



# *On-Site* **Laser** Safety Compliance Review

**ANSI Standards Compliance, and JCAHO Survey Preparation**

**The Laser Training Institute™**

a training division of

**Professional Medical Education Association, Inc.**

*not-for-profit education, est. 1980*

**800-435-3131 [www.LaserTraining.org](http://www.LaserTraining.org)**

---

**- FOR HEALTH CARE FACILITIES -**

## **ON-SITE LASER SAFETY COMPLIANCE REVIEW - GOALS**

It is our goal to assess the facility's complete Laser Safety Program to ensure its compliance with the ANSI 136.3 (American National Standards Institute) recommendations for the Safe Use of Lasers in Health Care Facilities, and to make any recommendations or implement any corrective actions to bring the program into such compliance. Such assessment will focus on the Administrative, Procedural and Engineering Controls of the laser safety program. We will address the medical laser patient safety issues in order to assist your facility in JCAHO Survey preparation. Adherence to ANSI standards is the basis for JCAHO assessment of the Laser Safety Program in Surgical Services.

## **WHAT ANSI HAS TO SAY ABOUT LASER SAFETY REVIEWS:**

### **Section 4.3.6; FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT SAFETY AUDITS (Class IIB and Class IV) -**

A Laser Safety Audit of the facility and personnel safety features (e.g. eyewear, barriers, area controls, plume removal, warning signs, etc.) and equipment safety features (interlocks, labels, etc) shall be conducted and documented under the supervision of the LSO. The frequency shall be determined by the LSO (recommended annual inspection).

## On-Site Laser Safety Compliance Review - Medical/Surgical Facilities Specific Objectives

---

- Review the organizational structure of the Laser Safety Program and function of the Laser Safety Officer (LSO) and Laser Assistants.
  - Review all pertinent written policies and procedures to assess their currency and relevance to the laser safety program as it actually exists
  - Review all other written documentation relevant to the Laser Safety Program.
  - Review the credentialing or certification criteria established by the Facility for Physician laser privileges and for authorization of the Laser Assistants to operate equipment.
  - Review the mechanism and procedures for providing periodic maintenance and repair service on the equipment, including calibration checks q 6mos.
  - Review the staff Laser Safety Training mechanism and records to ensure adequacy and completeness.
- Physically inspect the physical plant & facilities as it relates to the Laser Safety Program and document with photos and inventory listings.
    - All Laser Safety Eyewear, filters, electromechanical shutters & filters.
    - All Laser Danger and Warning signs for each laser.
    - Smoke Evacuation equipment and accessories
    - Organization and storage of all laser safety supplies and laser accessories
    - Each laser system and all required labeling (if not included in the service reports themselves)
    - Layout and location of laser treatment rooms and areas.
  - Review any incidents or laser injuries, to patients or staff to determine whether corrections to policies and procedures are merited.
  - Perform an overall Laser Hazard Evaluation of the safety program and each laser use through observation and analysis of each component of the program.
- Prepare a written report summarizing the facility's Laser Safety Program, identifying any deficit areas for ANSI compliance, and making recommendations on any corrective actions required.

---

**JCAHO SURVEY PREPARATION** - This On-Site Laser Safety Compliance Review will identify any weaknesses in your Laser Safety Program in preparation for JCAHO Surveys, which will be unannounced beginning 2006. Be prepared. We will address the medical laser patient safety issues in order to assist your facility in JCAHO Survey preparation. Did you know that 13% of all surgical fires are laser related? An ANSI compliant Laser Safety Program addresses these patient safety issues. In the Joint Commission 2006 National Patient Safety Goals, Implementation Expectations, Goal 11 is to reduce the risk of surgical fires. JCAHO is starting to take a more aggressive look at health care facility Laser Safety Programs. We can help you prepare.

