

**APPLICATION &**

**Self - Study for**

**IFNA ACCREDITATION**

**(Applies to programs admitting nurses only)**

**Approved November 2009**

**Effective: June 1, 2010**

**Revised: January 2014**

**Revised: 2016**

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**Revised: September 2024**

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**APPLICATION FOR IFNA ACCREDITATION**

**Definition of IFNA Accreditation**

A program pledges to meet the **2016 *IFNA Educational Standards for Preparing Nurse Anesthetists***. The program is required to submit its curriculum, and related material in a written self - study for review by the Education Committee. The information is also evaluated by a team of on-site visitors to determine if it meets the IFNA Educational Standards. The curriculum must meet "Standard III, Curriculum, Content of Program", and substantially meet all other requirements in the IFNA Educational Standards. Following the accreditation process, the program’s identity, level of approval and title of award will be posted on IFNA’s website. For more information and to make sure your program is eligible for Accreditation, please download and review the Operational Policies APAP 2017 and the IFNA Standards 2016 at: http://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/approval-process-for-nurse-anesthesia-programs/

We are applying for IFNA Accreditation

We have read and understand the definition of IFNA Accreditation and have decided to submit the program’ self - study and related material for review by an on-site visit team and the IFNA Education Committee. We pledge to meet the *IFNA Educational Standards for Preparing Nurse Anesthetists* to the best of our ability.

In addition, the program has not been denied recognition or accreditation by a governmental or nongovernmental accreditation or quality assurance entity.

Signature & title of the Program Director Date

Signature and title of highest institutional official Date

Submit this application to the IFNA Executive Office at: p.rod@ifna.site.fr

SELF–STUDY FOR IFNA ACCREDITATION

**Introduction**

The process of preparing an education program/school [\*] for accreditation involves a period of reflection, an evaluation of current policies, practices and achievement and exposure to outside influences, ideas and peoples (ICN, 2005). IFNA’s **self-study** is a tool that Nurse Anesthesia Program Directors/Leaders [\*] can use to (1) document the quality [\*] of their nurse anesthesia programs and (2) improve the professional development of their programs and faculty. Completed self-studies will be used by the IFNA Education Committee to evaluate if nurse anesthesia programs meet *IFNA’s Educational Standards for Preparing Nurse Anesthetists* prior to deciding if accreditation is warranted. Guidance through the accreditation process will be provided by the APAP Manager.

**Instructions**

The Self-Study is designed to reflect *IFNA’s Educational Standards for Preparing Nurse Anesthetists*. Before doing it please review the 2016 IFNA Standards at: http://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/approval-process-for-nurse-anesthesia-programs/. The Program Director must provide comments about how the program meets each of the criteria listed in the self-study. When completing it, the Program Director must provide the reason or the means by which the program fulfills the criteria; the Program Director must also submit the supporting documents listed as required enclosures. (*Note: Words, or groups of words, followed by* [\*] *indicate that their definition is included in the glossary.*)

**Identification**

**Please type or print the information in the spaces provided below:**

Official Name of Nurse Anesthesia Program:

Street Address (or P.O. Box):

County Code:

City:

State/Province:

Zip code:

Country:

Name of the Program Director

Telephone number:

Fax number:

E-mail address:

(Note. If there is no telephone, fax number, or e-mail address please list a name and number of an alternate contact (include Country Code, City Code and number)

Name of person submitting report:

Title of person submitting report:

Email of person submitting report:

**Please provide comments to explain how the program meets each of the following criteria; submit additional documentation as requested:**

# Standard – Prerequisites

A. Minimum prerequisites for applicants/candidates for nurse anesthesia programs are completion of a basic nursing education program of at least 36 months in length and nursing experience of at least 1 (one) year, preferably in an acute care setting.

