

I have always believed that to be the best one should train with the best. This mantra helped me excel as a registered nurse in a very high acuity intensive care unit at the University of Maryland Medical Center. My hope is to continue to expose myself to this type of environment with the initiation of my nurse anesthesia career. The following description is my ideal first position as a certified registered nurse anesthetist.

Job responsibilities and duties include: ability to communicate and work in collaboration with colleagues, capability to work in a high pressure environment, active member in the assessment and anesthetic plan for all patients, and meticulous administration of local, MAC, regional and general anesthesia to patient populations older than 30 days of age. Responsibilities continued include: adhering to the current AANA standards and scope of practice for the CRNA including astute monitoring and documentation, managing priorities and workload quickly and accurately, ability to handle multiple tasks, maintaining ethical implications for all patients with care in handling confidential matters, participating and presenting in grand rounds and numerous educational opportunities, and upholding the mission and vision of the institution.

The CRNA will work within the care team model under medical direction of an attending anesthesiologist. In collaboration with an attending anesthesiologist, the CRNA will participate in the preoperative, intraoperative and postoperative periods in caring for patients in the general operating room, maternity center, interventional radiology, emergency room setting, and GI endoscopy lab. Care will be provided to patients in the following age groups: pediatric (30 days through 12 years), adolescent (13 through 18 years), adult (19 through 64 years), and geriatric (65 years and above).

The practice setting will consist of a Level 1 Trauma Center in a large academic medical center. The medical center will care for patients in the above stated ages, with ASA Physical status classifications between 1 and 6. The surgical services provided by this medical center will consist of: urology, gynecology, orthopedics, vascular, transplant surgery, cardiothoracic, ENT, neurosurgery, general, trauma, and plastics. This diversity in services will expose the novice CRNA to multiple cases helping to gain tremendous experience. The CRNA will mature immensely and become competent in the following procedures: central venous catheter placement, arterial line placement, and spinal and epidural anesthesia. The CRNA will be proficient in airway management, including fiberoptic intubation, responding to all hospital airway emergencies and trauma alerts. The CRNA will take call to expose herself to emergency scenarios involving: trauma, medical decompensation, and obstetrics.

The CRNA's performance will be evaluated on a monthly basis for the first six months by the chief nurse anesthetist based off of evaluations provided by the attending anesthesiologists, operating room staff, and postoperative care staff. After the six month probation period, the CRNA will undergo every 3 month evaluations provided by the above listed staff given by the chief nurse anesthetist. At the completion of the first year, the CRNA will meet with the chief anesthesiologist of the department and the chief nurse anesthetist to discuss progress and evaluations from the past year. This scrutiny will help hold the CRNA accountable for her practice but will also provide a welcoming environment for the CRNA to voice her concerns. The operating room staff and postoperative care staff will evaluate the CRNA to provide feedback regarding the CRNA's demeanor and professionalism with patients and colleagues. After the first year, the CRNA will then meet with the chief nurse anesthetist every 6 months.