Certification and Recertification
2010

National Board on Certification and
Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists
Today’s Topics

1. An overview of the National Board on Certification and Recertification (NBCRNA) and its role in the credentialing of nurse anesthetists.
2. The current policies and procedures as they apply to initial certification and recertification.
3. How the NBCRNA and the individual CRNA can work together to foster relationships that increase the value of credentialing.
4. Trends that have an impact on the credentialing process for nurse anesthetists.
NBCRNA Incorporation

- Not-for-profit corporation
- Includes both the CCNA and COR
- Board Members: CRNAs, Physicians, Public
- Autonomous authority to carry out certification and recertification role
- Recognized by the AANA in Services and Recognition Agreements.
Vision & Mission

Vision
Recognized leader in nurse anesthesia credentialing.

Mission
Offer certification and recertification programs that are tailored to specific professional standards and promote patient safety.
Credentialing Model

› Council on Certification: 1975

› Council on Recertification: 1978

› NBCRNA: 2007
NBCRNA Structure

NBCRNA BOD

COR

CCNA
Services and Recognition Agreements
- Describe business relationship
- Key elements:
  - Autonomy
  - Credentialing of nurse anesthetists
- Meetings of Leadership
NBCRNA Leadership

› President:
  › Jackie Fortenberry CRNA, BA
› Vice President & Chair CCNA:
  › Mary Anne Krogh CRNA, MS
› Secretary Treasurer:
  › Michael Rieker CRNA, DNP
› Chair COR:
  › Tom Healey CRNA, MA
Credentialing Mechanisms

- Function to protect and benefit the public.
- Provide assurance to public that individuals have met predetermined qualifications for providing nurse anesthesia services.
Evolution of Credentialing

1967

AANA began to study the relationships of continuing education, recertification, and professional competence.

AANA Board of Trustees directed the Education Committee to study the possibility of setting up a recertification plan for the members.
Evolution of Credentialing

1969 Annual Meeting:

AANA President Marie Bader …

“Of all the goals before us, that of continuing education is paramount. We plan to have this program for continuing education on a voluntary basis and hope that the members will accept the challenge for their own improvement.”
Evolution of Credentialing

1969

- The AANA EC implemented a voluntary continuing education program for nurse anesthetists.
- Provide certificates of professional excellence at 5-year intervals to members with documented completion of additional clinical and didactic experiences.
Evolution of Credentialing

1969

› Require a *refresher course* for inactive members who were away from practice three (3) or more years.

August 1975

› AANA Restructuring to accommodate the formation of three Councils; Council on Accreditation, Council on Certification, and Council on Practice.
Evolution of Credentialing

August 22, 1977

- Mandatory CE Program, was adopted to be implemented August 1, 1978.
- Long Range Planning Committee recommended a restructuring of the AANA which included the formation of a fourth council, the Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists.
Evolution of Credentialing

July 20, 1978

▷ The first meeting of the AANA Ad hoc Committee on Recertification was held.

▷ The initial criteria:
  ▷ Initial certification by the CCNA or its predecessor;
  ▷ Current licensure as a professional nurse.
  ▷ Documentation of clinical practice of anesthesia, or the administrative practice of anesthesia,
  ▷ Document the requirement for mandatory continuing education.
CCNA Background

- 1945 - Certification Program - Qualifying Examination originally administered by AANA Credentials Committee
- 1975 - CCNA formed Responsibility for certification process
CCNA Background

- 1982 - Qualifying Examination changed to Certification Examination
- 1996 - Computerized Adaptive Testing began, end of paper and pencil tests
Certification Requirements

Basic Requirements

› Comply with all state requirements for licensure as a registered nurse;
› Completed a nurse anesthesia educational program accredited by the COA
Certification Requirements

**Documentation**

- A complete and accurate examination application form
- An official notarized transcript of the student record
- A copy of a current valid RN license
- A signed, notarized Authentication of Applicant Identity Form
- A certified check or money order
Certification Requirements

National Certification Examination

- Variable length, computerized adaptive, multiple choice test
- Administered year around
- Minimum of 100 questions
  - 70 questions from content outline
  - 30 pretest questions
- Maximum 170 questions & 3 hours
## Content Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Sciences</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment, instrumentation, and technology</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Principles</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Principles</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Issues</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Alternative Item Types

