# CRNA Education

## **THE SPIN**

Spreading misinformation about the education of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) is a favorite scare tactic of physician special-interest groups. It's time to take a look at the real story about anesthesia provider education.

### FACT

As sought-after anesthesia care providers, CRNAs are highly educated and expertly trained with years of education and experience before entering into practice.

### **⊘** FACT

Because of their rigorous academic and clinical requirements for recertification, CRNAs are astute about the latest advancements to ensure that patients receive the best, safest care possible.

#### **CRNA Education & Training CRNA Advantages CRNA Physician Anesthesiologist** Baccalaureate-prepared Doctorate Degree **Doctorate Degree** registered nurses with an average of 4.5 years in 10 critical care nursing (one year of critical nursing 9 required) when they enter their nurse anesthesia 8 education\* 7 On average, have nearly **Anesthesia** 10,000 hours of clinical Anesthesia 6 **Education** Е experience when they Education become a CRNA\* А 5 **Critical Care** R Unlike physician 4 anesthesiologists, CRNAs S 3 are required to have **Undergraduate** critical care experience **Medical School Nursing Degree** before they begin their 2 anesthesia education Pursue additional years of 0 education in their specialty through fellowships Indicates beginning of Non-Healthcare healthcare education, Undergraduate training and direct Degree patient care.

CRNAs fill crucial leadership roles by providing direct care for patients where anesthesia is delivered — from traditional hospital surgical suites to critical access hospitals; from ambulatory surgical centers to the offices of dentists, podiatrists, pain management specialists, and more.

CRNAs are central to a high-value anesthesia care delivery approach where quality and safety are emphasized, and costs are reduced.

<sup>\*</sup>According to the NBCRNA 2022 Testing Demographics Report