



**Professional Medical Education Assn, inc**

*"The Laser Training Institute"*

*not-for-profit continuing medical education, est 1978*

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# **LASER SAFETY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM™**

## **LSMP™**

**An effective and efficient program for Hospitals and Ambulatory Surgery Centers to manage compliance with ANSI Laser Safety Standards and meet requirements of other regulatory agencies.**

Larger health care facilities such as Medical Centers, Hospitals and Ambulatory Care Centers are required to comply with a variety of State and Federal regulations for maintaining a safe working environment during laser procedures. In the U.S. these are based upon the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z136.3 Standards for the Safe Use of Lasers in Health Care.

Compliance consists largely of documentation of education for ALL health care staff including the physician and nonphysician users applying the treatments, laser operators and assistants working the control panels and setting up delivery devices for the lasers, all staff that are exposed to the laser environment, and importantly the Medical Laser Safety Officer (MLSO) who administratively manages this Laser Safety Program. Various levels of training are required for all these personnel, and national certification beyond just training is recommended by ANSI for the Medical Laser Safety Officer. ALL staff that might have occasion to enter a laser treatment area are required to have documented basic laser training, so essentially that applies to all facility employees.

There are requirements for internal credentialing of your laser users and operators, periodic audits of the safety program, compliance requirements for rental laser use, calibration and maintenance of laser devices, management of plume from laser procedures, reporting procedures for laser incidents, and proper use of protective eyewear and other PPE's. The facility appointed MLSO is the person that manages this, but it can get confusing and complex since it crosses all facility departments. We can make this easier with our Laser Safety Program Management™ by helping you coordinate this for a reasonable annual fee. We'll train and work directly with the appointed Laser Safety Officer to coordinate these activities.

The core of our LSMP™ consists of an online learning system to record and track progress of individuals through the system. We provide this for all hospital staff in all areas (per main

campus – and up to one satellite facility) plus provide initial review and templates for laser policies and procedures. This core program is available at \$3900 per year with a 2 year agreement. Additional modules/services may be added to this for a 33% discount on standard fees.

**Here's what's included in the core LSMP™:**

- Use of our Learning Management system for all employees to provide and track required education and training. We provide the accredited online training for most levels and will brand this with your facility name, so all employees are part of the same group. This system provides on demand reports for the status of all enrolled through downloaded spreadsheets, or individual look ups. For the Core program price, the facility will appoint a “reporter” to administratively enter or upload employee names into the system and download reports, including downloading copies of the accredited certificates of laser training. The facility appointed LSO (or someone delegated by them) should serve as this “reporter” in the learning system and enroll staff as needed. If requested, we can provide all that data entry and management on behalf of the facility for an additional fee. The learning system automatically sends reminders to students when needed, and sends a completion notice along with a link to their accredited certificate of training. The “reporter” assigned by the facility also gets copies of those completion notices and certificates. That appointed person will be listed as the “trainer” on the online courses and all questions from students will go through them. They may be forwarded to us for responses when needed.
- Accredited Online Courses that are available for your staff will include:
  - Medical Laser Safety Officer – 16 hour program for those appointed as the LSO. This will also apply to any appointed Deputy LSO’s or Laser Safety Site Contacts.
  - Physician Laser Basic Science and Safety – 1hr 45mins. This program is the first step in credentialing for all physicians applying for laser privileges. Our learning system provides and documents this. They will then go on to obtain clinical laser training in their specialty and conduct one or more preceptored cases as determined by your facility’s credentialing committee.
  - Staff Basic Laser Safety Orientation – 15 minute version for ALL facility employees who might have occasion to be in a laser area – all employees.
  - Staff Basic Laser Safety Training – 30 minute expanded version of basic laser safety intended for people routinely working in the laser environment but not necessarily operating lasers – i.e. perioperative but not laser operators.
  - Surgical Laser Techs – Operation and Safety – 3+ hour course for nurses or surgical technicians that serve as laser operators setting up and operating the laser devices for physicians or nonphysician users applying the treatments.
  - Documentation of Hands-On training for Surgical Laser Techs – Note that as part of our core program we do not provide the in-person hands-on instruction needed

for training of physicians, nonphysician laser users, or surgical techs. The learning system does accommodate recording of these hands-on training sessions so that you will have that permanently on record. You may use other more experienced staff or manufacturer's representatives to provide this hands-on training and then document it in the learning system. If requested, we can provide this in-person training at your facility for an additional discounted fee.