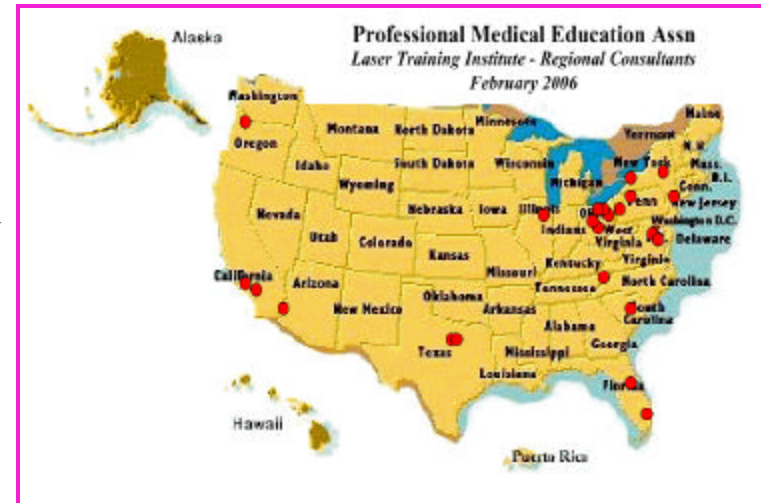
## On-Site Inspections performed by Regional Nurse Consultants and other Qualified Personnel.

Utilizing qualified personnel on a regional basis allows us to minimize travel expenses and generate greater flexibility in scheduling of on-site inspections and any training provided. Our regional consultants work under the direction of Gregory Absten. A detailed agenda, standardized checklists and requests for documentation are provided to the facility in advance to expedite the On-Site Assessments and allows us to evaluate the program and facilities on an objective basis.

(Other interested Nurse Consultants should contact Gregory Absten)

**800-435-3131**

**Info@LaserTraining.org**



## Assessment & Written Reports by:



**Gregory T. Absten, B.Sc., CLRT, MBA.**

**Executive Director , Professional Medical Education Assn.**

**Board of Directors, Laser Safety Seat, American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery**

**Chairman, National Council on Laser Excellence**

Mr. Absten is the Executive Director of our non-profit organization, and the Chairman for the National Council on Laser Excellence overseeing Laser Certification programs. He holds the 2004-2007 Laser Safety seat on the Board of Directors for the American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery(ASLMS), and is an honorary Board Member of the World Association of Laser Applications. You can't get a more qualified examiner. With more than 27 years experience in the medical laser industry he has served as an advisor or consultant to a myriad of health care facilities and laser companies. Safety assessments are made using reasonable industry standards that comply with the ANSI 136.3 recommendations. The goal is to ensure patient safety and compliance with ANSI through a safety program that is neither over-bearing nor onerous for the staff to implement. A Scientific Fellow with the

ASLMS, he has been active in teaching theory and hands-on medical laser applications in every specialty for the last quarter of a century. He previously served as Clinical Instructor with The Ohio State University College of Medicine, and with the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. He is internationally published on the subject of medical laser devices, safety and applications. Mr. Absten has developed numerous Laser Centers nationwide, and implemented Laser Safety Programs at hundreds of medical facilities.

**CHOOSE YOUR LEVEL OF SUPPORT:  
LEVELS I, II AND III LASER SAFETY COMPLIANCE REVIEWS & MANAGEMENT**

	<b>LEVEL I</b>	<b>LEVEL II</b>	<b>LEVEL III</b>
Complete On-Site Inspection (Safety & Compliance Audit) of Physical Plant & Facilities, Equipment & Laser Safety Program Administration for compliance with ANSI 136.3 standards	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Written Report - Compliance Status & Recommendations	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Copy of ANSI 136.1 and 136.3 Laser Safety Standards	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
1 Day In-House Staff Training - Laser Safety & Operation. AV Materials left with facility for ongoing staff training.		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Follow-up on Report Recommendations to manage their implementation until completed, to ensure total compliance.		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Ongoing contract LSO services to your facility by Mr. Gregory Absten on an annual basis to oversee and manage your Laser Safety Program & ongoing issues - working with an in-house liason at your facility which you appoint. Responsibility for the program is assumed by us, with unlimited support throughout the year. This frees up your personnel.			<b>X</b>
NCLE Laser Certification of your Facility's Laser Safety Program, as being ANSI 136.3 compliant			<b>X</b>
FEE, Plus travel expenses	<b>\$1850</b>	<b>\$3500</b>	<b>\$6500</b> (\$4000 on annual renewals)

