

SCOTLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Scope of Practice of the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA's)

PRACTITIONER NAME: _____

Scope of Practice

The practice of anesthesia is a recognized specialty in both nursing and medicine. Anesthesiology is the art and science of rendering a patient insensible to pain by the administration of anesthetic agents and related drugs and procedures. Anesthesia and anesthesia care represents those services which anesthesia professionals provide upon request, assignment, and referral by the patient's physician or other healthcare provider authorized by law, most often to facilitate diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical procedures. In other instances, the referral or request for consultation or assistance may be for the management of acute pain associated with obstetrical labor and delivery, management of acute and chronic ventilatory problems, or the management of acute pain through the performance of selected therapeutic blocks or other forms of pain management. Education, practice and research within the specialty of nurse anesthesia promote competent anesthesia care encompassing the diversity of patient populations, age, ethnicity and gender. CRNAs practice according to their expertise, state statutes and regulations, and institutional policy.

Scotland Memorial Hospital uses the "team approach" when providing anesthesia care. The CRNA works under the medical direction and/or supervision of an Anesthesiologist (MDA). If a MDA is not immediately available (obstetric emergency, emergency intubation, etc.) the CRNA works under the direction of the requesting physician.

CRNA scope of practice includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Performing and documenting a pre-anesthetic assessment and evaluation of the patient, including requesting consultations and diagnostic studies; selecting, obtaining, ordering, and administering pre-anesthetic medications and fluids; and obtaining informed consent for anesthesia.
2. Developing and implementing an anesthetic plan.
3. Initiating the anesthetic technique, which may include: general, regional, local, and sedation.
4. Selecting, applying, and inserting appropriate non-invasive and invasive monitoring modalities for continuous evaluation of the patient's physical status.
5. Selecting, obtaining, and administering the anesthetics, adjuvant and accessory drugs, and fluids necessary to manage the anesthetic.
6. Managing a patient's airway and pulmonary status using current practice modalities.

7. Facilitating emergence and recovery from anesthesia by selecting, obtaining, ordering and administering medications, fluids, and ventilatory support.
8. Discharging the patient from a post-anesthesia care area and providing post-anesthesia follow-up evaluation and care.
9. Implementing acute pain management modalities.
10. Responding to emergency situations by providing airway management, administration of emergency fluids and drugs, and using basic or advanced cardiac life support techniques.

Additional nurse anesthesia responsibilities which are within the expertise of the individual CRNA include:

1. Administration/management: scheduling, material and supply management, supervision of staff, students or ancillary personnel, development of policies and procedures, fiscal management, performance evaluations, preventative maintenance, billing and data management.
2. Quality assessment: data collection, reporting mechanism, trending, compliance, committee meetings, department review, and problem focused studies, problem solving, interventions, documents and process oversight.
3. Educational: clinical and didactic teaching, BCLS/ACLS instruction, inservice commitment, EMT training, supervision of CRNA students, and facility continuing education.
4. Research: conducting and participating in departmental, hospital-wide, and university-sponsored research projects.
5. Committee appointments: assignment to committees, committee responsibilities, and coordination of committee activities.
6. Interdepartmental liaison: interface with other departments such as nursing, surgery, obstetrics, post-anesthesia care units (PACU), outpatient surgery, admissions, administration, laboratory, pharmacy, etc.

The functions listed above are a summary of CRNA clinical practice and are not intended to be all-inclusive. The specific privileges requested and approved are outlined below:

GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND ANALGESIA	Requested	Approved	Not Approved/ Approved with Restrictions
Preoperative evaluation & meds			
Intravenous Agents			
Inhalation Agents			
Intramuscular Agents			
REGIONAL ANESTHESIA			
Topical			
Infiltration			
Spinal			

	Requested	Approved	Not Approved/ Approved with Restrictions
Epidural & Caudal			
Intravenous			
Upper Extremity			
Lower Extremity			
Field Blocks			
Other Peripheral Blocks			
Other (Describe)			
SPECIALTIES OR SPECIFIC SKILLS			
Peds			
OB			
Pain Management			
PROCEDURES			
Intravenous Catheter Placement			
Intravenous Administration of			
Fluids			
Blood			
Plasma			
Plasma Expanders			
Muscle Relaxants			
Vasoactive Drugs			
Cardiac Drugs			
Other			
Placement and maintenance of CVP Lines			
Placement and maintenance of Arterial Lines			
Placement and maintenance of Pulmonary Lines and maintenance of Swan-Ganz Cath			
Mechanical Ventilation			
Resuscitation Techniques & Therapy			
Autotransfusion Techniques			
Hypotensive & Hypertensive Techniques			
Hypothermia			
Other (Describe)			

I hereby request the clinical services listed above.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date : _____

Department Chairman, or designee, Approval

NOTE: Any request “Not Approved/Approved with restrictions” must be listed and explained below, including any restrictions:

I have reviewed this application and recommend authorization to provide clinical services as indicated above.

Chair, Department of Anesthesiology

Date