


ASA: Working for You
 Patrick Giam, MD, FASA | First Vice President
 April 13, 2024



asahq.org

Disclosures & Objectives

- Nothing to disclose
- Objectives: Participants will learn
 - How ASA is working nationally and in the states to address current challenges
 - Key trends facing the specialty in the marketplace, legislative, and regulatory arenas
 - ASA's increased focus on delivering value for members



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

We are ASA: Leaders in Patient Safety


Mission: Advancing the practice and securing the future

Vision: A world leader improving health through innovation in quality and safety

Values: Patient safety, physician-led care and scientific discovery

Strategic Pillars


1. Advocacy
2. Patient Safety, Quality & Practice Advancement
3. Educational Resources
4. Member Engagement
5. Leadership & Professional Development
6. Research & Scientific Discovery
7. Stewardship of the Society & Specialty




© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

Special "Thank you" to...

ASA Director & Alternate Director



Vijay K. Gaba, MD, FASA
 Director, North Dakota Society of Anesthesiologists




Kevin Mork, MD
 Alternate Director, North Dakota Society of Anesthesiologists and State Component President

State Component Officers

- Steven Berndt, MD, Secretary-Treasurer

Anesthesiologists of Note

- Michael Quast, MD, Vice-chair, North Dakota Board of Medicine



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS


Special "Thank you" to...

North Dakota 2023 ASAPAC Contributors

- Steven Berndt
- Vijay Gaba
- Michael Jankoviak
- Kevin Mork
- Diane Schmidt-Krings
- Karen Staggs
- Eric Torkelson

North Dakota 2024 (YTD) ASAPAC Contributors

- Vijay Gaba
- Michael Gruchalla



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

ASAPAC Update



asahq.org

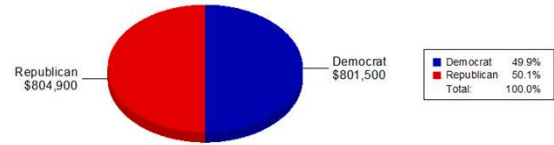
Why Contribute? Our Dollars Make a Real Difference

- Patient safety and quality of care
- Economic strength and sustainability of our practices
- Assure physician-led team-based care
- Advocating for scientific discovery, the cornerstone of what we are
- Assuring adequate support and advocacy for education and training the next generation of anesthesiologists
- **The power of unity and combined resources!**

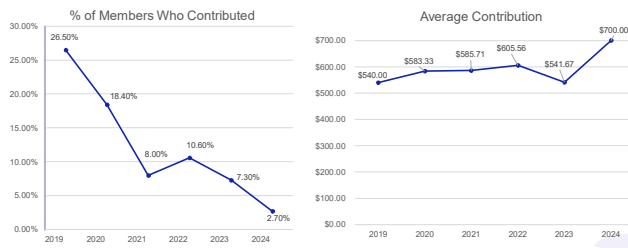


ASAPAC's Balanced Giving Continued in 2022

Total Expenditures by Party



ASAPAC Activity by North Dakota Members

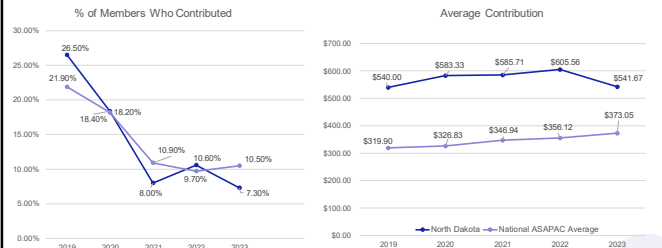


ASAPAC's Fiscal Year 2024 national average participation rate is 3.2%, as of Feb. 29, 2024. (Fiscal Year 2024 runs from October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024).

ASAPAC's Fiscal Year 2024 national average contribution is \$303.85, as of Feb. 29, 2024. (Fiscal Year 2024 runs from October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024).



North Dakota ASAPAC Member Averages vs. National ASAPAC Averages



ASAPAC's Fiscal Year 2024 national average participation rate is 3.2%, as of Feb. 29, 2024. (Fiscal Year 2024 runs from October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024).