**Explain how your program meets Standard I.A.**

# Standard – Selection process

All candidates for nurse anesthesia educational programs must be evaluated on the basis of a qualifying procedure such as:

1. Professional dossier, portfolio, or professional resume
2. Examination (this depends on national legislation issues and may not be mandatory)
3. Interview and review of candidates’ knowledge base of anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, chemistry, physics, biochemistry, pharmacology, ethics, communication and collaborator skills, and philosophy of nursing
4. It is recommended that the selection of candidates be performed by a committee of academic and clinical teachers that include nurse anesthetists.

**Explain how your program meets Standard II. A - D:**

# Standard – Curriculum

***Content of the program***

As a minimum, the program curriculum will contain the following topics or courses as they relate to the practice of nurse anesthetists [\*]:

**Expert role:**

1. Advanced anatomy, advanced physiology, and pathophysiology of all ages and preexisting diseases related to anesthesia practice and the perioperative period
2. Advanced pharmacology including anesthesia agents such as hypnotics, analgesics, sedatives, neuromuscular blocking agents and their antagonists, volatile anesthetics, local anesthetics, adjunctive and accessory drugs, as well as all drugs that may have an impact on the effect of any anesthetic agent being used
3. Chemistry and physics in anesthesia related to respiration, circulation, monitoring, and ventilation techniques
4. General anesthesia techniques
5. Regional anesthesia techniques
6. Monitoring techniques, noninvasive and invasive (see section on Monitoring Standards)
7. Functioning principles of monitors, ventilators, and other medical devices and materials
8. Operation, maintenance, troubleshooting ability, and checking of ventilators, monitors, and all medical devices and materials used in anesthesia
9. Patient assessment, evaluation, and management preoperatively, intraoperatively, and postoperatively
10. Anesthesia techniques for different ages (pediatrics to geriatrics) and categories (healthy to morbid) of patients and the full range of surgical and medically related procedures when anesthesia is required
11. Resuscitation (basic and advanced cardiac life support) and other life-sustaining procedures such as intubation, ventilation, arterial and intravenous punctures, administration and monitoring of vasoactive substances, catecholamine, and blood-fluid resuscitation.
12. Perioperative fluid and blood therapy such as crystalloids, colloids, blood, and coagulation products
13. Preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative pain management (assessment and adequate treatment according to WHO guidelines)
14. Infection control and hygiene (WHO and national standards of infection control)
15. Record keeping and documentation

**Explain how your program meets the Expert - Standard A – O. Name the course covering the topics where applicable**

**Communicator role:**

1. Communication between nurse anesthetists, physician anesthetists, surgeons, theatre nurses, and other members of the medical profession, the nursing profession, hospitals, and agencies representing a community of interest (eg, patient associations), and the national nurse anesthesia association
2. Communication and negotiation skills in the environment of operating theatres
3. Conflict management strategies concerning the overlapping functions and the potential for interdisciplinary tensions in operating theatres
4. Crisis intervention strategies suitable for patients facing anesthesia and surgery and for interdisciplinary tensions and problems

**Explain how your program meets the Communicator - Standard A – D. Name the courses covering the topics where applicable**

**Collaborator role:**

1. Systems and subsystems in healthcare (eg, hospital systems, operating room systems)
2. Means of collaboration with all disciplines involved in the perioperative period
3. Disciplinary and interdisciplinary issues of patient safety
4. Collaboration with interdisciplinary team members in research and educational activities and the implementation of new technologies that enhance patient care

**Explain how your program meets the Collaborator - Standard A – D. Name the courses covering the topics where applicable**

**Manager role:**

1. Methods to provide direction and leadership to increase staff participation in professional development
2. Assessment and evaluation of protocols, regimens, and guidelines using best practice evidence to improve patient outcomes and enhance effectiveness of care
3. Teaching and mentoring skills
4. Organization and planning skills
5. Cost and implementations of ecological issues (eg, anesthetic gases, disposal of sharps, toxic waste, etc)
6. Decision-making and anticipation skills
7. Performance evaluation skills

