



# Surveys on Patient Safety Culture™

## Findings from the 2021 Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Database

The SOPS® ASC Database assesses provider and staff perceptions of their organization's patient safety culture. The 2021 SOPS ASC Database includes data from:



**235**  
Participating  
ambulatory surgery centers



**8,918**  
Respondents

» Distribution of Operating/Procedure Rooms was similar among ASCs in the Database



- 14% of ASCs had 1 to 2 rooms
- 20% of ASCs had 3 rooms
- 35% of ASCs had 4 to 5 rooms
- 31% of ASCs had 6+ rooms

### Highest Scoring Composite Measure



Organizational Learning -  
Continuous Improvement

**92%**

of respondents reported that the facility actively looks for ways to improve patient safety and makes changes to ensure that problems do not recur.

### Lowest Scoring Composite Measure



Staffing, Work Pressure,  
and Pace

**74%**

of respondents indicated that there are enough staff to handle the workload, they do not feel rushed, and they have enough time to properly prepare for procedures.



Agency for Healthcare  
Research and Quality

## OTHER FINDINGS

### Communication in the Surgery/Procedure Room

In the past 6 months, how often were the following actions done in your facility?



**95%** of respondents reported that before the start of procedures, team members stopped to discuss the overall plan.

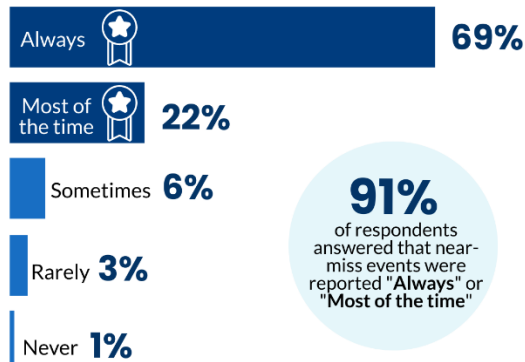


**75%** of respondents reported that before the start of procedures, the doctor encouraged team members to speak up at any time.



**80%** of respondents reported that immediately after procedures, team members discussed any concerns for patient recovery.

### Near-Miss Documentation



**91%** of respondents answered that near-miss events were reported "Always" or "Most of the time"

### Overall Patient Safety Rating



**88%** of respondents rated their ASC "Excellent" or "Very Good"

Note: Chart totals may not add to 100% due to rounding. The % "Excellent" or "Very Good" is based on unrounded numbers.

### What Should ASCs Do Next? Action Planning for Improving Patient Safety Culture

- 1 Define your goals
- 2 Plan your initiatives
- 3 Communicate your action plan

The *Action Planning Tool for the AHRQ Surveys on Patient Safety Culture* provides step-by-step instructions on how to develop an action plan to improve patient safety culture, available at [www.ahrq.gov/sops](http://www.ahrq.gov/sops).

To view the full report: <https://www.ahrq.gov/sops/databases/asc/index.html>

For more information on SOPS ASC Database submission:  
<https://www.ahrq.gov/sops/databases/asc/databases/submission.html>