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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AAAHC ENDORSES ASA RECOMMENDATIONS:
SAFE USE OF PROPOFOL
AND OTHER INTRAVENOUS INDUCTION DRUGS
FOR DEEP SEDATION**

(Wilmette, IL, May 24, 2005) – As part of its commitment to ensure patient safety, the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC/Accreditation Association) has endorsed the statement of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) regarding the safe use of propofol and other intravenous induction drugs that do not have antagonist medications. The ASA recommends that even if moderate sedation is intended, patients receiving propofol should receive care consistent with deep sedation.

The ASA includes in its recommendations, “the practitioner administering propofol for sedation/anesthesia should, at a minimum, have the education and training to identify and manage the airway and cardiovascular changes which occur in a patient who enters a state of general anesthesia, as well as the ability to assist in the management of complications. The practitioner monitoring the patient should be present throughout the procedure and be completely dedicated to that task.” For more information on this and other recommendations, please visit the ASA website at www.asahq.org.

Founded in 1979, the Accreditation Association has become the leader in ambulatory care accreditation, having accredited more than 2,200 organizations nationwide. The Accreditation Association serves as an advocate for the provision of high quality health care, through the development of nationally recognized standards and its survey and accreditation programs. Its accreditation is recognized as a symbol of quality by third party payors, medical organizations, liability insurance companies, state and federal agencies and the public.

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