

# Anesthesia Assistants and the Medical Supervision Model

Existential Threat?

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Updates in Clinical Anesthesia  
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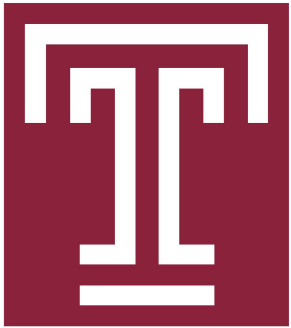
M.S. St. Joseph's University & Nazareth  
Hospital School of Anesthesia

Hahnemann University Hospital

St. Luke's University Health Network - Allentown

Cancer Survivor

Tornado Survivor



# Learning Objectives

History of Anesthesia Providers

Anesthesia Care Models

Current and Proposed Legislation

# History of Anesthesia Education & Certification

1915 - Agatha Hodgins - Lakeside Hospital School of Anesthesia

1927 - Ralph Waters - Anesthesiology residency at Rush University

1941 - Anesthesia becomes a separate medical board specialty

1956 - CRNA Credential

1969 - Anesthesiologist Assistant - Emory & Case Western Reserve

# Anesthesia Safety

Alice Magaw (1893 - c1925) - 14,000 anesthetics w/o death

1940 - 1 : 1,000

1950 - Mortality d/t anesthesia : 1 in 1680. Contributory : 1 in 1560

1970 - 1 in 10,000

2005 Mortality : 8.2 deaths per 1 million surgical discharges

# Giving Anesthesia



# Anesthesia Provider Comparison

# Where can a CAA practice?

To date, CAAs may practice in 17 jurisdictions and Guam:

Alabama

Colorado

District of Columbia

Florida

Georgia

Guam

Kentucky

Indiana

Michigan (delegatory authority)

Missouri

New Mexico

North Carolina

Ohio

Oklahoma

South Carolina

Texas (delegatory authority)

Vermont



# CAA Schools

There are 12 accredited AA educational programs.

Emory University - Atlanta, Georgia

Case Western Reserve University - Cleveland, Ohio

Case Western Reserve University - Houston, Texas

Case Western Reserve University - Washington, D.C.

South University - Savannah, Georgia

Nova Southeastern University - Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Nova Southeastern University - Tampa, Florida

University of Missouri-Kansas City - Kansas City, Missouri

Quinnipiac University - Hamden, Connecticut

University of Colorado - Aurora, Colorado

Medical College of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana

# Anesthesia Care Models

Anesthesia BILLING Models

Anesthesia Care Team

CMS

# Opt Out

To date, 19 states and Guam have opted out of the federal physician supervision requirement, including Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin. Additional states do not have supervision requirements in state law and are eligible to opt-out should the governors-elect do so.

In March 2020, CMS suspended the supervision requirements for CRNAs to increase the capacity of the U.S. healthcare delivery system during the COVID-19 pandemic. Several governors also removed many barriers to CRNA practice during this crisis. According to a January 2021 CMS report, CRNAs were among the top 20 specialties that served the most beneficiaries in non-telehealth care between March 2020 and June 2020—the height of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

# CAA vs CRNA

AAAA : “both are considered to be equivalent clinical non-physician anesthesia providers and may serve as physician extenders in the delivery of anesthesia”

AANA : “ ... ”

ASA : “ ”

CMS : “QZ – CRNA service without medical direction by a physician”

# Legislation