

<b>Surgical Care Affiliates Montgomery Surgery Center</b>		<b>Policy No.</b>
<b>Prepared by: LB</b>	<b>Approved by: MEC &amp; GB</b>	<b>Title – Ethics, Rights &amp; Responsibilities</b>  <b>RI-Language Translation and Use of Interpreter Services</b>
<b>Origin Date: 01-2007</b>		
<b>Date reviewed or revised: 8/13; 1/14; 1/15; 1/16; 1/17; 1/18</b>	<b>Page 1 of 2</b>	

**Policy:**

To provide access to communication for patients with language barriers.

The patient has the right to expect the facility to agree to comply with Federal Civil Rights laws that assure it will provide interpretation for individuals who are not proficient in English.

**Procedure:**

1. Facility will attempt to determine any special interpretation needs prior to day of surgery.
2. The facility must offer a qualified interpreter when oral interpretation is a reasonable step to provide the patient meaningful access. The facility will utilize resources as appropriate and will maintain a list of available translation resources and interpreters for the deaf, hard of hearing and vision impaired individuals.
3. When language services are needed they must be provided in a timely manner. The patient will not incur any expense for language services.
4. The Facility utilizes the following services to provide interpretation services:
  - Language Services Associates
5. Refer to SCA Compliance Policy CMP\_01\_118: Communicating Effectively with Persons with Limited English Proficiency, Sensory Impairments, or Cognitive Disorders and SCA Risk Management Policy RMT\_02\_112: Non-Discrimination in Treatment of Patients.

**History of changes:**

1-2010: Removed the following statements:

a. “#2. If a patient does require special assistance with language interpretation, the facility will request that an available interpreter accompany the patient to the ASC (family member, etc).”

b. “#5. The facility will maintain a list of employees who speak other languages, locally available translation resources and interpreters for the deaf.”

Rationale: Centers are to use the identified translation services per the SCA Compliance Policy CMP\_01\_118.

10-2016: Updated to reflect Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act regarding limited English proficiency requirements.

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### References

1. Surgical Care Affiliates (SCA) Patient Rights and Responsibilities
2. The Joint Commission, Standards for Ambulatory Surgical Centers 2010: Ethics, Rights, and Responsibilities Chapter.
3. ASPAN Standards of Perianesthesia Nursing Practice 2006-2008: Resource 4: Preadmission and ASPAN Position Statements: A Position Statement on Cultural Diversity and Sensitivity in Perianesthesia Nursing Practice.
4. AORN Standards, Recommended Practices, and Guidelines 2010: Perioperative Competency Statements: Identifies barriers to communications
5. Section 1557 Affordable Care Act, Office of Civil Rights: effective October 20, 2016