- Introduce on NCE in 2009
- Multiple Correct Response
- Short answer / calculation question
- Graphics MCR Question
- Drag and Drop
- Hotspot
- Graphics/Video
Alternative Item Types

- **Multiple Correct Response (MCR):**
  - Consist of a stem and 4-8 response options
  - More than just 1 option is a correct response
  - The examinee must select all of the correct responses in order to be awarded credit.
  - The question stem will indicate how many responses are correct.
Certification Requirements

Retesting

➢ Retest up to 4 times in a calendar year.
➢ 2 calendar years to pass the NCE following graduation.
➢ Do not pass after two years will not be eligible to take the NCE without completing an unabridged COA accredited program.
Alternative Item Types

MCR

Item Stem: What opioid receptors are responsible for supraspinal analgesic effects? Select three.

- ANSA: \( \mu_1 \)
- ANSB: \( \mu_2 \)
- ANSC: \( \kappa_1 \)
- ANSD: \( \kappa_2 \)
- ANSE: \( \kappa_3 \)
- ANSF: \( \delta_1 \)

Item Key: A,B,E
Alternative Item Types

▷ Calculation questions:
   ▷ Respond by typing in a numerical response
   ▷ Example: What is 2+2?
   ▷ Correct: 4
   ▷ Incorrect: “four”
   ▷ A calculator will be available for calculation items which may be computationally complex.
Hotspot Question Format

- In the lead II electrocardiogram tracing below, click on the area which would indicate that the patient has had a myocardial infarction in the past.
Alternative Item Types

- **Drag and Drop:**
  - Involve clicking and dragging objects to corresponding targets
  - May take the form of matching or placing objects in order.

- **Hotspot:**
  - Indicates their answer by using their mouse to click on a region of a presented image or figure.
  - When a region is selected, an “X” appears on the selected region.

- **Graphics/Video:**
  - Any of the question formats described above may be augmented with multimedia as stimuli for the question.
PASS RATE OVER TIME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>91.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>94.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>95</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>89.9</td>
</tr>
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</table>
NCE Results

- Begin August 1, 2009
- End of Exam
- Print out at Test Center
Self Evaluation Examination

› SEE
› Computer Adaptive
› 160 questions
› Content Outline
› Purpose:
  › Students and Programs identify strengths & weaknesses
  › Prepare for NCE
Council on Recertification

› Recertify qualified CRNAs on a biennial basis.
› Formulate and adopt criteria for eligibility for recertification.
› Formulate and adopt criteria for approval of CE programs and offerings.
› Develop and maintain mechanisms for appellate review.
› Develop and maintain a mechanism for the investigation of allegations.
› Make recommendations to interested individuals based on stated purposes.
Criteria for Full Recertification

▷ Initial certification by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists.
▷ RN and/or APRN Licensure
▷ 40 hours of Continuing Education
▷ Substantial engagement in the practice of nurse anesthesia.
▷ Complete and submit Application, submit fee and attestations
## Recertification Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Total Eligible</th>
<th>Recertified by July 31st</th>
<th>Percent (%)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007-2009</td>
<td>13,630</td>
<td>12,023</td>
<td>88</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008-2010</td>
<td>18,837</td>
<td>16,606</td>
<td>88</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009-2011</td>
<td>15,318</td>
<td>14,757</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement</td>
<td>Strongly Agree (%)</td>
<td>Agree (%)</td>
<td>Disagree (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The electronic notification and directions were easy to follow.</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The electronic recertification process was easy to use.</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The NBCRNA staff were helpful and knowledgeable.</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall I was satisfied with my electronic recertification experience.</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recertification

- Recertification 2010 – 2012
  - Communication via email, website
  - Can complete and submit only if all requirements met:
    - CE credit 40 hours
    - Verification of practice
    - RN and APRN license
Recertification

› Recertification 2010 – 2012
› Submit electronically or paper
› Deadline July 31st
› Fee: $100.00
› No retroactive recertification
› Print recertification cards when approved
› Reinstatement fee: $500.00
WELCOME TO THE NBCRNA WEBSITE

The mission of the National Board on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) is to offer certification and recertification programs that are tailored to specific professional standards of nurse anesthesia practice and promote patient safety.
Communication

› NBCRNA Website: www.nbcrna.com

› Toll free number: 866-894-3908

› lvitek@nbcrna.com for additional presentations

› recertification@nbcrna.com for questions