



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12237

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.
Commissioner

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner

December 2, 2004

Dear Hospital Administrator:

The Department of Health is implementing a data submission requirement to all facilities operating a cardiac catheterization laboratory effective January 1, 2005. Facilities will be required to submit their outpatient cardiac catheterization procedures (diagnostic and interventional) to the New York State SPARCS Ambulatory Surgery database. The in-patient procedures should continue to be reported in the SPARCS in-patient master file while the outpatient procedures will be reported through the ambulatory surgery file of SPARCS.

While many centers are already submitting outpatient cardiac catheterization data through the SPARCS Ambulatory Surgery database, not all cases have been reported on a consistent basis. Please make the necessary changes to your policies and procedures manual to effectuate this reporting requirement. If you have any questions, please contact Paula Waselauskas as follows:

Paula M. Waselauskas, RN, MSN
Administrator, Cardiac Services Program
New York State Department of Health
One University Place, Suite 209
Rensselaer, New York, 12144
(518) 402-1016

We appreciate your continued efforts to provide quality cardiac care to our patients in New York State.

Sincerely,

Wayne M. Osten
Director
Office of Health Systems Management