

MEDICARE APPROVES TOTAL SHOULDERS AND ANKLES IN ASCS

In an unanticipated move, [Medicare approved](#) total shoulder arthroplasty (CPT 23472), shoulder hemi-arthroplasty (23470) and total ankle arthroplasty (27702) for payment in ASCs beginning January 1, 2024. ASCA had long advocated for these codes to be moved to the ASC Covered Procedures List; however, approval was not expected this year after the codes were left out of the proposed payment rule in July.

Overall, ASCs will see a 3.1% effective payment update in 2024. As always, ASCA released an [overview of the final rule](#) to its members upon the rule's release.

DOCTORS CONTINUE PUSH FOR PAYMENT RELIEF

Numerous stakeholders across the healthcare community continue to press Congress for relief from impending cuts to Medicare physician reimbursement. Physicians are in line for a [3.37% rate cut](#) and a fourth straight year of declining reimbursement unless Congress acts.

ASCA has been active on this issue, signing on to multiple [coalition letters](#) and encouraging ASCA members to contact their congressional representatives. As of early December, it seems unlikely that Congress will provide relief by year's end, but it might provide retroactive relief via legislation in early 2024.

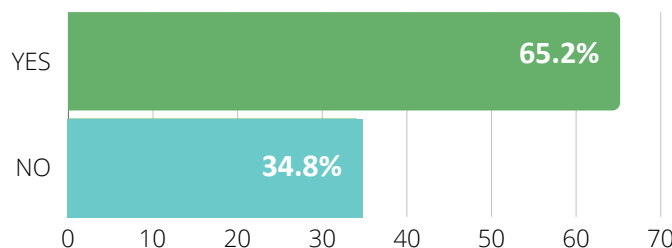


ADVOCATE WITH ASCA IN WASHINGTON, DC

Join ASCA, ASC physicians and other ASC professionals for **National Advocacy Day** in Washington, DC, February 26–28. [Register now](#) to meet with your members of Congress and advocate for your surgery center. Your voice and expertise is critical to help secure further support for the [Outpatient Surgery Quality and Access Act of 2023](#) and your surgery center.

ASCA 60-SECOND SURVEY: ANESTHESIA

Has your facility had adequate access to anesthesia providers over the past year?



Data filtered for responses from facilities with physician ownership.
October 2023 270 responses

TRENDS TO WATCH IN 2024

Three articles in the January 2024 issue of ASCA's *ASC Focus* magazine look at trends surgery centers should monitor in the coming year to ensure future success.

[Taking a multipronged approach to enhancing your ASC's value proposition](#)

By market intelligence experts at Sg2, a Vizion company

[A look at how the ASC industry has matured](#)

By Terry Bohlke, former ASCA Board president and current VP at Community Health Systems

[Strategies for combating anesthesia provider shortages](#)

By Arnaldo Valedon, MD, former ASCA Board member and medical director of ambulatory surgery facilities at WellSpan Health