- Documentation of periodic staff competency checks – we do not provide these competency checks in person but can provide checklists for your more experienced staff or manufacturer's representatives to do them. The learning system does accommodate recordings of these competency checks so that you will have that permanently on record. If requested, we can provide these in-person competency checks at your facility for an additional discounted fee.
- Refresher training for all staff including Physicians, Dentists, Laser Operators and Laser Safety Officers. 1 hr and 45 minute online program that reviews key laser safety concepts. This may be used to meet the refresher training requirement in the ANSI standards, performed every 1-5 years at the option of the facility. This may be combined with the competency checks if desired. The learning system may be set to send automatic reminders at a predetermined interval to keep everyone up to date with recurrency. This is not required for all personnel but just for "Key" personnel of the laser program such as the laser safety officer, users and operators.
- Surgical Laser Airway Safety – online course on how to prevent and manage airway fires. Intended primarily for physicians in Anesthesia, ENT, Pulmonary and Thoracic Surgery, but also used for key staff members for airway procedures. Includes video illustrations of various airway fires and lists ANSI procedures to minimize risks and manage a fire. This program is critically important for facilities performing laser airway procedures.
- Aesthetic Laser and Light Based Procedures – 24 hrs. This online course is a clinical course in cosmetic and aesthetic procedures such as laser hair removal, vascular lesions, skin rejuvenation, etc.. It is intended for physician and nonphysician laser users providing these treatments to patients – typically in a dermatology or outpatient setting. This does not include hands-on training which may be provided by more senior staff. We can provide the hands-on training on your own laser equipment at your facility for an additional fee.
- PhotoBioModulation (Low Level Laser Therapy) – 8 hr online course that covers all the principles and basics of these light therapies used for wound healing, chronic pain, arthritis, stop smoking and many other uses. The user would still need hands-on training from the manufacturer on their specific device (they are all very proprietary) but this core program gives them the broad foundation and a formal certificate of training for documentation purposes. These devices are

frequently found in pain clinics, dental clinics or physical therapy clinics of hospitals. We can provide the hands-on training for an additional discounted fee.

- Laser Maintenance and Repair – for Biomedical Engineers in a facility. There are two levels of accredited online programs available for these service technicians. One is about an hour general introduction and orientation to laser service as an awareness program – 1<sup>st</sup> step. The other is a 16 hour series of lectures on laser maintenance intended for those going on to service laser equipment – 2<sup>nd</sup> step. Both are included in this core program, but neither by themselves is sufficient to enable the engineer to provide laser service without further hands-on training. They may then attend manufacturer supported training, or enroll in our quarterly Laser Maintenance and Repair class in Columbus Ohio USA at a discount of 33% on the regular price of those week long classes.
- Other online programs are available as needed for your entire staff:
  - Medical Laser Accidents, Incidents & Complications
  - Laser Safety Awareness – an overview program of about 45 minutes for administrators and managers.
  - Cliff Notes Summary of ANSI Z136.3  
(We provide 1 copy of the actual ANSI standards to the facility)
  - Laser Tattoo Removal
  - Laser Hair Removal
  - Aesthetic Laser Employee Orientation
  - Physicians, Lasers in Urology – an introduction
  - Physicians, Lasers in Ophthalmology – an introduction
- Administrative Review at the beginning of your LSPM™
  - 1 Copy of the ANSI Z136.3 Standards for Safe Use of Lasers in Health Care Facilities
  - An offsite remote review of your existing policies and procedures with general recommendations to be implemented by the LSO.
  - Administrative general review of your inventory of laser devices (this is more for helping your LSO get organized with this than it is for us to review it).
- Consulting via Telephone or Zoom meeting on an as needed basis.

### **ADDITIONAL SERVICES/MODULES MAY BE ADDED TO YOUR CORE LSMP™**

These are provided to our LSPM™ clients at a 33% discount on regular pricing.

You can do these yourself and we'll direct you in the core LSMP™, but we can add on these services on an as needed basis.

- On site Laser Safety Audit, performed every 1-5 years at your discretion
- Off site review and assistance with your own Laser Safety Audit

- Assistance with writing your own facility specific laser safety policies/procedures. We will already provide templates as part of your core program but for an additional fee can help you customize and write your own.
- Laser Maintenance and Repair week long course in Columbus Ohio
- Inhouse training at your facility, generally from 1-3 days. If you have us conduct hands-on training for your staff running laser equipment, we'd suggest that you schedule a session twice per year at your facility, or as desired. These inhouse sessions can include initial hands-on training, competency checks, or full seminars for staff.
- In person Seminar for Laser Safety Officer in Columbus Ohio (you already have this program as an online course in your core program, but you may send someone to the seminar at a discounted fee.)
- NCLC Laser Certifications – available for Medical Laser Safety Officers (CLSO/M), Laser Repair Technicians (CLRT), Aesthetic Laser Operators (CLO/A) and the more limited Laser Hair Removal Specialist (CLHRS). These individuals will then be listed in the International Laser Certification Registry at <https://NCLC.clubexpress.com>
- Complete training for Laser Medical Directors and Laser Supervisors (defined by State requirements). These do not come entirely through our organization so are not discounted here but are available to add to your program when needed.
- Management of all data entry, course enrollments and periodic reporting from your learning system. This would be at a monthly fee, or at no charge if you do it yourself.
- Your main campus and up to one satellite facility are included in the core pricing. You may add additional satellite facilities or hospitals to this program for \$2000 per facility.

## **UPGRADE THIS LSMP™ TO A FULL TURNKEY SYSTEM – USA ONLY**

### **Medical Laser Center Development**

If desired, you may contract with us to serve as the designated Medical Laser Safety Officer at your facility. We will put together and manage your entire Laser Safety Program, interfacing with your administration, physician credentialing, main and outpatient surgery depts, clinical engineering, and all depts using laser. We'll need to appoint a Deputy Laser Safety Officer from your staff to work alongside us and act as the interface between us and your facility, and allow laser safety site contacts to be appointed in various departments and locations to interface with them. We'll be onsite at your facility once every quarter to meet with key staff and administration and conduct live training when needed. Initially we'll start with a several day session to include a complete laser safety Audit and assessment of your existing laser program and facilities. Your appointed Deputy Laser Safety Officer will consult with us in between the quarterly trips for maintenance of your program. We can assess what services you currently offer and suggest and organize implementation of additional laser services upon your review and approval. Additional laser services will require that we work closely with your medical staff and department chairmen to determine needs and feasibility.

**Background information on the co-directors of your LSMP™:** Both are sitting members of the ANSI Z136.3 committee on the safe use of lasers in health care, and Ms. Smalley is the Chairperson of that committee.

### **Gregory T Absten BSc, MBA, CLSO/M**



**Executive Director of Professional Medical Education Association,** Mr. Absten, has been actively involved in the Medical Laser field for more than 47 years, with an initial background in critical care and surgery in the Allied Medical areas and Critical Care Medicine. He is an internationally recognized lecturer and author on medical lasers and has taught hundreds of surgical and nursing courses in every specialty over the years. He is founder and Executive Director of the nonprofit Professional Medical Education Association and chairs the National Council on Laser Certification - a laser credentialing board of the nonprofit group. A

Scientific Fellow with the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery (ASLMS), he served as the Course Director for their "Laser Biophysics and Safety" workshops for more than eight years, and as the Exhibits Chairman at their annual scientific meeting for more than 15 years. He has served on the Board of Directors of the ASLMS in the Laser Safety seat and has sat on their committees for Education & Training, Safety, and Communications. He sits on the ANSI. Z136.3 Committee for the "Safe use of Lasers in Health Care Facilities" and is the lead member for the Education and Certification, and the Regulatory and Legislative working groups. This background has enabled us to offer a variety of standardized and customized laser training programs for physicians, nurses, laser safety officers, technicians, and biomedical engineers -- utilizing both Mr. Absten and Physician, Nursing & Technical faculty from around the nation. He holds all the NCLC Laser Certifications. His curricula vitae is available for review at <https://lasertraining.org/Library/CVs/CV-Absten2025.pdf>.

### **Penny J Smalley RN, CLSO/M**



**Technology Concepts International.** Penny is an independent nurse consultant and certified medical laser safety officer, with a focus on perioperative safety when working with energy based surgical technologies. Her work includes advocacy and consultation on the management of surgical plume, hazard identification and risk assessment, education and training, safety audits for compliance with standards, policy development and documentation in healthcare facilities, and extensive participation on national and international consensus standards bodies, Current appointments include: Chair - ANSI Z136.3 (American National Standard - Laser Safety

in Healthcare), Representative for ACORN to AS/NZ 4173 (Healthcare Laser safety in Australia) (task force for Surgical Plume Evacuation guidelines, Ministry of Health and WorkSafe Australia), Member of IEC (TC76) Laser Standards (project lead on revision of 60825-TR8), Canadian delegate to: ISO (TC121-SC6, 2, 8) for Plume Scavenging and anesthetic equipment Chair, Canadian Standards Association (CSA) – Safe Use of Energy Based Medical Devices (project lead for the merger of laser, plume and electrosurgery standards) Ms. Smalley is listed in Who's Who in American Nursing, has published numerous articles and text chapters, and has taught concepts in laser technology, managing exposure to surgical plume, and development of standards for safety in healthcare, throughout the world. Curricula Vitae available at <https://lasertraining.org/Library/CVs/CV-PennySmalley2023.docx>

Our 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization is focused on medical laser training and education and was established in 1978 – more than 45 years ago. We've been doing this for a while, and it shows in the curriculum vitae of the two co-directors of the program. Both have achieved national and international recognition for their work with lasers in health care and can bring that expertise to help you with your program.

For further information on implementing the Laser Safety Management Program™ at your facility or discuss contracting with us as your Laser Safety Officer and full Laser Center Development, contact Gregory Absten, Executive Director. [Absten@LaserTraining.org](mailto:Absten@LaserTraining.org)

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