Careers in Healthcare: Nursing and Nurse Anesthesia
Advantages of a Career in Nursing

• Everyone needs healthcare
• Lifelong growth and satisfaction
• Job mobility, flexible hours, practice and roles
• Balanced professional and personal life
• Teamwork, network
• Belong to a large and trusted profession
Preparing for a Career as an Advanced Practice Nurse

**Community**
- Volunteer at local hospital
- Interview or shadow an advanced practice nurse
- Attend professional state meeting of advanced practice nurse

**College**
- Accredited nursing program
- Scholarships, loans
- Optimize your study skills for best grades
- Talk to admissions counselor of your nursing program
- Find a mentor(s)
Advanced Practice Specialties of Nursing

- Nurse Practitioner
  - Family
  - Acute Care
  - Adult Gerontology
  - Emergency
  - Neonatal
  - Pediatric
  - Psychiatric
  - Women’s Health
- Nurse Midwife
- Nurse Anesthesia
The Benefits of a Career in Nurse Anesthesia

That allows you to:

• Excel professionally
• Have a positive impact on the lives of the people you touch
• Be in charge of your future personally, professionally, and financially
What is a Nurse Anesthetist?

• A nurse anesthetist is an RN who has additional education to provide comprehensive anesthesia services.

• A nurse anesthetist becomes “certified” by passing a national exam that is taken after completing a rigorous graduate degree program.

• After passing the exam, a nurse anesthetist is called a “Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist,” or simply “CRNA.”
What does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

Takes care of patients’ anesthesia needs before, during, and after surgery
What does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

Meets with patients prior to surgery to discuss their health history, anesthesia care plan, and other important information for best care.
What does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

During your surgical experience, CRNAs provides different types of anesthetic drugs that help patients become unaware of their surgery, minimize pain, and relax muscles.
What does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

Monitors patients’ critical vital signs, such as blood pressure, heart rate, and breathing.
What does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

Takes life-saving measures in emergency situations
What does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

Provides anesthetic care with patients throughout their entire surgery
What does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

Awakens patient after surgery and closely monitors patient while being transported to the recovery room.
What else does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

Helps expecting mothers deliver their babies as comfortably as possible by providing anesthetic interventions to minimize pain.
What else does a Nurse Anesthetist do?

Facilitates patients who have suffered a trauma by stabilizing them and providing pain relief.
Who should be a Nurse Anesthetist?

Someone who is committed and desires to work as part of a team with a common goal - the patient’s well-being!

Specifically they:

- Enjoy providing specialized nursing care
- Are motivated to use critical-thinking skills
- Achieve good grades in science, math, and pharmacology
- Make important decisions
Who should be a Nurse Anesthetist?

Someone who:

• Is confident enough to make critical independent decisions on the spur of the moment
• Enjoys hands-on work with cutting edge technology
• Is comfortable being *counted on* by patients to protect them when they are having an anesthetic
Nurse Anesthesia School Application Process

1. Identify accredited nurse anesthesia programs
2. Apply to more than one school
3. Identify admission requirements
   - Application often includes an anesthesia observation, essay, letters of recommendation
   - Be prepared for interview process
Becoming a Nurse Anesthetist
Education and Experience

• Bachelor of Science in Nursing or another appropriate baccalaureate degree
• License as a registered nurse
• Minimum of one year full-time work, or part-time equivalent, as a RN in a critical care setting
• Option of Master’s or Doctoral degree (By 2025, all students earn doctoral)
• Pass national certification exam after graduation
Nurse Anesthesia Programs in Michigan

- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Michigan-Flint
- Oakland University
- Wayne State University
- Michigan State University
Clinical Experience

The residency is very strenuous and demanding, but also very satisfying as personal clinical goals are gradually met.
Four Roles of a Nurse Anesthetist

• Clinical practice
• Educator
• Researcher
• Administrator
Clinical Practice

- Patient assessment, development of anesthesia plan of care
- Administer
  - Sedation
  - Anesthesia
  - Labor pain relief
  - Resuscitation services
  - Acute and chronic pain management
Educator

For:
• Patients
• Community
• University clinical & teaching faculty
• University dean or program administrator
Researcher

• Hospital
  – Analyze quality data to improve care
  – Research practice questions

• University
  – Clinical practice
  – Education
  – Health policy
  – Leadership
  – Science of anesthesia
Administrator
Lead and Manage

• A specialty service line
  – Orthopedics, cardiac, etc.
• Anesthesia department
• Hospital director, vice president, chief nursing officer, etc.
Places of Employment

- Business owner
- Ambulatory surgical centers
- Hospitals
- Locum tenens (temporary work assignments)

- Physician office/clinics
- Universities
- U.S. government agencies (VA)
- U.S. Military
Michigan Association of Nurse Anesthetists

For more information on how to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist and become a part of this dynamic organization
call 734-477-0328, visit www.miana.org, Facebook, or follow us on Twitter @mianainfo