From: Berry, Arnold J [mailto:aberry@emory.edu]

**Sent:** Saturday, May 03, 2008 5:52 PM **To:** Boiano, James M. (CDC/NIOSH/DSHEFS)

Cc: Katz, Jonathan; Martin, Don

Subject: NIOSH Survey

Dear Mr. Boiano,

It was a pleasure to meet you at the recent meeting in Cincinnati. The program was quite informative and gave me a better understanding of the goals and specifics regarding the survey.

As we discussed, I have requested that the ASA staff send you a copy of two informational booklets regarding waste anesthetic gases and infection control recommendations to prevent exposure to bloodborne pathogens and needlestick injuries.

As I mentioned at the meeting, Anesthesiologist Assistants (AA) function in a manner similar to Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists and are another category of healthcare workers that should be included in your survey. The organization for AAs is noted below. Their website is: http://www.anesthetist.org/

American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants 2209 Dickens Road Richmond, VA 23230-2005 (804)565-6353 Toll-Free (866)328-5858 Fax (804)282-0090

Also as we discussed, the fastest growing segment of surgical and diagnostic procedures requiring anesthesia are being performed at ambulatory surgical centers or in office based practices. Information regarding individuals to contact regarding management at these facilities will not be captured through the Joint Commission since many of these centers are not accredited by the JC. The two agencies that accredit ambulatory centers are the American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities and the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care. But, many of the smaller facilities and especially the office based practices may not be accredited by any organization.

The ASA Committee on Occupational Health looks forward to working with you. Best wishes,
Arnold Berry, MD

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