



# American College of Surgeons

FOUNDED BY SURGEONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA. 1913

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**Thomas R. Russell, MD, FACS**  
Executive Director

December 1, 2005

Dear Doctor:

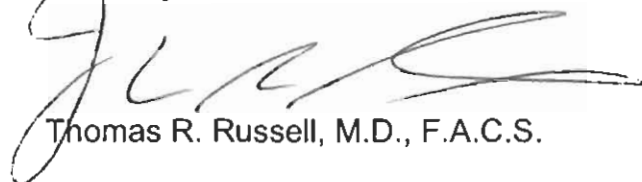
The National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is conducting the National Survey of Ambulatory Surgery (NSAS) in 2006. This important national survey was last conducted in 1994-96. The NSAS will provide data on surgery done in freestanding centers and hospitals in the United States. Along with data from NCHS's National Hospital Discharge Survey, the NSAS will also provide a more complete picture of all surgical care in the United States.

The American College of Surgeons recognizes the need for national data on ambulatory surgery and encourages you to participate. Information from the NSAS will be used by hospitals, freestanding ambulatory surgery centers, federal and state governments, researchers in public health and health services research, the news media, medical product manufacturers and others.

By participating in the NSAS you will ensure a higher response rate and improve the quality of the data from the survey.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Thomas R. Russell, M.D., F.A.C.S.

TRR:cp