**Explain how your program meets the Manager - Standards A – G. Name the courses covering the topics where applicable**

**Professional role:**

1. Leadership, team building, negotiation, and conflict resolution skills
2. Utilization and dissemination skills of research and practice outcomes
3. Reflective practice
4. Presentation skills
5. Information on the function and tasks of the national association and IFNA
6. Legal aspects of practice and ethical issues in practice (see Code of Ethics)
7. Principles of education to support nurse anesthesia students in participating in continuous professional development
8. Theories of quality assurance and improvement
9. Management of critical incidents and the critical incident reporting system (CIRS)
10. Cultural safety (consideration toward culture, race, gender, religion, and other possible differences)
11. Stress management and self-management

**Explain how your program meets the Professional Standards A – K. Name the courses covering the topics where applicable**

**Health advocate role:**

1. Health promotion
2. Risk assessment on various influences of patients’ health status (eg, biological, psychological, social, socioeconomic, environmental, and cultural influences)
3. Organization and change management of health related and anesthetic risk factors (eg, instruction of smoking cessation, risks of obesity)
4. Patient education methods
5. Principles of ethics (see Code of Ethics)

**Explain how your program meets the Health – Advocate - Standard A – E. Name the courses covering the topics where applicable**

**Scholar role:**

1. Research principles and evidence-based practice (strongly recommended)
2. Application of measurement instruments that are critiqued for effectiveness and clinical applicability to evaluate interventions
3. Analysis and participation in analysis of sources of evidence-based guidelines
4. Presentation and publication skills (recommended)
5. Utilization of research in practice
6. Self-learning skills

**Explain how your program meets the Scholar - Standards A – F. Name the courses covering the topics where applicable**

**Clinical practicum requirements**

1. The clinical practicum requirements shall be designed to provide the students with clinical experience inherent in the list of the graduate standards for nurse anesthetists for which they are being prepared.
2. It is recommended and strongly encouraged that at least 50% of the program be devoted to clinical learning experiences involving direct patient care.

The curriculum for clinical practice should mirror the theory curriculum and include all the skills and techniques required to meet the graduate standards.

**Explain how your program meets Clinical Practicum - Standards A - B**

# Standards - Graduate Competencies

For providing competent and safe anesthesia care to patients requiring such services only those nurses who have completed a program of instruction in nurse anesthesia, or who are supervised nurse anesthesia students within such educational programs, should be allowed to perform or participate in the performance of anesthesia services. At graduation students should be prepared to perform the competencies described as “graduate competencies” contained in the IFNA Standards 2016.

**Nurse Anesthesia Experts:**

**Preanesthetic patient assessment**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Perform and/or participate in the performance of preanesthetic interviews by eliciting comprehensive histories and performing physical examinations based on patient’s presenting symptoms.
2. Assess and evaluate multiple variables (drugs taken, preexisting diseases, allergies, previous anesthetic experiences) that may affect the course of anesthesia. Identify potential risks to patient safety.
3. Formulate an anesthetic care plan based on current knowledge, concepts, available evidence, and nursing principle.
4. Provide accurate and understandable information to assist patients in giving informed consent
5. Integrate evidence to explain possible anesthetic and/or postanesthetic risks.

**Explain how your program meets the preanesthetic assessment competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**E**

**Anesthetic management**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Are continuously present during anesthetic management.
2. Administer and/or participate in the administration of general and regional anesthesia to all patients for all surgical and medically related procedures.
3. Prepare, administer, and adapt anesthetic medications, anesthetic procedures, and other interventions according to preexisting disease and surgical procedure, demonstrating advanced knowledge of human sciences, pharmacology, surgical, and anesthesia procedures.
4. Provide psychological support to help patients through the perioperative experience by using advanced communication skills to improve patient outcomes and design strategies to meet the patient’s needs.
5. Use a broad variety of techniques, anesthesia agents, adjunctive and accessory drugs, and equipment when providing anesthesia care and pain management. Exhibit a comprehensive knowledge of pharmacology and pharmacokinetics related to anesthesia practice. Select, administer, and prescribe appropriate medication based on accurate knowledge of patient characteristics, anesthesia technique, and surgical procedure.