\* Pricing 2006 subject to change

## Which Level of Support & Management? I-III ?

The Level I Review satisfies the basic requirements of the On-Site Laser Safety Review and compliance with ANSI 136.3 standards for a good price. It serves as the required Laser Safety Audit by these ANSI standards and provides recommendations on changes to your program and policies. ANSI compliance is also the basis for passing the JCAHO Survey related to the laser safety program. If you just need the review and advice, this is it.

Levels II and III Reviews provide additional support and training to bring your program into compliance, provides NCLE Laser Certification of the Facility's Laser Safety Program, and delegates Laser Safety Officer (LSO) responsibilities for your facility to Mr. Gregory Absten on an annual basis. This frees your own staff from the time and responsibility of managing the safety program, and Mr Absten will work through your appointed liaison to monitor the program, provide ongoing training and address specific issues as they arise. You choose the level of support.

Appointment of an LSO is an absolute requirement in ALL health care facilities that use lasers of any type or number.



## What about Aesthetic Programs, Offices or Medical Spas?

ANSI requirements apply to ALL health care settings including small offices, clinics, aesthetic practices or medical spas. Many insurance companies require the training that is incorporated into the Laser Safety Program to meet their requirements for insurability of individual practices. The format of the on-site safety compliance review is essentially the same for individual practices, compared to major medical facilities, but the specific items reviewed will vary depending on the setting, lasers utilized and personnel involved.



[www.LaserCertification.org](http://www.LaserCertification.org)  
for more information on Facility Certification



## WHAT IS NCLE LASER CERTIFICATION OF OUR LASER SAFETY PROGRAM?

The National Council on Laser Excellence (NCLE) is a Laser Credentialing Board of our non-profit organization. Established in 2000, it issues voluntary professional credentials to non-physicians in the areas of Medical Laser Safety Officers, and Laser Operators in the areas of Surgical, Aesthetic and specific Hair Removal laser use.

The NCLE additionally Certifies Health Care Facilities as being ANSI 136.3 compliant. Gaining an NCLE Laser Certification of your Laser Safety Program provides a high level of professional recognition for your facility. It reflects requirements that exceed ANSI 136.3, including the requirement for an LSO that has gained Certification themselves as a Laser Safety Officer through either the NCLE or BLS Medical Laser Safety Officer programs. These NCLE Laser Facility Certifications are issued on an annual basis, subject to annual review and ongoing compliance. Our Level III Review guarantees that the facility meets the requirements for this Laser Certification, and includes the NCLE fee for the Certification in the Level III pricing.

## TRAINING:



ANSI requires that all perioperative personnel working with or around class IIIb and IV medical laser systems received documented training in laser safety, and in laser operation for those assistants who will be operating laser equipment. All training **MUST** be documented and retained on file.

Our Level II and III safety compliance reviews incorporate in-house training for your staff. Additionally we'll be supplying audio-visual materials for ongoing laser safety inservices for your staff. All programs are accredited for nursing contact hours.

At the option of the facility, the training provided doesn't stop at just the safety and theory that some groups provide. We can roll up our sleeves and perform detailed training in operation and troubleshooting of your specific laser units with staff that are ordinarily assigned to operate the equipment. Included with Level II and III reviews, such training can also be purchased to add-on to the Level I Reviews if needed.

**[www.LaserTraining.org](http://www.LaserTraining.org)**  
for more details on in-house training options

