

ASA PHYSICAL STATUS CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Last approved by the ASA House of Delegates on October 15, 2014

Table 1: Current definitions (NO CHANGE) and Examples (NEW)

ASA PS Classification	Definition	Examples, including, but not limited to:
ASA I	A normal healthy patient	Healthy, non-smoking, no or minimal alcohol use
ASA II	A patient with mild systemic disease	Mild diseases only without substantive functional limitations. Examples include (but not limited to): current smoker, social alcohol drinker, pregnancy, obesity (30<BMI<40), well-controlled DM/HTN, mild lung disease
ASA III	A patient with severe systemic disease	Substantive functional limitations; One or more moderate to severe diseases. Examples include (but not limited to): poorly controlled DM or HTN, COPD, morbid obesity (BMI ≥40), active hepatitis, alcohol dependence or abuse, implanted pacemaker, moderate reduction of ejection fraction, ESRD undergoing regularly scheduled dialysis, premature infant PCA < 60 weeks, history (>3 months) of MI, CVA, TIA, or CAD/stents.
ASA IV	A patient with severe systemic disease that is a constant threat to life	Examples include (but not limited to): recent (<3 months) MI, CVA, TIA, or CAD/stents, ongoing cardiac ischemia or severe valve dysfunction, severe reduction of ejection fraction, sepsis, DIC, ARD or ESRD not undergoing regularly scheduled dialysis
ASA V	A moribund patient who is not expected to survive without the operation	Examples include (but not limited to): ruptured abdominal/thoracic aneurysm, massive trauma, intracranial bleed with mass effect, ischemic bowel in the face of significant cardiac pathology or multiple organ/system dysfunction
ASA VI	A declared brain-dead patient whose organs are being removed for donor purposes	

*The addition of “E” denotes Emergency surgery:
(An emergency is defined as existing when delay in treatment of the patient would lead to a significant increase in the threat to life or body part)

1 **Appendix 1**

2
3 References related to use of the ASA PS Classification System

- 4 1. Guidelines for the use of Sedasys by non-anesthesia trained proceduralist and nurse.
5 <http://www.sedasy.com/>
6 2. American College of Surgeons' proposed guidelines for care of pediatric surgical patients.
7 Journal of the American College of Surgeons, 2014;218:479-48
8 3. Guidelines for local anesthesia cases in a major academic center. "Monitoring patients
9 receiving local anesthesia", MGH, Perioperative Nursing, OR L. 16
10 4. Office Based Procedure guidelines
11 [https://phpmm.org/Portals/79/WebFiles/Provider%20Manual%20Updates/Clinical%20Guidel](https://phpmm.org/Portals/79/WebFiles/Provider%20Manual%20Updates/Clinical%20Guidelines/MOIC%202009%20Office-Based%20Surgery%20Guideline.pdf)
12 [ines/MOIC%202009%20Office-Based%20Surgery%20Guideline.pdf](https://phpmm.org/Portals/79/WebFiles/Provider%20Manual%20Updates/Clinical%20Guidelines/MOIC%202009%20Office-Based%20Surgery%20Guideline.pdf)
13 5. Preoperative testing guidelines. [http://www.choosingwisely.org/doctor-patient-lists/american-](http://www.choosingwisely.org/doctor-patient-lists/american-society-of-anesthesiologists/)
14 [society-of-anesthesiologists/](http://www.choosingwisely.org/doctor-patient-lists/american-society-of-anesthesiologists/)
15

16 **Appendix 2**

17
18 Selected References Addressing Inter-Rater Reliability of the ASA PS Classification System

- 19 1. Owens WD, Felts JA, et al. ASA physical status classifications: A study of consistency of
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22 2. Haynes SR, Lawler PG. An assessment of the consistency of ASA physical status
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29 status classification in pediatric surgical patients. Paediatr Anaesth 2006;16:928-31
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32 7. Bernard PA, Makin CE et al. Variability of ASA physical status class assignment among
33 pediatric sedation practitioners. Int J Adolesc Med Health 2009;21:213-20
34 8. Cuvillon P, Nouvellon E et al. American Society of Anesthesiologists' physical status system:
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36 Anaesthesiol 2011;28:742-7
37 9. McMillan M, Brearley J. Assessment of the variation in American Society of
38 Anesthesiologists Physical Status Classification assignment in small animal anaesthesia. Vet
39 Anaesth Analg. 2013 May;40(3):229-36
40 10. Sankar A, Johnson SR et al. Reliability of the American Society of Anesthesiologists physical
41 status scale in clinical practice. Br J Anaesth 2014 Apr 11 (epub ahead of print)