**Explain how your program meets the anaesthetic management competencies**

 **A**

 **B**

 **C**

 **D**

 **E**

**Risk management**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Take appropriate safety precautions including documentation to ensure the safe administration of anesthesia care.
2. Prepare anesthetic plans, equipment, and drugs according to standard operating procedures and globally recommended checklists.
3. Recognize and take appropriate actions during anesthesia management by rapidly assessing a patient’s situation through synthesis and prioritization of historical and available data. Advanced knowledge and experience are demonstrated at all times. Nurse anesthetists demonstrate confidence in their own abilities to identify normal and abnormal states in anesthesia.
4. Engage in the development of guidelines, standard operating procedures, and checklists for equipment and drug use.

**Explain how your program meets the risk management competencies**

 **A**

 **B**

 **C**

 **D**

**Monitoring**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Monitor, analyze, and utilize data obtained from the use of current invasive and noninvasive monitoring modalities using critical thinking and clinical judgment. Identify priorities quickly using context-specific knowledge and accurately identify parameters for the safety of patients to ensure decisions are justified in the specific context. Respond constructively to unexpected or rapidly changing situations and develop flexible and creative approaches to manage challenging clinical situations.

**Explain how your program meets the monitoring competencies**

**A**

**Advanced Life Support**

Nurse Anesthetist:

1. Take corrective action to maintain or stabilize the patient’s condition and provide advanced life support care.
2. Assess and provide adequate advanced life support. Use advanced communication skills to inform the interdisciplinary team, organize and collaborate with appropriate experts, and use adequate medications and equipment.
3. Provide regular education in basic life support and advanced resuscitation procedures to health professionals, as needed.
4. Adhere to the latest international guidelines and accept responsibility for their own regular certified training in advanced life support.

**Explain how your program meets the advanced life support competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**Equipment**

Nurse Anesthetists:

A. Select, prepare, use, and clean, the appropriate equipment in routine and critical incidence situations.

**Explain how your program meets the equipment competence**

**A**

**Termination of anesthesia**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Assess, analyze, and evaluate adequacy of the patient’s condition before transferring care. Evaluate patient responses for readiness to move to next level of care by identifying patient situation, and take appropriate action in the immediate postoperative period.
2. Report all essential data regarding the perioperative period comprehensively and completely to the personnel in charge of the next level of care.

**Explain how your program meets the termination of anesthesia competencies**

 **A**

 **B**

**Postoperative care and pain management**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Serve as a resource person in pain management and adequate postoperative care.
2. Demonstrate advanced knowledge in pharmacology and pharmacokinetics of analgesic drugs in assessing and providing pain management.
3. Assess and manage common postoperative complications such as respiratory, hemodynamic, neurological dysfunctions, and postoperative nausea and vomiting.
4. Develop or participate in developing and revising standard operating procedures for all personnel covering postoperative care.

**Explain how your program meets the postoperative care and pain management competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**Infection control**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Apply practices such as proper hand hygiene and cleansing or sterilization of equipment.
2. Maintain knowledge of and adhere to national and/or institutional standards of infection control to protect the patient and healthcare workers from infectious diseases.
3. Adapt or participate in adaptation and revision of infection control standards for all anesthesia procedures, and adhere to national standards for storing, handling, prescribing, and administering drugs.

**Explain how your program meets the infection control competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**Documentation**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Provide prompt, complete, and accurate recording of pertinent information and action of care on the patient’s record.
2. Facilitate, through accurate recording, comprehensive patient care. Provide information for retrospective review and research data, and establish a medical-legal record.

