

New Jersey Ambulatory Surgery Center Fined \$76K for Safety Violations

Healthcare Law Update

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On February 29, 2024, a New Jersey ambulatory surgery center (the Center) was [fined](#) \$76,500 by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH). The Center received a 12-page penalty letter detailing 14 safety violations uncovered during inspections conducted in June and September of 2023. The violations cited in the letter include the following: (1) the Center allowed 3 physicians to perform 13 surgeries without proper credentialing approval, potentially exposing patients to serious harm; (2) 4 out of 11 patients reviewed by the NJDOH required transfer to a hospital due to complications arising from the procedures performed at the Center; (3) procedures performed by physicians whose certifications had lapsed or who lacked clinical privileges; (4) failure to document physicians' orders in patient records; (5) inadequate postsurgical assessments; (6) lack of emergency protocols for contacting 911; and (7) failure to appoint alternate administrators and directors of nursing in accordance with NJDOH requirements.

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