ASAPAC's Fiscal Year 2024 national average contribution is \$303.85, as of Feb. 29, 2024. (Fiscal Year 2024 ran from October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024).



2022 Election Cycle – ASAPAC is #1 again!

Organization	Dollar Amount
American Society of Anesthesiologists PAC	\$3,950,530 Blue Cross Blue Shield
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons PAC	\$2,167,926 \$3,731,753
American Dental Association PAC	\$2,143,337
American College of Radiology PAC	\$1,935,074
American College of Dermatology PAC (SKINPAC)	\$1,792,866 American Medical Association
American College of Emergency Physicians PAC	\$1,677,334 \$1,780,757
American Academy of Ophthalmology	\$921,776
American College of Ob-Gyns	\$830,418
American Academy of Family Physicians	\$684,730
American College of Surgeons Professional Assn PAC	\$664,357
American College of Cardiology PAC	\$646,194
American Osteopathic PAC	\$590,037



ASAPAC QR Code – Don't Leave Home Without It!





2023 Review

- **Federal Scope of Practice**
 - ✓ Defeated AANA national Medicare "opt-out" campaign
- **State Scope of Practice**
 - ✓ Defeated **18** CRNA scope bills
 - ✓ Defeated **7** APRN Compacts
- **Opt-Outs**
 - o WY (partial)*, DE (full), CO (full)*
- **New Medical Title Protection Laws (3)**
 - ✓ GA, ND (Truth in Advertising only), OR (FL, Governor vetoed)
- **New Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants Practice Laws (2)**
 - ✓ NV, NM

2023 Review (continued)

- **Other accomplishments**
 - ✓ ASA/Bonnie Milas, MD, advocacy for OTC naloxone
 - ✓ Joint amicus briefs in support of winning Texas Medical Association (TMA) No Surprises Act lawsuits
 - ✓ Medicare anesthesiology teaching rule – more than \$600 million



Massachusetts BC/BS Colonoscopy

Home // Local Coverage // Health

Blue Cross halts controversial colonoscopy changes after backlash from doctors


Updated January 25, 2024 | By [Elizabeth David McCluskey](#)

"The policy took effect Jan. 1, drawing outrage from doctors who worried it would slow their productivity and discourage patients from getting a potentially life-saving procedure over fears of discomfort and pain. Doctors had lobbied Blue Cross officials to reconsider the changes, [WBUR reported earlier this month.](#)"

Change Healthcare Shutdown

“Without prompt action, the financial stability of anesthesia practices across the country and their ability to deliver anesthesia care is threatened. We urge the Department of Health and Human Services to use its authority to address this serious situation as expeditiously as possible.”

ASA President Ronald L. Harter, MD, FASA, to HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra on March 6, 2024



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS 19

Medicare: Broken Payment System



asahq.org

Medicare Payments – 2024 Rates

Some “doc fix” relief - but nowhere near enough

- Offset of 1.68% of the 3% plus cut included in government funding package
- Both RBRVS and anesthesia conversion factor will still face approximate 1.5% cut for the remainder of the year
- No retroactive fix included
- CMS will calculate and announce new official conversion factors

Final 2024 Medicare Fee Schedule Rule


Conversion Factor	CY 2023 Final Rule	CY 2024 Proposed Rule	CY 2023 Final Rule	\$ Change	% Change
RBRVS CF	\$ 33.8872	\$ 32.7476	\$ 32.7375	\$ (1.1497)	-3.39%
Anesthesia CF	\$ 21.1249	\$ 20.4370	\$ 20.4349	\$ (0.6900)	-3.27%

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS 20

Medicare Payment – Fundamental Reforms Needed

Issue:

- Current CMS Medicare physician formula:
 - Lags annual inflation
 - Includes budget neutrality mechanism
 - Causes cuts or freezes every year



ASA Action:


- *Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act* (H.R. 2474) – add mandatory annual inflation adjustment
- *Provider Reimbursement Stability Act of 2023 (H.R. 5371)* – reforms budget neutrality mechanism