**Explain how your program meets the documentation competencies**

**A**

**B**

***C*ommunicators**

**Communication and situation awareness**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Communicate in a calm, confident, and effective approach that brings comfort and emotional support to patients and their family, and create a climate that supports mutual engagement and establishes partnerships with patients.
2. Engage in effective interpersonal and intraprofessional communication using advanced communication skills suitable for the interdisciplinary domain of the workplace.
3. Create awareness of specific and overlapping functions and the potential for interdisciplinary tensions and demonstrate strategies of conflict management, if necessary.
4. Display crisis intervention skills when required and assure patient understanding, respect, empathy, and trust by maintaining confidentiality and discretion.

**Explain how your program meets the communicator competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**Collaborators**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Collaborate with others to identify innovative solutions to clinical and system problems. Advance patient care standards by partnering with interdisciplinary healthcare team members in research and educational activities.
2. Implement new technologies that enhance patient care and promote patient safety goals.
3. Establish effective, collegial relationships with other health professionals that reflect confidence in the contribution that nurse anesthetists make to the system.
4. Encourage cooperative relationships between nurse anesthetists, physician anesthetists, and other members of the medical profession, the nursing profession, hospitals, and agencies representing a community of interest in nurse anesthesia.
5. Respect roles and competencies of other team members and demonstrate joint decision-making skills to achieve the best possible patient outcome.
6. Provide feedback and constructively discuss team strengths and weaknesses, listen to others, and ensure consistent information flow to patients and colleagues.
7. Demonstrate effective solutions to problems concerning team issues.

**Explain how your program meets theNurse Anesthesia Collaborator competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**E**

**F**

**G**

**Managers**

**Task management**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Anticipate and make decisions in advance for challenges by allocating appropriate time frames, organizing appropriate staffing, and preparing equipment and materials
2. Use existing resources effectively and efficiently by designing or participating in designing evidence-based strategies to meet the multifaceted needs of patients.
3. Consider fiscal and budgetary implications in decision-making regarding practice and system modifications.
4. Organize and plan for the correct ecological handling of wastes such as gases, drugs, sharps, and infectious materials.
5. Evaluate and optimize the use and impact of products, services, and technologies on high quality patient care.

**Explain how your program meets thetask management competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**E**

**Quality management**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Measure or participate in measuring patient satisfaction, cost, clinical outcomes, nurse satisfaction, and retention by applying methods of quality assurance and improvement.
2. Foster an interdisciplinary approach to quality improvement, evidence-based practice, research, and transition of research into practice.

**Explain how your program meets the quality management competencies**

**A**

**B**

**Health advocates**

**Patient information**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Consider and evaluate various influences on patients’ health status. Detect health related and anesthetic risk factors through anesthetic assessment, and promote individual health by addressing behavioral change.

**Explain how your program meets the patient information competencies**

**A**

**Patient education**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Participate in the education of patients, other members of the health team and members of the community before, during, and after the operative period.
2. Design or select health information and patient education appropriate to developmental level, health, literacy level, learning needs, readiness to learn, preferred learning style, and cultural values and beliefs.
3. Facilitate patient and family understanding of the risks, benefits, and outcomes of proposed anesthesia regimen to promote informed decision-making.

**Explain how your program meets thepatient education competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**Patient Advocacy**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Support and preserve the rights of patients for privacy by protecting information of a confidential nature from those who do not need such information for patient care. Support the rights of patients for independence of expression, decision, and action.

 **Explain how your program meets the patient advocacy competencies**

**A**

S**cholars**

**Continuous professional development**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Commit to continuous professional development.
2. Accept responsibility and accountability for practice and engage in lifelong professional educational activities.
3. Engage in a formal self-evaluation process, seeking feedback regarding their own practice from patients, peers, professional colleagues, and others. Develop and implement strategies for lifelong learning.
4. Are aware of and address individual needs for clinical inquiry through continuous professional development activities.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of and adherence to the national legal regulations, accepting the respective responsibility and accountability of nurse anesthesia and others

**Explain how your program meets thecontinuous professional development competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**E**

**Research**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Incorporate evidence-based techniques and knowledge, as well as international guidelines and standards in clinical performance.
2. Protect the rights of patients or animals involved in research projects and conduct the projects according to ethical research and reporting standards.

