

**iOR Partners is a physician-owned company dedicated to helping ophthalmologists bring the advantages of office-based surgery (OBS) to patients.**

**In recent years, technology has evolved to the point that cataract surgery can be safely performed in an office-based surgical suite.**

- Over the last decade, dozens of office-based surgery suites across the U.S have been installed to provide cataract, glaucoma, and retina surgical capacity in the office setting
- These suites operate at the same safety standard of care and are accredited by the same national organizations as an ambulatory surgery center (ASC) or hospital.
- As part of the accreditation program, our surgical suites must provide quarterly data on their surgical outcomes, primarily regarding adverse events.

**Today, over 50,000 cataract procedures have been safely performed in the office setting.**

- In 2016 Kaiser Permanente published a study on 21,501 cataract cases performed in the office setting, with outcomes that were consistent with hospital or ASCs<sup>1</sup>
- iOR Partner practices have been gathering data as well, with data from over 30,000 *real-world* cases that also match or beat safety outcomes in other settings<sup>2</sup>
- iOR Partners are also excited about early data from 235 cases showing the benefits of OBS for retina surgery, where time to intervention is particularly critical for patient outcomes.

**Patients and Providers benefit from the OBS experience.**

- Patients are able to recognize office staff from their preoperative visits which can lower anxiety, and practitioners benefit from the ability to better manage scheduling and patient flow.
- Just as patients benefitted decades ago, when cataract surgery shifted from the hospital setting to the ambulatory setting, patients can have the opportunity to experience care that is even more localized and less invasive to their daily life in the office setting.

**We are asking CMS to establish Medicare payment rates for office-based cataract surgery the next time the AMA RUC reevaluates cataract surgery codes (likely for 2025).**

**There is a long road ahead for Medicare payment for OBS, and it is critical the system is implemented properly. The iOR community looks forward to helping lead the movement towards OBS along with other stakeholders in the ophthalmic surgery community.**

<sup>1</sup> Ianchulev T, Litoff D, Ellinger D, Stiverson K, Packer M. "Office-Based Cataract Surgery." *Ophthalmology*, Volume 123, Issue 4, P723-728, April 01, 2016.

<sup>2</sup> "Safety." Seniors' Access for Eyecare, 24 August 2022, <http://safesenioreyecare.org/safety/>