

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs)

▶▶ Fast Facts ◀◀

Anesthesia is 50 times safer than in the early 1980s. (*Institute of Medicine, 1999*)

There is no difference in patient outcomes when anesthesia services are provided by CRNAs, physicians, or CRNAs supervised by physicians. (*Dulisse, 2010–Health Affairs*)

Nurse anesthesia care is 25 percent more cost effective than the next least costly anesthesia delivery model. (*Hogan, 2010–Nursing Economic\$*)

Practicing in every setting, with and without anesthesiologists, CRNAs ensure patients access to healthcare in rural and other medically underserved areas.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS

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- ▶▶ Nurse anesthetists have been providing anesthesia to patients in the United States for more than 150 years.
- ▶▶ CRNAs are advanced practice registered nurses who administer more than **34 million anesthetics** to patients each year. Nearly 47,000 U.S. nurse anesthetists are members of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA).
- ▶▶ In some states, CRNAs are the **sole anesthesia professionals in nearly 100% of rural hospitals**, ensuring patient access to obstetrical, surgical, trauma stabilization and pain management services.
- ▶▶ CRNAs have been **recognized Medicare Part B providers** since 1986.
- ▶▶ CRNAs **work in every setting** in which anesthesia is delivered, including hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and physicians' offices.
- ▶▶ Nurse anesthesia **predominates in Veterans Hospitals and in the U.S. Armed Forces.**
- ▶▶ **CRNA services include** pre-anesthesia evaluation, administering the anesthetic, monitoring and interpreting the patient's vital signs, and managing the patient throughout surgery.
- ▶▶ **Providing acute and chronic pain management** services is within the professional scope of practice of CRNAs.



Learn more about CRNAs at
www.aana.com