**Explain how your program meets theresearch competencies**

**A**

**B**

**Education**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Facilitate and teach based on national and international standards of education and practice.
2. Contribute to learning experiences for all professionals and students within their spheres of influence, and interact with colleagues at the local, national, governmental, and regulatory levels to enhance professional practice.
3. Assist healthcare professionals in identifying their educational needs related to anesthesia and acute care needs.
4. Provide peers, colleagues, students, and staff with constructive feedback regarding practice with the goal of facilitating improved outcomes and professional development.

**Explain how your program meets theeducation competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**Professionals**

**Professionalism**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Provide safe and patient-centered care based on available evidence. The nurse anesthetist recognizes the responsibility of professional practice and maintains a high level of quality in knowledge, judgment, technological skills, and professional values prerequisite to deliver patient-centered care.
2. Accept responsibilities and correctly delegate responsibilities to other team members or healthcare professionals.
3. Demonstrate self-appraisal activity.
4. Identify opportunities for generating and using research and/or continuous professional development activities.

**Explain how your program meets the professionalism competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**Advancement of anesthesia care**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Demonstrate leadership by disseminating outcomes of nurse anesthesia practice through presentations and publications and participation in local and national nurse anesthesia organizations. Promote and facilitate the awareness of public and professional policy issues that affect nurse anesthesia practice. Serve as a role model for nurse anesthesia practice and encourage and support staff in professional achievements.
2. Use quality, satisfaction, and cost data to modify patient care, nurse anesthesia practice, and systems. Accept accountability for own errors. Identify and handle critical incidents by entering them into critical incident reporting systems.

**Explain how your program meets the advancement of anesthesia competencies**

**A**

**B**

**Accountability**

Nurse Anesthetists:

1. Maintain credentials in nurse anesthesia, as mandated by national legislation or regulation.
2. Respect the confidentiality of information about patients learned in clinical relationships, demonstrate overall respect, and maintain the basic rights of patients, showing concern for personal dignity and human relationships.
3. Are aware of individual, ethnic, cultural, and religious differences, and provide appropriate care to deliver the best possible patient outcomes.

**Explain how your program meets theaccountability competencies**

**A**

**B**

**C**

# Standard – Location

Ideally programs should be conducted in the university setting or its equivalent, while assuring adequate access to clinical resources for the clinical practicum.

**Explain how your program meets Standard V:**

# Standard – Length of the program

The length of the program shall be based on the actual competencies for which the nurse anesthetist is prepared. To fulfill optimal competencies (such as, to perform, rather than participate in the performance) may require 24 or more months. A program of 18-24 months is strongly endorsed by the IFNA Education Committee.

**Explain how your program meets Standard VI.:**

# Standard – Faculty /Teaching Personnel Requirements

1. The nurse anesthesia component of the educational program for preparing nurse anesthetists shall be directed by a nurse anesthetist (program leader\*)
2. Other faculty / teachers may include other nurse anesthetists, physicians, physiologists, pharmacologists, and other professionals.
3. Clinical education of nurse anesthesia students shall be provided by nurse anesthetists, anaesthesiologists, and other qualified specialists.

**Explain how your program meets Standards VII.**

**A.**

**B.**

**C.**

# Standard -  Evaluation

Regular evaluation of the student's academic and clinical progress is required in order to make adaptation and changes.

1. Achievement of the learning objectives
2. Appropriateness of the program’s content
3. Course administration and venues
4. Learning support (theory)
5. Adequate clinical practice opportunities
6. Learning support (clinical practice)
7. Support provided by faculty/teachers
8. Achievement of the graduate competencies

**Explain how your program meets Standards VIII. A - H:**

# Standard – Graduation

Upon graduation, based on a final theoretical and clinical evaluation, the graduate will be provided a certificate, diploma, or degree appropriate to the education designating the graduate as qualified to provide nurse anesthesia services.

