

Outpatient Procedure Component Monthly Reporting Plan and Ambulatory Surgery Center Annual Facility Survey

Monthly Reporting Plan

The *Outpatient Procedure Component (OPC) Monthly Reporting Plan* form (CDC [57.401](#)) is used by NHSN facilities to inform CDC which OPC modules are used during a given month. This allows CDC to select the data that should be included in the aggregate data analysis used for creating national benchmarks. Data submitted into NHSN may represent either “in-plan” or “off-plan” surveillance. “In-plan” surveillance means that the facility has committed to following the NHSN surveillance protocol, in its entirety, for that particular event, as shown in the facility’s NHSN monthly reporting plan. “Off-plan” surveillance is surveillance that is done because a facility has decided to track a particular event for internal use. Each participating facility must identify and enter a monthly plan to indicate the module(s) used, if any, and the events, locations and/or procedures that will be monitored in-plan. The modules and locations selected for the month represent in-plan surveillance and indicate that the NHSN surveillance protocols will be used in their entirety for that surveillance.

- Only in-plan data are included in NHSN annual reports or other NHSN publications.
- “Off-plan” surveillance is surveillance that is done because a facility has decided to track a particular event for internal use. A facility makes no commitment to follow the NHSN protocol for “off-plan” events and such data are not included NHSN annual reports or other NHSN publications.
- ‘Opt Out’ surveillance is when a facility decides to exclude themselves from reporting NHSN Outpatient Reporting for the month.

Although NHSN does not mandate any reporting, a facility is required to report (procedure/SSI event/SDOM) data that represents what is included in their MRP. What a facility includes in their MRP may depend on their own internal facility risk assessment and any state required reporting. There is no federal mandate for ambulatory surgery centers (ASC) to use NHSN to report SSI data. We are aware of individual states with reporting mandates for ASCs. Check with your state’s Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) Coordinator for specifics regarding your state’s reporting requirement.

For every month for which data are entered into NHSN, an MRP must be completed; a facility may choose the option “No NHSN Patient Safety Modules Followed this Month”. The MRP should reflect reporting requirements (for example, local, state, or CMS mandates) when applicable to the facility. The MRP is the first step in indicating the data that NHSN should submit to CMS as part of the CMS Quality Reporting Programs.

Table of instructions for completing the Outpatient Procedure Component Monthly Reporting Plan form can be found at [Table of Instructions for Completion of the Outpatient Procedure Component \(OPC\) Monthly Reporting Plan Form \(CDC 57.401\)](#).

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Annual Facility Survey

The *Outpatient Procedure Component (OPC) Annual Facility Survey* (CDC [57.400](#)) is used by CDC to classify facilities for appropriate comparisons in aggregate data analyses and to learn more about common practices among ASCs. Participating facilities must complete the Annual Facility Survey at the time that they enroll or activate the OPC and at the beginning of each calendar year thereafter. Most survey questions are based on facility characteristics and practices during the previous calendar year. For example, at the beginning of 2026, an ambulatory surgery center completes a 2025 ASC Annual Facility Survey containing data from 2025.

A newly enrolled facilities that was non-operational in the previous calendar year will be prompted to complete a shortened version of the survey containing basic facility characteristic questions. At the start of the next calendar, that follows when a facility enrolled into NHSN, the facility will complete the survey and will complete all questions. For example, if a facility enrolls in NHSN for the first time in March of 2026, they will complete a shortened version of the 2026 survey during enrollment. In January 2026, they will complete an entire survey 2025 with data from enrollment, March 2025, through December 2025.

Surveys must be completed by March 1st each year. After March 1st, facilities will be prevented from entering new monthly reporting plans until completion of the applicable survey(s).

The NHSN recommends that users collect all survey information using the paper form before attempting to enter data into the web application. The application will **not save incomplete** surveys, meaning all required questions must be answered to complete and save the survey.

Instructions for completing the Annual Survey for Ambulatory Surgery Centers can be found at [Table of Instructions for Completion of the Outpatient Procedure Component Annual Ambulatory Surgery Center Survey \(CDC 57.400\)](#).