Surgery Center of Albuquerque	M2C	Ophthalmology	Albuquerque	NM	
CMS Surgical	Spring Valley Surgery Center, LLC	M3C	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation - Pain Medicine	Las Vegas	NV	
CMS Surgical	Grand Street Gastroenterology Inc	M1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Kingston	NY	
CMS Surgical	Queens Boulevard ASC, LLC	M1C-M	Internal Medicine - Gastroenterology	Rego Park	NY	
CMS Surgical	Central Ohio Urology Surgery Center, LLC	M6C-M	Urology	Gahanna	OH	
CMS Surgical	Wilson Creek Surgical Center	M5C	Otolaryngology	McKinney	TX	



## Update on our CMS Approved Programs for RA/OPT and RHC

### *Baseball and RA-OPT Accreditation - Gregg J. Altobella, MS CCC-SLP - Director of RA/RHC Accreditation*



On behalf of our Rehab Agency (RA) Accreditation Program, I'm pleased to be providing another update to our consumers and industry. Since our last newsletter, it has been exciting to witness our program expand by 45% in the number of facilities that have either achieved and/or are in the process of accreditation! An essential part of our continued growth is the collaborative nature/design of the program, which can also be compared to a "team" approach. Like many Americans, I assimilate this time of year with our great national pastime of baseball. To me, what is fascinating about baseball is not only the various player positions that are required to successfully work together during a game, but also the key elements of the administrative and support staff of the organizations, as well as and the community and fan base that ultimately create a positive sporting experience.

Several summers ago, AAAASF began collaborating with the National Association of Rehab Providers & Agencies, (NARA), an industry trade association, with the intent to support the rehabilitation therapy industry with a program that would engage the various key "players" in the rehabilitation industry that represented physical, occupational, and speech therapies, as well as the businesses that employ these professionals to their respective communities nationwide. Initially, this "team" approach allowed for the program to receive CMS deemed status as an Accreditation Organization in the outpatient rehabilitation therapy industry. The program continues to highlight positive features such as provider support from the RA Accreditation/AAAASF administrative team and the development of surveyors who are licensed and seasoned practitioners within the industry. Thus far, this has proven to be a winning combination!

Recent data indicates that annually between 4.5 and 5.0 million Americans receive physical, occupational, and speech therapies individually and/or a combination thereof on an outpatient basis from thousands of practitioners in many locations across the nation. Furthermore, even in consideration of the numerous industry transforming legislative initiatives, many sources indicate that the need for outpatient rehabilitation therapy services will continue to rise in relevance and demand due to the increasing average age of Americans and the importance of functional independence. However, considering the industry transformation and the trends of the U.S. economy, many outpatient rehabilitation therapy providers are considering new and innovative ways to efficiently and effectively deliver services of value. Thus, the ever increasing significance of SAFETY and QUALITY of service delivery (the very cornerstones of AAAASF's Mission) becomes evident.

### *It Takes a Village-Urban or Rural*

We continue to focus on the development of one of the newest AAAASF programs, RHC Accreditation, and are excited about the progress. In keeping with the collaborative spirit and intent of the RHC Accreditation program, this summer we've participated in several state level rural health clinic association conferences as well as engaged in dialogue with various local groups and agencies to find ways to optimally support the Rural Health Clinic industry. This activity has allowed us to build upon our understanding of the needs and the value of our RHC Accreditation program.

Over the past several months, this collegial approach has resulted in an 85% increase in utilization of this relatively new accreditation program. More specifically, 103 Rural Health Clinics in 15 states have achieved RHC Accreditation while another 30 are in the accreditation process.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau data, almost 20% of our nation's entire population is considered to be in a rural area. More interesting is that the same data indicates that 95% of the total land area in our country is considered to be of rural classification. When we consider the significance of this data, in conjunction with the vital importance of proper healthcare delivery, it is quite apparent why we believe in the importance of regulatory compliance and safe, quality service conveyance for Rural Health Clinics.



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### From the AAAASF Standards Committee:

It has recently come to the attention of AAAASF that there may be a degree of confusion among accredited facilities and accreditation consultants as to the current AAAASF requirement for equipment inspection by a biomedical engineer. The Standards Committee would like to take this opportunity to clear up any confusion. The current AAAASF Surgical, Procedural, Oral and Maxillofacial (OMS), and Medicare Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) programs all require at least annual equipment inspections performed by a biomedical technician (Standard 200.070.010 for Surgical, Procedural, and OMS; 200.060.010 for ASC). This requirement remains in force and any facility that is not in compliance with the standard will receive a deficiency citation and require corrective action. AAAASF does not have any plans at this time to remove or reduce this requirement. Any advice to the contrary is mistaken and may call into question the expertise of anyone providing such counsel.

### ANNUAL FEES FOR AAAASF REGULAR aCCREDITaTION

		Facility Class	
specialists	specialties	a	B, C, C-M
1 - 2	Less than 2	\$750	\$1,105
3 - 5	Less than 2	\$1,045	\$1,545
3 - 5	3 or more	\$1,325	\$1,820
6 - 9	Less than 2	\$3,390	\$4,100
6 - 9	3 or more	\$3,655	\$4,360
10 +	Less than 2	\$4,785	\$6,045
10 +	3 or more	\$5,045	\$6,885

### ANNUAL FEES FOR AAAASF MEDICARE CErtification

		Facility Class	
specialists	specialties	A, B, C-M, C	Inspection fee
1 - 2	Less than 2	\$1,655	\$3,000
3 - 5	Less than 2	\$2,095	\$3,000
3 - 5	3 or more	\$2,370	\$3,000
6 - 9	Less than 2	\$4,625	\$4,000
6 - 9	3 or more	\$4,885	\$4,000
10 +	Less than 2	\$6,570	\$4,500
10 +	3 or more	\$7,410	\$4,500

*Inspection Fees: \$500 for \*New Facility (\*New Facility refers to a brand new location where no cases have been performed, this inspection is required in Florida, California and New York for all facilities that currently do not hold state licensure or other accreditation at the time of application.), as well as \$2000 for regular, procedural, or OMS inspections in addition to the annual fee schedule. Medicare inspection fees: Small Facilities (1-5 specialists) = \$3,000; Medium Facilities (6-9 specialists) = \$4,000; Large Facilities (10 or more specialists) = \$4,500. (Please Note: A separate fee will be charged for the Life & Safety Code inspection).*