**Explain how your program meets Standards IX:**

**EXAMPLE of Curriculum Overview**

Official name of nurse anesthesia program, mailing address, Country

Name of program director, Title

***CURRICULUM OVERVIEW[[1]](#footnote-1)***

**Degree Awarded: Master of Science in Nursing with a Specialization in Nurse Anesthesia**

**Term and Course Credits**

**Fall (16)**

NURS 5010 Graduate Anatomy 5

NURS 5001 Graduate Physiology 4

NURS 5700 Basic Principles of Anesthesia w/Equipment & Technology #1 1

NURS 5710 Chemistry & Physics Applied to Anesthesia 3

NURS 5711 Pharmacology related to Anesthesia 3

**Spring (15)**

NURS 5101 Advanced Pathophysiolgy 3

NURS 5109 Advanced Pharmacology 3

NURS 5701 Basic Principles of Anesthesia #2 3

NURS 5715 Advanced Health Assessment for Nurse Anesthesia 3

NURS 5240 Statistics & Epidemiology for Advanced Practice 3

**Summer (12)**

NURS 5250 EBP & Research Methods 3

NURS 5215 Health Promotion in Individuals & Vulnerable Populations 3

NURS 5702 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia #1 3

NURS 5730 Clinical Experience I (OR on W/Th/F) 3

**Fall (12)**

NURS 5910 Research & Theory Integration 3

NURS 5223 Health Care Policy & Ethics 3

NURS 5703 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia #2 3

NURS 5731 Clinical Experience II (OR on W/Th/F) 3

**Spring (10)**

NURS 5228 Organization & Systems Leadership 3

NURS 5720 Professional Aspects of Nurse Anesthesia 3

NURS 5732 Clinical Experience III (OR on T/W/Th/F) 4

**Summer (6.5)**

NURS 5740 Clinical Correlation Conferences 1.5

NURS 5733 Clinical Experience IV (OR on M/T/W/Th/F) 5

**Fall (6.5)**

NURS 5741 Clinical Correlation Conferences 1.5

NURS 5734 Clinical Experience V (OR on M/T/W/Th/F) 5

**Total Hours 78**

**List of Required Enclosures**

**Please submit the following items in addition to the completed Self-Study Report:**

1. Program design
2. Curriculum with course titles, hours and credits (please use the blank on page 13 of this self - study
3. Admission criteria
4. Number of students by year of admission
5. Student Handbook
6. Program’s policies and procedures
7. Name and qualification of Program Director
8. Qualifications of teachers who teach academic/theory courses (list)
9. Qualifications of clinical instructors (list)
10. Graduation criteria
11. Copy of certificate or diploma
12. Student evaluation forms
13. Other evaluation forms used in the program (Examples: Clinical site evaluation, alumni evaluations, employer evaluations)
14. Results of evaluations conducted by the program as a part of the programmatic evaluation process (current and translated to English).
15. List of cases and clinical experiences available to students
16. A copy of a certificate or letter of approval from a national accrediting agency or other quality assurance agency testifying that the program has met its requirements, if such approval is available
17. Official evidence from a governmental entity that the program is currently authorized, recognized, chartered, audited, or has some equivalent status in the country, if available in your country.

Please submit the self – study and additional documentation to: APAP@ifna-site

**Glossary**

**Anesthesia, Adjunctive and Accessory Drugs**. Three categories of drugs which are utilized in nurse anesthesia practice and included as required content within the advanced pharmacology courses provided as a part of the nurse anesthetist educational program.

1. Anesthesia Drugs. Those drugs having an anesthesia or analgesic, hypnotic, sedative effect which are used for that purpose in the administration of an anesthetic.

2. Adjunctive Drugs. Those drugs needed to provide other anesthesia and/or surgical conditions as a part of the anesthetic. These include such drugs as muscle relaxants used for intubation or skeletal muscle relaxation or hypotensive agents in the event that intentional hypotension is utilized to minimize bleeding.

