



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Office of Health Care Quality
Bland Bryant Building • Spring Grove Center
55 Wade Avenue • Catonsville, Maryland 21228

To: Ambulatory Surgical Centers
From: Carol Benner, Director, Office of Health Care Quality
RE: **Conscious Intravenous Sedation/Required Emergency Equipment**
DATE: 02/29/2000

We have recently received many inquiries concerning emergency equipment requirements for an ASC when conscious intravenous sedation or a combination of local anesthesia and conscious intravenous sedation is administered. In our January memorandum (transmittal M:00-001) we stated that an Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) that provides only local anesthesia would meet the emergency equipment requirements with a positive pressure oxygen regulator, and that an ASC that administers general anesthesia must have an appropriately maintained and operating ventilator. The Office of Health Care Quality does not categorize conscious intravenous sedation as "general" anesthesia. Therefore, an ASC that administers local anesthesia and/or conscious intravenous sedation would meet the requirement with a positive pressure oxygen regulator.

If you have any questions, please call Michael Wajda, Assistant Director, OHCQ Laboratory and Ambulatory Care Programs at 410-402-8040.

M1:00-002