

# Discoveries of Distinction

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## Development of a Training Program in Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter Placement for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Utilizing an N-of-1 Methodology

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Patients were waiting an average of 23 hours for reliable, long-term central venous access in our hospital, and expansion of the IV team service was not an option. A training program in the insertion of peripherally-inserted central catheters (PICCs) for CRNAs was developed to provide another cost-effective resource in our hospital to meet patients' needs. An N-of-1 methodology, more common to certain types of traditional research, was uniquely applied in this quality improvement pilot project. The CRNA was trained by a combination of didactic instruction and partial-task simulation prior to

deployment with an IV team PICC RN. The CRNA achieved competency, safely progressing through the critical elements of PICC insertion in an equivalent time to proficient IV PICC RNs, within 10 supervised PICC insertions. This project sets the stage for a training program for multiple CRNAs to insert PICCs throughout the hospital. ■

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