



What is Nurse Anesthesia?

When anesthesia is administered by a nurse anesthetist, it is recognized as the practice of nursing; when anesthesia is administered by a physician anesthesiologist, it is recognized as the practice of medicine. Regardless of whether their educational background is in nursing or medicine, CRNAs, and anesthesiologists are experts in the field of anesthesiology and provide anesthesia with the same safety standards.

Where do CRNAs practice or work?

CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered and work with a multitude of healthcare professionals:

- Traditional hospital surgical suites
- Obstetrical delivery rooms
- Critical access hospitals
- Ambulatory surgical centers
- The offices of dentists Podiatrists
- Ophthalmologists
- Plastic surgeons
- Pain management specialists
- Public Health Services
- Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities
- The primary anesthesia professionals in the U.S. military.



What value do CRNAs bring to today's healthcare system?

- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) increase access to care and are cost effective.
- CRNAs are the primary providers of anesthesia care in rural America, enabling healthcare facilities in these medically underserved areas to offer obstetrical, surgical, pain management and trauma stabilization services.
- Nurse anesthesia care is 25% more cost effective than the next least costly anesthesia delivery model. (Hogan, 2016– Nursing Economic\$)
- Researchers studying anesthesia safety found no differences in care between CRNAs and physician anesthesiologists. (Lewis, 2014- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews)
- We are actively working to combat the opioid epidemic that has been ongoing in our state and nation. CRNAs provide multimodal perioperative pain management services that curb the need for opioids.

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