Statement on Granting Privileges to Non-Anesthesiologist Physicians* for Personally Administering or Supervising Deep Sedation

Committee of Origin: Quality Management and Departmental Administration

(Approved by the ASA House of Delegates on October 18, 2006 and last amended on October 25, 2017)

Because of the significant risk that patients who receive deep sedation may enter a state of general anesthesia, privileges for deep sedation should be granted only to non-anesthesiologist physicians who are qualified and trained in the medical practice of deep sedation and the recognition of and rescue from general anesthesia.

Non-anesthesiologist physicians may neither delegate nor supervise the administration or monitoring of deep sedation by individuals who are not themselves qualified and trained to administer deep sedation, and the recognition of and rescue from general anesthesia.

*Note: The Hospital Anesthesia Services Condition of Participation 42 CFR 482.52(a) limits the administration of deep sedation to “qualified anesthesia professionals” within their scope of practice. CMS defines these personnel as a physician anesthesiologist; non-anesthesiologist MD or DO; dentist, oral surgeon, or podiatrist who is qualified to administer anesthesia under State law; and nurse anesthetist and certified anesthesiologist assistant (CAA). See also the Ambulatory Surgery Center Condition for Coverage 42 CFR 416.42(b).