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PATIENTS CONTINUE TO CHOOSE AMBULATORY
SURGICAL CENTERS FOR HEALTHCARE NEEDS

HARRISBURG (November 23, 2009) – The Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) recently released data that shows that Pennsylvania’s patients continue to choose highly effective and consumer friendly Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC) for diagnostic and surgical procedures. The November 19, 2009 Financial Analysis 2008 Report stated that over that last eight years, patients sought ASC services over hospital-based services in overwhelming numbers.

According to Pennsylvania Orthopaedic Society (POS) president Wayne Sebastianelli, “this report again demonstrates that patients prefer to receive diagnostic and surgical procedures in ASC settings. And there is little wonder why. Patients want highly effective care provided in facilities with lower complication rates and lower costs.”

In his June 24, 2009 testimony to the House Insurance Committee, POS past president Gerald Williams stated, “Several independent studies show physician owned facilities provide better care with fewer infections and complications and with greater patient satisfaction. We can provide higher quality care with fewer complications because we can bring better focus and more resources to the type of procedures we perform. Our patients prefer the heightened attention and

greater convenience they receive in our facilities as opposed to the service they may receive in a hospital setting. “

Sebastianelli further indicated, “The PHC4 report shows patient utilization of ASC services has increased 62.8% over the past eight years. This data again confirms Dr. Williams’ testimony that patients prefer the safety and convenience of ASC-based care.”

POS is a professional medical specialty organization representing more than 900 orthopaedic surgeons across Pennsylvania in advocating for excellence in the practice of orthopaedic medicine. For more information, visit the POS website at www.paorthosociety.org.

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