Methodology – America’s Best Ambulatory Surgery Centers 2023

Summary of the project

- The 3rd edition of America’s Best Ambulatory Surgery Centers awards the leading 510 ambulatory surgery centers (ASC) in the US based on quality of care, performance data and peer recommendations, relative to in-state competition.

- Included ambulatory surgery centers operate exclusively for the purpose of providing surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization and in which expected duration of services would not exceed 24 hours following an admission.\(^{(1)(2)}\)

- For the first time, ambulatory surgery centers from all US states were included in the survey.

- The 25 states with the most facilities according to the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) were surveyed individually. The remaining states were grouped into 4 regions. ASCs from these states were considered accordingly.

- Over 5,000 ambulatory surgery centers were analyzed, resulting in a varying number of ASCs awarded per state: California had 85 ambulatory surgery centers awarded, while Mississippi is represented with 4 ambulatory surgery centers.

- The list is based on two data sources:
  1. **Online survey by state:** During the survey period from August to September 2022, thousands of medical professionals (medical doctors/surgeons, registered nurses, nursing assistants, therapists) and staff working in the management/administration in ambulatory surgery centers, were invited to an online survey in cooperation with Newsweek.
  2. **KPI Data:** Based on the Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) Program by the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

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\(^{(1)}\) An unanticipated medical circumstance may arise that would require an ASC patient to stay in the ASC longer than 24 hours, but such situations should be rare.

\(^{(2)}\) Source: [U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](https://www.cms.gov)
A score was calculated for each Ambulatory Surgery Center

**Scoring Model**

**National Online Survey**
- Recommendations: 70%
- Quality Score: 20%
- Covid-19 Score: 10%

**Quality Measures**
- 100%

**Reputation Score**
- 67%

**KPI Data Score**
- 33%
For the first time, Ambulatory Surgery Centers from all US States were eligible for the ranking

Geographical distribution

• Ambulatory surgery centers from 25 states with the highest number of these centers were included in the survey:
  o AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, WA, WI

• All remaining states were divided into 4 regions:
  o **Northeast**: CT, DE, ME, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT
  o **Midwest**: IA, NE, ND, SD
  o **West**: AK, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY
  o **South**: AL, AR, KY, OK, VA, WV
4,000+ medical experts with knowledge about Ambulatory Surgery Centers were invited to the survey

National online survey by state

- From August to September 2022, Statista invited over 4,000 medical professionals (medical doctors/surgeons, registered nurses, nursing assistants, therapists) and staff working in the management/administration in ambulatory surgery centers to an online survey.

Online survey by state among medical professionals and managers/administrators working in ambulatory surgery centers. Participants were invited via e-mail. For participation on newsweek.com, email verification was mandatory.

Participants were asked to recommend at least three and up to ten notable ambulatory surgery centers in their respective state. Recommendations for their own employer were not allowed.

Recommendations received different weights depending on the order in which they were given, with the first recommendation being assigned the highest weight and the tenth best facility receiving the lowest weight. A score was assigned to each facility based on the number of weighted recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS CONSTITUTE 70% OF THE REPUTATION SCORE
A Quality Score and Covid-19 Score were calculated for each recommended Ambulatory Surgery Center

Quality Score and Covid-19 Score

**Calculation of Quality Score and Covid-19 Score**

- For each recommended ambulatory surgery center participants were asked to rate four quality dimensions on a scale from 1 (“Poor”) to 10 (“Excellent”): Management in times of the COVID-19 crisis, Management of waiting time, Quality of surgical care and Quality of follow-up care
- The first category was used to calculate the COVID-19 score that accounts for 10% of the overall reputation score
- Based on the other three dimensions, a quality score was assigned to each facility, which accounts for 20% of the overall reputation score

**Weights of Quality Dimensions**

- **Quality Score**
  - 55%: Quality of surgical care
  - 30%: Quality of follow-up care
  - 15%: Waiting time

**Quality and Covid-19 Scores constitute a total of 30% of Reputation Score**
A KPI Data Score was calculated for each Ambulatory Surgery Center

KPI Data Score

**Quality Measures**

- The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services provides data on ASCs in the Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting\(^1\)(\(^2\)).
- The following measures are included:
  - Measure 1: Endoscopy/Polyp Surveillance: Appropriate Follow-up Interval for Normal Colonoscopy in Average Risk Patients
  - Measure 2: Cataracts: Improvement in Patient’s Visual Function within 90 Days Following Cataract Surgery
  - Measure 3: Facility 7-Day-Risk-Standardized Hospital Visit Rate after Outpatient Colonoscopy
  - Measure 4: Normothermia Outcome
  - Measure 5: Unplanned Anterior Vitrectomy
  - Measure 6: Hospital Visits after Orthopedic ASC Procedures
  - Measure 7: Hospital Visits after Urology ASC Procedures

**Weights of KPI Data**

The KPI Data Score constitutes 33% of the total score.

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\(^1\)The [Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting](https://www.cms.gov) is based on the most recently released dataset, which considered performance data for calendar year 2020 (last updated July 7, 2022). Please find more detailed information on the KPIs [here](https://www.cms.gov).

\(^2\)To receive a KPI Score, a center must have reported a minimum of 2 measures within the reporting period. If centers reported fewer measures, the rating for these centers is based on the reputation survey score only.
As a result, 510 ambulatory surgery centers with the highest score were awarded

**Final Ambulatory Surgery Center Score**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Rank</th>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cedars Sinai - 90210 Surgery Medical Center</td>
<td>95.95</td>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>UCLA Health - Ambulatory Surgery Center Westwood</td>
<td>87.01</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>SCA Health - UCSD Center for Surgery of Encinitas</td>
<td>86.11</td>
<td>Encinitas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>SCA Health - Surgical Center of San Diego</td>
<td>84.23</td>
<td>San Diego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hoag Endoscopy Center</td>
<td>84.17</td>
<td>Newport Beach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Florida**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>State Rank</th>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Coral Gables Surgery Center</td>
<td>88.08</td>
<td>Miami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>USF Health - The Surgery Center at TGH Brandon Healthplex</td>
<td>83.99</td>
<td>Tampa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>SCA Health – Boca Raton Outpatient Surgery &amp; Laser Center</td>
<td>83.89</td>
<td>Boca Raton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Florida Medical Clinic – North Tampa</td>
<td>83.78</td>
<td>Tampa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>SCA Health – Sand Lake Surgery Center</td>
<td>83.67</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Overview of involved parties

About Newsweek

Newsweek is a premier news magazine and website that has been bringing high-quality journalism to readers around the globe for over 80 years.

Newsweek provides the latest news, in-depth analysis and ideas about international issues, technology, business, culture and politics. In addition to its online and mobile presence, Newsweek publishes weekly English print editions in the United States, Europe/Middle East/Africa and Asia as well as editions in Japanese, Korean, Polish, Serbian and Spanish.

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Disclaimer

The rankings are comprised exclusively of facilities that are eligible regarding the scope described in this document. The ranking is the result of an elaborate process which, due to the interval of data-collection and analysis, is a reflection of the last 12 months. Furthermore, events preceding or following the period 21/09/2021-21/09/2022 and/or pertaining to individual persons affiliated/associated to the facilities were not included in the metrics. As such, the results of this ranking should not be used as the sole source of information for future deliberations.

The information provided in this ranking should be considered in conjunction with other available information about ambulatory surgery centers or, if possible, accompanied by a visit to a facility. The quality of ambulatory surgery centers that are not included in the rankings is not disputed.