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS 22

Center for Anesthesia & Perioperative Economics (CAPE)

Purpose:

- Elevate ASA's profile of payment strategy and serve as a point of interaction with CMS, the insurance industry, and other stakeholders
- Serve as a resource for policy development
- Focus members and staff resources on a comprehensive strategy
 - Medicare
 - Medicaid
 - Commercial payment



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS 23

No Surprises Act Implementation



asahq.org

No Surprises Act (NSA)

Process Improving for Anesthesiologists

- Recent data release by government*:
 - Anesthesiologists, physicians, and providers winning over 7 of 10 payment disputes
 - Independent Dispute Resolution Entities (IDRE) awarding average payments over 170% of Qualifying Payment Amounts (QPA) for anesthesia services
- New final rules to be issued soon:
 - Insurers required to provide more information, including codes to more clearly identify if claim is eligible for federal or state dispute resolution process
 - Permits batching by body part anesthesia CPT range
 - Shortens 90-day cooling-off period
- Other:
 - Insurers barred from using "ghost rates" and \$0 rates

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

*HHS release of public use files – IDR Reports 2/15/2024
<https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/policies-and-resources/reports>

25

No Surprises Act (continued)

Remaining Challenges

- ASA still pushing for:
 - Batching by anesthesia conversion factor (CF) to better align IDR process with real-world contracting practices
 - Addition of compliance mechanisms such as civil monetary penalties for insurers who fail to pay prevailing IDR parties within mandated 30-day period
- ASA supporting pending litigation:
 - Government appeal of Texas Medical Association (TMA) II victory (weighting of QPA by IDR entities)
 - ASA/ACEP/ACR filed joint amicus brief in support of TMA for both district court and circuit court appellate level
 - Government appeal of TMA III (calculation of QPA)
 - ASA/ACEP/ACR filed joint amicus brief in support of TMA at district court level; amicus for circuit court appellate level filed on 3/20/24

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

26

Prior Authorization



asahq.org

Prior Authorization

- CMS issued a final rule on new Medicare Advantage prior authorization requirements on January 17, 2024
- The new prior authorization regulations include the following requirements for specified payers:
 - Provide a reason for all denied prior authorization requests
 - Publicly report prior authorization metrics on their websites annually
 - Develop and provide access to multiple application programming interfaces (APIs), including an EHR-to-payer prior authorization API
 - Shortened the prior authorization response timeline from the payers:
 - Within 7 days for standard requests
 - Within 72 hours for expedited requests
- **These policies go into effect on January 1, 2026**

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

28

Safe VA Care



asahq.org

VA National Standards of Practice

Issue

- Block VA Office of Nursing Services (ONS) initiative to dismantle team-based care and move to CRNA-only model

ASA action

- Partnership with AVAA
- Congressional engagement
- Veteran Service Organizations (VSO)
- High-level VA officials



"We strongly believe that VA's proposed move to a nurse-only model of anesthesia care is a solution in search of a problem. A solution that could risk Veterans' lives, especially toxic exposed Veterans."

- Dr. Ronald L. Harter on Sept. 19, 2023, speaking at congressional hearing

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

29


In the States



asahq.org

Other Initiatives in the States

- **Opt-Outs**
 - Monitoring for at-risk states
- **CRNA Legislation**
 - Expecting AANA-led scope bills: 17
 - ✓ Defeated FL legislation for the 25th straight year
 - ✓ Defeated WV legislation for the 6th straight year
- **Proactive Medical Title Protection**
 - ASA/State Components to push: 10
- **Proactive Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAA)**
 - ASA/State Components to push: 7
 - ✓ New CAA law (WA)



32


Additional Advocacy Initiatives



asahq.org

New "Pain Medicine Coalition"

- **Pain Medicine Coalition (previously called the Pain Care Coalition)**
 - Participants: Founding members are ASRA PM and ASA; additional members to be added by invitation
 - Why regroup now? Reconvening as the Pain Medicine Coalition to work together on issues of interest to the pain community
- **Goals**
 - To develop, monitor, and advocate for responsible health care policy on behalf of individuals with pain and the professionals who support them through clinical care, education by addressing quality of care, access to care, public and professional education, and research