3. Accessory Drugs. Those drugs which patients require and take as a part of their current physical or psychological condition which may have an effect upon the choice of anesthesia and/or adjunctive drugs. Also, those drugs which patients may require during an anesthetic to maintain physiologic balance within normal limits, or to correct a complication.

**Assessment.** The initial component of the nursing process. (Assessment, Problem Identification, Planning nursing care, Implementing the nursing care, and Evaluating nursing care); The nursing equivalent to medical examination: reviewing a patient's health history and current health problems and physical status as a basis for determination of the care needed that the nurse will provide or within which she/he will participate. For the nurse anesthetist, patient assessment is a required function before, during, and after the provision of an anesthetic.

**Community of Interests**. Those groups of people who have significant interest in a particular endeavor. In the case of anesthesia, the community of interests may be the patient, family, surgeon, anesthesia providers (physician and nurse), and other nurses who will care for the patient before, during, and after the anesthesia and surgery, and hospital administration. This community of interest may even extend to pharmaceutical companies and medical equipment manufacturers depending upon the particular circumstances. In the case of nurse anesthetist education, the community of interests will be the profession, students, faculty, employers, and the public as potential patients who would be beneficiaries of the services provided by the graduates of these programs.

**Evidence Based Practice:** Integration of clinical expertise, patient values and the best research evidence into the decision making process for patient care.

**Implement.** To initiate and provide a plan of care which has been defined by the nurse or by a physician who has referred (delegated) the plan to the nurse to be provided. In some instances the care plan may have been collaboratively developed. Regardless of who or how the plan was determined, the nurse, by accepting the plan of care to initiate and/or provide becomes responsible and accountable for the care she/he provided. Example: The nurse anesthetist initiates, provides, and/or participates in the provision of a plan of anesthetic

management for individual patients.

**Nurse Anesthetist.** A Nurse Anesthetist is an Advanced Practice Nurse who has the knowledge, skills and competencies to provide individualized care in anesthesia, pain management, and related anesthesia services to patients across the lifespan, whose health status may range from healthy through all levels of acuity, including immediate, severe, or life threatening illnesses or injury.

**Program Director/Leader:** It is a Nurse Anesthetist responsible for directing a program including involvement in student selection, curriculum development, student and faculty evaluations.

**Program/School:** The places where students are taught and learn about anesthesia have a variety of different names depending upon the institution, country, or region where they are located. As examples, an anesthesia "school" may be located in a hospital or in a section of a large university; a "program" may be one of several sections of a large academic institution or part of a medical center. The term "program" is used in APAP documents to describe schools, programs, or other education units where students acquire specialized education to prepare them for the scope of nurse anesthesia practice [\*].

**Quality.**  An attribute or characteristic of a product or service, denoting a grade of excellence. When applied to anesthesia education, it is the outcome resulting from a program’s commitment to meeting or exceeding IFNA’s Education Standards.

**Resource Person.** An individual, who by education and experience has acquired a level of expertise in a field of endeavor, and is capable of assisting, advising, consulting with, or supervising other personnel in the provision of a service falling within the area of their expertise.

 *Example*: The nurse anesthetist, as an expert in airway management and ventilation, may serve as a resource person to other health providers in correcting an airway or ventilation problem of a patient, or because of his/her expertise in resuscitation techniques may serve as a leader or member of a resuscitation team in the event of cardiopulmonary failure or severe trauma. The nurse anesthetist may also serve as a teacher to assist others to learn the techniques for correcting airway problems or resuscitating patients in cardiopulmonary failure and in so doing is a resource person for teaching.

**Scope of Nurse Anesthesia Practice**. The breadth of practice modalities (functions and skills) for which a nurse anesthetist has legal sanction to perform, and for which one has been educational prepared through a formalized and continuing education process.

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1. Curriculum overview courtesy of B. Henrichs, Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College, Nurse Anesthesia Program, St. Louis, Missouri, USA [↑](#footnote-ref-1)