Peer Review
Update

2019 Peer Review Reporting Periods I & II
are open through August 31, 2019

Period I: Cases occurring January 1, 2019 to March 31, 2019
Period II: Cases occurring April 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019

AAAASF has upgraded the peer review website and transitioned to quarterly peer review submissions. This is a first step toward the peer review program remaining permanently open allowing, facilities to report cases any time. AAAASF will assess compliance and scrape data on the date that each period closes, but the system will remain available to facilities at all times.

The previous reporting meant that, at the very least AAAASF was delayed in identifying emerging trends and potential risks for up to six months, and when facilities forgot to enter sequelae entirely, AAAASF remained completely unaware of emerging trends. Quarterly reporting with year-round access allows facilities the flexibility to submit data when it is most convenient, even after the reporting period has closed. The new system also increases the frequency that AAAASF can collect and analyze data producing more timely reports and patient safety improvements.

Upgrades also include more intuitive functionality that normalizes data using clinical terms rather than the old free form entry, which resulted in multiple variants of the same procedure and created inefficiencies for researchers. Data variations obscure commonalities that resulted in certain sequelae. As such, the upgraded input is restricted to fixed medical terms and requires the listing of each component procedure rather than a colloquial term for a packaged offering, such as a "mommy makeover".

AAAASF sent email notices to all facilities about the peer review system upgrades on May 24, June 24, June 27, and July 1. While we try our best to ensure all communications reach the intended recipients, we are aware that some facilities may not have received notices. Unfortunately, AAAASF has no control over recipients' email services or security programs and understands the current climate of cyber security. In order to ensure peer review communications reach you, please be sure to add support@aaaasf.org and helpdesk@aaaasf.org to your contacts or safe senders list and keep us up to date with valid email addresses for recipients.

Over 15,500 cases have been submitted through the new system and we are receiving positive feedback on many of the system's new features, such as:

- online password reset
- new dashboard and reports
- case review download and print functions

As with any new system, we have also received constructive suggestions, many pertaining to the procedure list that mirrors the procedure descriptions contained in the CPT codes. One common request has been a CPT code search, which has been added. Conversely, some facilities that do not use CPT codes and we are working to enhance the search with parenthetical colloquial terms, such as adding "facelift" to rhytidectomy listing. We will also post cheat sheets to our website, providing a resource of common terms for frequently performed cases.

Peer review staff is available to help you navigate the new system and procedure search feature.

More information including a detailed walk-through, FAQs, and facility login can be found on our website. Facilities with any physician that conducts fewer than three cases per period must remember to submit a completed override form for the corresponding period.