34

ASA Grassroots Network



asahq.org

ASA Grassroots Network



**Join the
ASA Grassroots
Network**

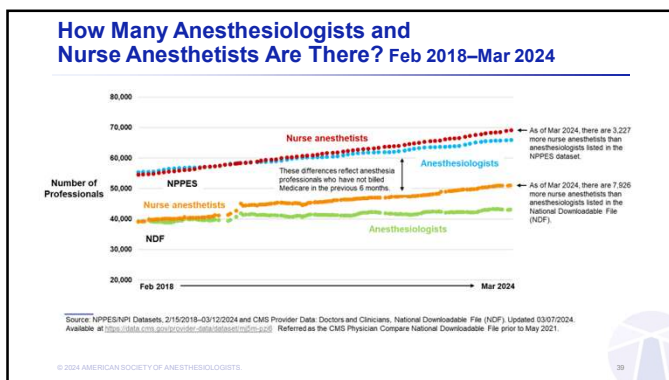


35



ASA Workforce Initiatives

- ASA Workforce Summits – June 2022 and November 2023
- Endorsements and Support
 - H.R. 2389 / S. 1302, the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act
 - Funding for 14,000 additional residency positions
 - H.R. 1202 / S. 704, the Resident Education Deferred Interest (REDI) Act
 - Permits residents to qualify for interest-free deferment on their student loans while serving in a medical or dental internship or residency program
 - H.R. 2761 / S. 705, the Specialty Physicians Advancing Rural Care (SPARC) Act
 - Authorizes a loan repayment program to encourage specialty medicine physicians to serve in rural communities experiencing a shortage of specialty medicine physicians



ASA Anesthesia Workforce Summit II

- ASA convened a second Anesthesia Workforce Summit November 2023
- Purpose: Build on the work from the first Summit and obtain additional perspectives and priorities to help guide ASA initiatives concerning:
 - Advocacy to expand residency programs and facilitate use of internationally trained physicians
 - Anesthesiology "ownership" of NORA and procedural sedation services
 - Involvement of anesthesiologists in health system leadership and communication of the anesthesiology value proposition

ASA Anesthesia Workforce Summit II (continued)

- Workforce data, communications, and education regarding workforce issues and potential solutions
- Development of toolkits and case examples to assist practices and hospitals
- Collaboration with other organizations with aligned interests

Supply and Demand

<p>Supply</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increase pipeline for anesthesiologists 2) Decrease attrition 	<p>Demand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) Create better OR/NORA efficiencies 4) Consider what can be done by other professionals under the guidance of the anesthesia department to decrease demand for anesthesia professionals
--	---

Can We Meet Demand? YES, but....

- It will take time.
- ASA will advocate for increased CMS GME funding and additional residency programs
- ASA's Center for Anesthesia Workforce Studies (CAWS) will continue to track and communicate trends related to the supply and demand of anesthesia professionals
- ASA will provide case examples and recommendations around:
 - Strategies to reduce burnout, enhance physicians' work-life integration, and enhance the professional work environment
 - Best practices for efficient and effective staffing and scheduling in the operating room and non-operating room services requiring anesthesia

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS 43

Education and Science



asahq.org



the ANESTHESIOLOGY annual meeting

American Society of Anesthesiologists
PHILADELPHIA | OCTOBER 16-22, 2024
#ANES24

Breakthrough ideas. Stimulating research. Extensive CME.

Attendees say: "I can't imagine a better way to interact with my profession."

