Professional Organization Overview

The Outpatient Ophthalmic Surgery Society (OOSS) is a professional medical society that represents over 4,000 ophthalmologists, nurses, and administrators who specialize in providing high-quality ophthalmic surgical services in cost-effective ASC environments. The programs and services of OOSS are designed to ensure top-quality and sustainable patient care and safety in surgical environments that support ever-changing technology and regulation. OOSS is a member of the ASC Quality Collaboration (ASCQC), a cooperative effort of organizations and companies interested in ensuring that ambulatory surgical center (ASC) quality data is appropriately developed and reported. (ASCQC developed the claims-based quality measures incorporated within the recent rulemakings governing ASC quality reporting.)

OOSS Position Statement Regarding Surgical Drapes

OOSS sanctions the use of smaller ophthalmic drapes, already available commercially, in order to reduce waste produced in the OR. The purpose of a surgical drape is to protect the sterile field that in turn protects the patient from contaminants. The standard in cataract surgery is a drape that extends to about mid chest or over a mayo stand - primarily to maintain air flow for the patient. For cataract surgery, there is no reason the patient needs to be draped beyond that. Drapes vary by procedure for the spectrum of surgery performed in an ASC while also accommodating other antimicrobial barriers placed on or about the surgical site as necessary.

References:
1. Outpatient Surgery, division of AORN, “What do you know about patient draping? Published 8/1/09
2. WHO Surgical Site Infection Prevention Guidelines, Web appendix 17, Summary of a systematic review on drapes and gowns