

OBS Practice Report Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Requirement-Related Questions

1. Q: Why does the OBS program need this information?
A: This information will provide the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Office Based Surgery (OBS) program with critical practice and procedural information which will allow evaluation and analysis of reported adverse events. This evaluation will be used to promote patient safety and quality of care for patients undergoing procedures performed in an office-based setting.

2. Q: What is the NYSDOH's authority to collect this data?
A: Public Health Law § 230-d(4)(b) provides that the NYSDOH may require licensees to report additional data such as procedural information as needed for the interpretation of adverse events. The NYSDOH intends to propose a regulation that will require such reporting.

3. Q: Is my practice required to submit this Practice Report?
A: In the interest of patient safety, and to ensure compliance readiness with respect to the upcoming regulations, the NYSDOH strongly encourages all OBS practices to report this additional information for the calendar year 2017. The reporting period for 2017 data will be from March 31, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

4. Q: My practice will be ending its OBS accreditation prior to January 1, 2018. Should I still submit this data?
A: All OBS practices accredited as of December 31, 2017 are requested to complete a 2018 practice report.

5. Q: I wasn't accredited for the entire year in 2017. What data should I use to fill the form out?
A: Report data for the time period during which your practice was accredited.

6. Q: Who is the NYSDOH sharing this information with?
A: Per Public Health Law § 2998-e, the NYSDOH may disclose reports of aggregate data to the public. Individual practice data will not be shared.



7. Q: I don't know the CPT codes of all my procedures. How should I answer question number 8 on the practice report?

A: Please enter all CPT codes used in your records. The following websites provide resources to look up CPT codes:

<http://apps.ama-assn.org/CptSearch/eula.do>

https://commerce.ama-assn.org/store/catalog/subCategoryDetail.jsp?category_id=cat1150007&navigation=pop

If you are unable to identify CPT codes associated with procedures performed in your practice, please contact the OBS program for assistance. Email:

OBS@health.ny.gov

Health Commerce System (HCS)-Related Questions

8. Q: I have an HCS account, but I don't have access to the Practice Report Questionnaire.

A: Is your practice registered on the HCS?

If yes: Send the name of your practice to the OBS program email address obs@health.ny.gov and we will confirm you have access to the report and get back to you.

If no: Your HCS Director must register your practice on the HCS. Please see the "How to Register Your Practice" attachment.

9. Q: Do I need to have a Medical Professions/Coordinator account?

A: Yes. Please see attached instructions to obtain an account.

10. Q: Does my practice need to be registered on HCS to complete the report?

A: No. However, if you would like to assign someone in your practice the role of HERDS Data Reporter to complete the report on behalf of the practice, you will need to register your practice. Please see the website for further details: https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/office-based_surgery/

11. Q: My practice was with two different Accrediting Organizations through the year. Which one should I select?

A: Select the accrediting agency that you were with as of December 31, 2017.

Practice Report Specific Questions

12. Q: I don't know the plus 4 of my zip code.

A: Only the first 5 digits are required. You may leave the "Zip plus 4" field blank.

13. Q: Should physicians who are not a member of our practice, but who performed procedures at our practice location, be included in the physician count?

A: Yes, all physicians that performed OBS procedures in year 2017 should be counted.

14. Q: Should anesthesiologists be included in the physician count?

A: Only if the anesthesiologist performed the OBS procedure. If the anesthesiologist only administered anesthesia, they should NOT be counted.

15. Q: Does the data entered for the Practice Report have to be valid and accurate?

A: Yes, the data reported must be valid and accurate, not estimated.

16. Q: How long do I have to complete the practice report?

A: Practices will be able to complete the report from March 31, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

17. Q: What should I do if my practice is unable to complete the practice report by the due date June 30, 2018?

A: Please contact the OBS program at 518-408-1219 or obs@health.ny.gov for further instruction.

18. Q: What happens if I do not fill out the 2018 practice report?

A: The NYSDOH strongly encourages all OBS practices to complete the 2018 report. Any practice having difficulties completing the report may call the OBS program at 518-408-1219 for assistance. The NYSDOH intends to propose a regulation to require such reporting. Once the regulation is in effect, failure to report will constitute a violation of Public Health Law. Completion of the report provides an opportunity for practices to become familiar with the data collection and submission process.