

Adopted July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006



## **STATEMENT ON USE OF MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants (AAAA)**

The American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants (AAAA) is dedicated to the safety of all patients undergoing medical treatment requiring the involvement of an anesthesia provider. As such, it is in the best interest of the patient to know not only how they will be cared for, but also who will be providing that care and what role each of those medical practitioners will play.

For patients undergoing surgical/medical/diagnostic procedures, the sheer number of medical, administrative, nursing, and ancillary staff that they may encounter can easily lead to confusion in understanding who is providing specific types of care. As medical practices evolve, it is not uncommon for patients to receive care from advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, residents, students, and medical therapists, among many others, in addition to attending physicians. The formal titles of these health care providers and the manner of patient introduction may lead to increased levels of patient confusion concerning their medical care.

With regards to the specialty practice of anesthesia, the term 'anesthesiologist' shall be reserved for those osteopathic or allopathic physicians having completed an ACGME or COCA accredited residency program in anesthesiology.

The AAAA recognizes the following medical terminology for anesthesia providers as being consistent with the intention of this document:

<b>Physician trained in Anesthesiology</b>	Anesthesiologist Doctor of Anesthesiology
<b>Resident Physician in Anesthesiology</b>	Anesthesia Resident Resident Physician in Anesthesia Physician Intern
<b>Anesthesiologist Assistant</b>	Anesthesiologist Assistant AA Anesthetist AA-C
<b>Anesthesiologist Assistant Student</b>	Anesthesiologist Assistant Student AA Student Student Anesthetist
<b>Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist</b>	Nurse Anesthetist CRNA Anesthesia Nurse Nurse of Anesthesia Anesthetist
<b>Registered Nurse Anesthesia Student</b>	Student Nurse Anesthetist Nurse Anesthetist Student NA Student Student Anesthetist Anesthesia Nursing Student SRNA