Say yes to #ANES24:
asahq.org/annualmeeting

ASA Education Portfolio

- ACE
- Anesthesia SimSTAT
- Summaries of Emerging Evidence (SEE)
- Diagnostic Point-of-Care Ultrasound Certificate Program
- Fundamentals of Patient Safety
- PerRLS: Perioperative Resuscitation and Life Support – The Alternative to ACLS
- Patient Safety Highlights
- Anesthesia Toolbox
- Anesthesia Complimentary Education
- Procedural Sedation

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS 45

Diagnostic Point-of-Care Ultrasound Certificate Program

Diagnostic Point-of-Care Ultrasound Certificate 2022 Release with FAST exam Claim up to 45 CME and 10 MOCA® Part 4 points

Part 1: Complete a QI Action Plan (optional)

Part 2: Provide evidence of past POCUS education/training

Part 3: Identify and interpret online cases

Part 4: Perform and acquire images for mentor review

Part 5: Take the final exam

Achieve your certificate of completion

Find out more: asahq.org/POCUS

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS 47

Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH)

Perioperative Surgical Home

In the PSH model, the patient's experience of care is coordinated by a physician-led, interdisciplinary team. ASA offers:

- Education
- Advocacy
- Resources
- Publications
- Videos
- FAQs

asahq.org/psb

Explore new resources to assist you throughout your PSH Journey: [Implementation Guide](#) | [Resources](#) | [Publications](#)

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS 48

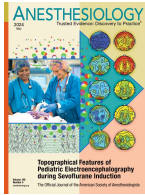
Anesthesiology

anesthesiology.org

Official Peer-Reviewed Journal of the ASA

Mission: promoting scientific discovery and knowledge in perioperative medicine, critical care, and pain medicine to advance patient care.

- **Enduring Importance and Foundational Value:** Impact factor 8.8
- **Publication Speed:** averages 3 days to online publication after acceptance for original research articles
- **Online Readership:** Over 2.8 million visits in 2023 (46% United States, 54% International)
- **Member Satisfaction:** 85% satisfied/extremely satisfied
- **International Reach:** Over 50% international authors



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

ASA Monitor


asamonitor.org

Official News Publication of the ASA

- Leading source for objective, fact-based reporting, and thoughtful dialogue for the perioperative health care community
- Columns: In the Know, Trends & Technology, Facility Spotlight, Career Connection, Your Patient's Brain, Ask the Expert, The Curious Economist, Committee News, Dr. Gearhead, The Pulse
- Central Line: Inside the Monitor monthly podcasts focused around the theme of the issue

ASA Monitor+ Supplement – Published in April 2023

- Redefining Our Future Through Economics, Equity, and Patient Safety



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

Leadership and Professional Development Resources

- ASA Leadership Academy
- ASA Career Development Workshop **NEW**
 - CV Review Session
- Be the Solution: Sell Your C-Suite on the Value and Leadership of Anesthesiologists
 - Toolkit to engage with your hospital administrators and offers resources on topics important to them




© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

Anesthesia Toolbox

- 120 residency programs subscribed; each with a private learning community
- Faculty can share and assign content to residents as well as medical students rotating at their program
- Editor-in-Chief Dr. Christina Spofford and the Editorial Board for Anesthesia Toolbox oversee content review and development

Find out more: asahq.org/toolbox



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS


Podcast Series

ASA's Central Line

- Hosted by Dr. Adam Striker
- Real conversations with peers and leaders, providing insights and personal experiences
- 2 episodes/month - covering everything from delirium biomarkers to pediatric pain scales, finding gratitude, and the value of specialty societies

Residents in a Room

- Candid resident conversations, what's keeping them interested and up at night
- 1 episode/month - covering everything from clinical preparation to global health, advocacy, and subspecialty pathways



asahq.org/podcasts

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

ASA and Well-Being



American Society of Anesthesiologists

asahq.org

Coming Soon! New ASA Wellness Initiative

- March 2024 - ASA Board of Directors approved new wellness initiative
- Significant financial support from ASA and ASA Charitable Foundation (get ready for another QR code)
- Provides members with:
 - Confidential, direct mental health counseling
 - Career coaching
 - Broad array of work-life balance resources
- Pilot program to launch soon, stay tuned!



© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

55

Foundations



asahq.org

Make a Difference: Donate Today!



The Anesthesia Foundation
ASA Charitable Foundation
Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation
Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research
Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology

© 2024 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

57

Questions?



asahq.org