Ambulatory and Office-based Surgery Technical Advisory Panel
Serious Reportable Events in Healthcare Project

James P. Bagian, MD, PE
Director, National Center for Patient Safety—Veterans Health Administration

James P. Bagian, MD, PE, was chosen as the first director of the Veterans Health Administration (VA) National Center for Patient Safety, which was established in 1999; he also serves as the chief patient safety officer for the VA. A NASA astronaut for 15 years, he flew two space shuttle missions as well as being an investigator for both the space shuttle Challenger and Columbia accidents. He is the recipient of numerous awards for his work in patient safety and in 2000, Dr. Bagian was elected as a member of the National Academy of Engineering and in 2003, as a member of the Institute of Medicine.

Leigh Hamby, MD, MHA
Executive Vice President/Chief Quality Officer—Piedmont Healthcare

Leigh Hamby, MD, MHA, has been with Piedmont Healthcare since 2001 and is EVP and chief quality officer. Dr. Hamby is an associate professor at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University where he teaches quality improvement methodology. Prior to joining Piedmont, Dr. Hamby served as the quality management officer for the southeast region (VISN 7) of the VA Healthcare System in Atlanta. Before joining the VA, Dr. Hamby was in private practice in general surgery in Dothan, Alabama where he served as chairman of surgery and trauma medical director.

Dr. Hamby has published more than 30 articles in peer-reviewed journals and written two book chapters. He has served as an examiner with the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality award since 2003. He has given over 100 invited presentations on patient safety and quality both regionally and nationally.

After attending college and medical school at Emory University, Dr. Hamby completed a residency in general surgery at the University of Kentucky. He earned his MHA from the University of Alabama in Birmingham. After leaving private practice, Dr. Hamby completed a post-graduate fellowship in the Department of Veterans Affairs as a VA Quality Scholar. He is board certified in general surgery and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.
William B. Rosenblatt, MD
Chair, Board of Trustees; Past President, Delegate to AMA—Medical Society of the State of New York

William B. Rosenblatt, MD, is a practicing plastic surgeon involved in office-based surgery and is the current chair of the Board of Trustees for the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY). He previously served as the president of MSSNY and on its Federal Legislative Committee. Dr. Rosenblatt has been an active leader in patient safety since going into practice in 1979. He was a member of the New York State Committee on Quality Assurance in Office-Based Surgery, serving as the chair of the Statutory/Regulation Subcommittee. In his position as assistant director of plastic surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, Dr. Rosenblatt convened an adhoc committee to develop guidelines for plastic surgeons regarding deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism. Dr. Rosenblatt has published and presented on office-based surgery and patient safety.

Gina Throneberry, RN, MBA, CASC, CNOR
Assistant Vice President of Corporate Services—Symbion Healthcare

Gina Throneberry, RN, MBA, CASC, CNOR, is assistant vice president of corporate services for Symbion Healthcare, which owns/manages approximately 65 facilities (ambulatory surgery centers and surgical hospitals). She provides facilities with assistance in maintaining accreditation, along with fulfilling compliance with federal and state regulations. Ms. Throneberry is the secretary for Symbion's Corporate Quality Council, which oversees the reporting of occurrence reports and quality measures endorsed by the National Quality Forum. She presently serves on the Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Quality Collaboration Expert Group, Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN)/ASC Specialty Assembly Coordinating Council, ASC Excellence Advisory Committee, and is a board member of the Freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center Association (FASCA) of Tennessee.
Richard D. Urman, MD, MBA
Director, Hospital Procedural Sedation Management; CEO, Institute of Safety in Office-Based Surgery—Harvard Medical School

Richard D. Urman, MD, MBA, is a staff anesthesiologist at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, MA and instructor in anesthesia at Harvard Medical School. He currently serves as director of procedural sedation management; his responsibilities include overseeing of all hospital procedural sedation areas, quality assurance, education, and credentialing programs. He also currently serves as the chief executive officer of the Institute for Safety in Office-Based Surgery (www.isobs.org)—a nonprofit organization advocating for patient safety, stricter government regulation, and provider and patient education related to office-based surgery practices.

Dr. Urman’s specialty interests include ambulatory anesthesia, conscious sedation, and provision of anesthesia in remote operating room locations. His clinical research area encompasses patient safety, novel anesthetic drugs, and operating room efficiency. His other interests are medical education and medical curriculum design. On the national level, Dr. Urman currently serves on various committees of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA), and the Massachusetts Society of Anesthesiologists (MSA). He is chair of the MSA Publications Committee and a delegate to the ASA House of Delegates. Dr. Urman has done nonprofit strategy consulting work as part of Harvard Business School’s Volunteer Consulting Organization (VCO) and Community Action Partners (CAP), and has been a board member of several local nonprofit organizations. His recent professional awards and recognition include the AMA Foundation Leadership Award, AMA Legislative Awareness Internship, Malignant Hyperthermia Association of the U.S. first prize essay award, and the Harvard Medical School Eleanor and Myles Shore faculty development fellowship. He was also recently named the Morgan-Zinsser Fellow of the Harvard Medical School Academy. Dr. Urman is the co-author of Pocket Anesthesia (Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins Press), Anesthesiology Student Survival Guide (Springer Press) and two other forthcoming books: Essential Clinical Anesthesia (Cambridge University Press) and MGH Textbook of Anesthetic Equipment (Elsevier/Saunders).

Dr. Urman received his MD and MBA degrees from Harvard University and completed a residency in anesthesia at Harvard Medical School.

Deborah Wheeler
Director of Quality Improvement and Utilization Management Compliance—United HealthCare

Deborah Wheeler is the director of quality improvement for United Healthcare Nevada. She oversees quality improvement, patient safety, and performance measurement activities. Ms. Wheeler implements policies and processes for the health plan and collaborates with a key sister medical group and sister companies.

Ms. Wheeler has worked in healthcare for 20 years, including a seven-year stint with America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP). She was the key resource for AHIP on quality improvement, patient safety, and performance measurement. She also worked as a manager of quality improvement at Oxford Health Plans. Ms. Wheeler holds a master’s degree in public health from the University of North Carolina.