



WHAT ARE THE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS?

The aim of the Canadian Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities is threefold:

1. To establish facility and equipment guidelines that member facilities must meet before **membership**.
2. To designate appropriate qualifications for individuals working in ambulatory surgical facilities.
3. To ensure that these standards are maintained in the day-to-day operation of the facility (In-House Quality Assurance Program).

Safety and Equipment Guidelines

Surgery today requires sophisticated instruments and monitoring devices. In a CAAASF accredited facility, procedures are performed in a modern operating suite with equipment necessary to ensure the safest possible operating conditions. Proper space for the safe evacuation of patients in the event of fire must be assured. Emergency electrical power must be available in case of power failure to allow surgery to continue safely. A CAAASF accredited facility **meets the standards of safety** and patient care as those required in a hospital outpatient unit. An accredited facility provides you with a safe environment specifically designed to accommodate your surgical needs.

Qualified Staff

All surgery performed in a CAAASF facility must be done by a fully qualified (FRCSC) surgeon, certified by the **Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada**. He or she must be eligible to perform the same surgical procedures in a hospital. This protects the public from surgeons doing procedures for which they are not qualified. The assisting personnel must be appropriately certified for their role in an accredited facility, just as they would in a hospital. In those facilities providing procedures done under a general anaesthetic, an anaesthesiologist or equivalent would be giving the anaesthesia.

Maintenance of Standards

To maintain accreditation, member facilities must provide from time to time evidence that the standards set out by CAAASF are adhered to in the day-to-day workings of the surgical unit. This is accomplished by written reports and periodic inspections.

The aim of the Canadian Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgical Facilities is to protect the public from problems that could arise because surgical procedures were done in a place improperly equipped for a given procedure.

For further information please contact:

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