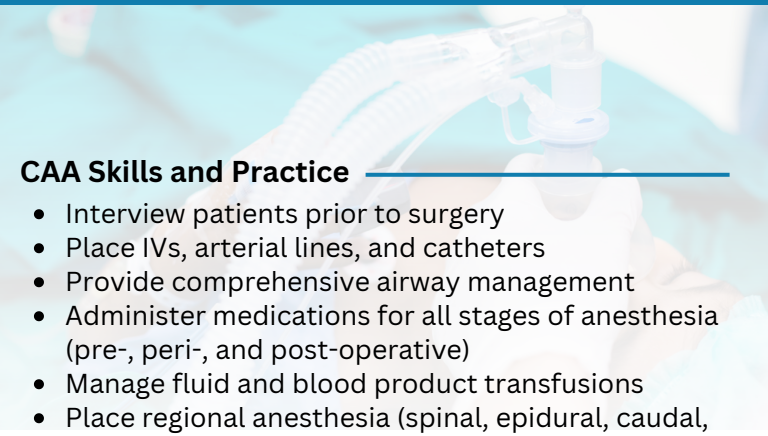
Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs)

are advanced anesthesia practitioners working within the Anesthesia Care Team model - the **SAFEST** and most **COST-EFFECTIVE** approach to perioperative medical treatment.



CAA Skills and Practice

- Interview patients prior to surgery
- Place IVs, arterial lines, and catheters
- Provide comprehensive airway management
- Administer medications for all stages of anesthesia (pre-, peri-, and post-operative)
- Manage fluid and blood product transfusions
- Place regional anesthesia (spinal, epidural, caudal, and peripheral nerve blocks)
- Provide post-anesthetic care
- CAAs are fully licensed life support providers (BLS, ACLS, and PALS)

Credentials

- 24-29 months of graduate level education within the medical school model
- 2,000+ hours of clinical training in anesthesia
- Nationally board certified by an accredited organization
- Continuing medical education (CME) credits
- Recertification exams required after first four years and every ten years thereafter

Recognition and Practice Authority

- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Tricare and the VA hospital system
- All major national and regional insurers
- Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation (APSF)
- American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- American College of Surgeons (ACS)

Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) are utilized in ALL areas of anesthesia, such as:

- Cardiac
- Neurosurgery
- Trauma
- Pediatrics
- Obstetrics
- Outpatient surgery
- Pain control

CAAs provide high quality patient care in anesthesia and perioperative medicine, including the following:

- IV sedation
  (e.g., colonoscopies, eye procedures, MRI scans)
- Peripheral nerve blocks for surgeries on extremities
  (e.g., shoulder surgery, total knee replacement)
- Spinals and epidurals
  (e.g., Cesarean sections)
- Cardiac cases
  (e.g., cardiac bypass surgery)
- Anesthesia for pediatric patients
  (e.g., ear tube placement)
- General anesthesia for high acuity cases
  (e.g., lung transplant, intestinal resections)
- Pain control management
  (e.g., epidural dosing, pain rounds on inpatients)
- Trauma cases and resuscitative efforts
  (e.g., gun shot wounds, car accidents)

AAAA

American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants®

www.anesthetist.org/info