WE SURVIVED COVID
CAN WE SURVIVE A SURVEY

Presented by Maria Tietjen, RN, BSN, CSPD, CAIP
American Surgisite Centers
AGENDA

- Welcome with Albert Castillo, Director of Member Services
- Presentation by Maria Tietjen, RN, BSN, CSPD, CAIP
- Panel Discussion of OOSS board members and clinical experts:
  - Mark Kontos MD, Moderator
  - Maria Tietjen RN, BSN, CSPD, CAIP
  - Nikki Hurley RN, MBA
  - Todd Albertz, CASC
REVIEW

• All ASCs have opened for elective surgery procedures
• Strict COVID testing guidelines are in effect for several states
• Preparation and documentation will be key to prepare for surveys
EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE

• Create a COVID binder or folder
  ➢ GB meeting minutes
  ➢ IC policies
  ➢ Revised Communicable Disease Policy
  ➢ COVID Risk Assessment
  ➢ All COVID policies and protocols
  ➢ HVA, EPP
REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- In-services
- Training for all staff
- Drills
- Testing
- Documentation of all events that took place during the COVID pandemic
- If the center did admit emergent cases, have records of those policies
- If the center was closed, how was everything secured
CREATING A DASHBOARD
DOCUMENTING COVID COMPLIANCE

- Start with facility Governance
- The GB meetings should tell a story of what transpired during the pandemic
- Start with a meeting near the end of January when COVID prevention was on the horizon
- Keep copies of all state mandates in a folder
- The Governing Body to approve any new policies instituted at the facility regarding the COVID pandemic
- As the pandemic worsened and COVID became more widespread, another meeting should have been conducted by the Governing Body approving all pre-screening, social distancing, and sanitizing measures
COVID POLICIES

• The Communicable Disease Policy revised to include COVID Pandemic
• The policy should include:
  ➢ Pre-screening of patients and staff
  ➢ Determine and set screening guidelines
  ➢ Keep a temperature and screening log of all patients entering the ASC
  ➢ Have the log available for surveyors
  ➢ PPE protocols
COVID POLICIES

- What are the guidelines to identify a PUI (Person Under Investigation)
- What is the reporting mechanism for a PUI
- How is the PUI sequestered from the general population of the center
- Social distancing protocols, signage, barriers
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTOCOLS AND LOGS

• Create and complete all center cleaning logs
• Include the regular surface and high touch surface cleaning logs
• Create a policy describing the process for cleaning and disinfecting all plexiglass barriers
• Have all housekeeping staff training information available
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

• Start with a Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA)
• Include Pandemic or Epidemic Analysis COVID
• From the HVA create a Plan
• Staff training
• Conduct meaningful drills
• Make corrections if needed, retrain, and re-drill
• Keep the updated policies and documents in the EP binder
QAPI

• Majority of ASCs were open for most of the 1st quarter
• Report all initial COVID findings in the 1st quarter
• Can conduct a COVID drill for the 1st quarter
• Have documentation of all Drills, In-services, and other Quality Issues
• The 2nd quarter saw the bulk of center closures
• Report all new protocols that were instituted upon center re-opening
PATIENT TESTING

• If your state mandates COVID testing for all patients, be sure to have the test results documented in the patient chart/EMR

• Include the testing protocol in your policy

• If emergent cases are an exception for testing, have all required documentation and explanations available for review

• Check with your DOH for approved COVID test sites and brand of test
INFECTION CONTROL

• We all have created a COVID Risk Assessment
• Make sure that the Board was informed and approved the RA
• In-services for ALL staff to include:
  ➢ How to correctly don a face mask and face shield
  ➢ How to use PPE
  ➢ Hand sanitizing protocols
  ➢ Glove protocols
INFECTION CONTROL

• CMS has come out with a revised COVID IC Surveyor Worksheet
• Use this as a self-assessment tool
• Using the IC Worksheet is also effective for In-services and staff training
• If you have an Infection Control Consultant, include those COVID documents
• Policies to clean and disinfect plexiglass barriers
• Follow manufacturer's guidelines so as not to damage the product
INFECTION CONTROL

• Review room cleaning after surgical procedures
• Cleaning equipment
• Allowing for adequate time to clean the room after surgery
• Cleaning begins after the patient has exited the room
• Disposal and removal of all trash
• Follow the instruments and observe decontamination and sterilization
QI STUDY

• Amid all the pandemic planning and implementation of protocols we still need to continue following CMS and other agency standards
• QI Studies are a part of the Quality Program
• This is a good opportunity to complete a QI Study
• ASCs are going through a huge change in protocols and sometimes the plans don’t always work out
• I recommend a simple study regarding traffic patterns through the facility
QI STUDY TOPIC

• Traffic Patterns to promote social distancing in the ASC
• We have worked out several methods of how patients enter and exit the facility
• If a plan does not work, write the concept and the results
• Move to the next plan until it works
• Once the plan has been proven and is successful in promoting social distancing, complete the study
• Re-measure the results against the goal
• Surveyors will be impressed with your efforts
REVIEW OF PRACTICES

- Continue to review, and follow-up with staff re: COVID protocols
- Regular In-services to reinforce COVID practices
- Review policies to determine if there needs to be any changes
- Some practices may need to be changed or tweaked to allow for practical use
- Meet with the staff and ask for input
- Your staff has valuable information regarding the activities of the day
- Suggestions are always welcome
INCREASE IN COVID CASES

• Many states are seeing a rise in COVID
• Quarantine protocols for individuals traveling from hot spots
• Avoid any exposures at your centers by following all the mandated guidelines
• Protect your staff, patients, and center from a COVID exposure
• Work with the center Governing Body for any changes in policy

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PANEL DISCUSSION AND Q&A

• Panelists:
  • Maria Tietjen, RN, BSN, CSPD, CAIP
  • Nikki Hurley, RN, MBA
  • Todd Albertz, CASC

• Moderator:
  • Mark Kontos, MD
OUTPATIENT OPHTHALMIC SURGERY SOCIETY
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THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING