

The ASA Physical Classification System

Before referring for sedation in primary care, it's important to make sure that the patient's health fits into the ASA 1 and 2 categories to ensure as safe as sedation as possible.

In simple terms, **ASA 2** is a patient with a **controlled mild systemic disease**. **ASA 3** is **severe uncontrolled**.

Obese patients with BMI > 40 are not usually suitable for primary care sedation

| ASA PS Classification | Definition | Examples including, but not limited to: |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| 1 | A normal healthy patient | Healthy, non-smoking, minimal alcohol intake |
| 2 | A patient with mild systemic disease | Mild diseases without substantive functional limitations, examples include Current smoker, social alcohol drinker, obesity (BMI 30-40), well controlled type 1 or 2 diabetes, hypertension (HTM) mild lung disease. |
| 3 | A patient with severe systemic disease | Substantive functional limitations, one or more moderate to severe disease e.g. poorly controlled diabetes or HTN, COPD, BMI>40, active hepatitis, alcohol dependence, pacemaker, regular dialysis, >3 month history of MI, CVA, TIA or stents |
| 4 | A patient with severe disease which is a constant threat to life | e.g. <3 months MI, CVA, TIA or stents, ongoing cardiac ischemia, severe valve dysfunction, sepsis, DIC, |
| 5 | A moribund patient not expected to live without operation | |
| 6 | A brain dead patient whose organs are being removed for donor purposes | |

