

## Department of Anesthesia

**Title:**

Practitioner Scope and Definition

**Issued:**

July 1, 2000

**Last Revised:**

April 20, 2015

**Policy Number:**

9008

**Page(s):**

5

**Attachment:**

Addendum A, B, C

**POLICY:**

The scope and definition of duties will be outlined for every licensed independent practitioner appointed to the medical staff of the Department of Anesthesia. All members of the Department of Anesthesia shall be employees of MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and shall have faculty appointments through Medstar Georgetown University Medical Center (Schools of Medicine or Nursing).

**PROCEDURES:**

Scope and definition of duties will be issued to the licensed independent practitioner as part of the process by which professional staff are hired, credentialed and privileged at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital.

Nurse practitioners, nurse specialists, anesthesia assistants and anesthesia technicians have job descriptions on file with Human Resources Department.

### **SCOPE AND DEFINITION OF DUTIES CHIEF OF SERVICE, ANESTHESIA**

The Chief of Service, Anesthesia, also serves as Chair of the Department of Anesthesia in the Georgetown University School of Medicine. The Chief shall be responsible for:

Integration of the Department into the primary functions of the hospital.

Recommending privileges for all individuals with primary anesthesia responsibility, which shall be processed through established medical staff channels.

Recommending the availability of a sufficient number of qualified and competent personnel to provide the services needed for the daily surgical schedule and 24-hour, 7-day-a-week availability of anesthesia care.

Recommending the amount of space and other resources needed by the Department.

Continuing surveillance of the professional performance of all individuals who have delineated clinical privileges in the department.

Recommending to the administration and medical staff the type and amount of equipment necessary for administering anesthesia and for related resuscitative efforts, ensuring through at least annual review that such equipment is available.

Development of regulations concerning anesthetic safety.

Ensuring retrospective evaluation of the quality of anesthesia care rendered throughout the facility.

Ensuring that important internal processes and activities (those that affect patient outcomes most significantly) throughout the organization are continuously and systematically assessed and improved.

The establishment of a program of continuing education for all individuals having anesthesia privileges, which includes in-service training and is based in part on the results of the evaluation of anesthesia care. The extent of the program shall be related to the scope and complexity of the anesthesia services provided.

Participation in the development of policies relating to the functioning of anesthesiologists and administration of anesthesia in various departments or services of the hospital, including participating in the hospital's program of cardiopulmonary resuscitation. When requested, the Chief or the Chief's designee should provide consultation in the management of problems of acute and chronic respiratory insufficiency as well as a variety of other diagnostic and therapeutic measures related to hospital patient care.

**Specific administrative duties will include:**

Making (or delegating to the Clinical Director) daily assignments of anesthesia for the surgical schedule.

Making (or delegating to a faculty member) the vacation schedule.

Reporting as required to the Credentials Committee, Quality Improvement Committee, Safety Committee, Infection Control Committee, and Operating Room Committee.

Specific duties as provided in appropriate sections of the Bylaws.

In the absence of the Chief, the Clinical Director or Anesthesiologist in Charge shall assume all the responsibilities of the Chief as provided in the Bylaws.

**SCOPE AND DEFINITION OF DUTIES  
CRNA ANESTHESIA**

The Nurse Anesthetist shall provide professional services in the field of anesthesiology to patients of the Department of Anesthesia at MGUH on a full-time basis, including, but not limited to, the following activities under the medical direction of an anesthesiologist:

1. Monitoring patients' drug therapy.

2. Determining the health status of patients as it relates to the relative risks associated with the anesthetic management of patients through the performance of the operative procedure(s).
3. Determining the appropriate type of anesthesia for individual patients based on history, physician assessment and supplemental laboratory results.
4. Ordering preanesthetic medication.
5. Ordering or performing non-invasive monitoring procedures indicated as pertinent to anesthetic management.
6. Supporting patient life functions during anesthesia, including the use of appropriate mechanical support devices, and the management of fluid, electrolytes, and blood component balances.
7. Recognizing and taking appropriate action for patient response to anesthesia, adjunctive medication or other forms of therapy and immediately notifying attending anesthesiologist(s) of such action.
8. Recognizing and treating cardiac arrhythmia occurring during anesthesia care and immediately notifying the attending anesthesiologist.
9. Administering treatment in life-threatening emergency situations and immediately notifying the attending anesthesiologist.
10. Participating in the management of patients while in the post-anesthesia recovery unit, including ordering the administration of fluids and drugs.
11. Placing peripheral lines.

The Nurse Anesthetist shall provide the following services either under the medical direction of or in immediate collaboration with anesthesiologist(s) at MGUH:

1. Placing central lines, including Swan-Ganz Catheters.
2. Inducing and maintaining anesthesia to render patient(s) insensible to pain during the performance of surgical, obstetrical, therapeutic or diagnostic clinical procedures using: regional anesthesia including spinal/epidural anesthesia; inhalation agents; intravenous agents; or techniques of hypnosis.
3. Teaching and supervising SRNA students.

As necessary, staff may be required to serve as the Department's representative on committees of MGUH.

The performance of all CRNA staff is reviewed annually by the Chair of the Department, in accordance with the criteria established by the Department. Factors which are considered in determining reappointment include satisfactory clinical performance and quality assurance activities, evidence of continuing nurse anesthesia education as set forth by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA), achievement of goals set by the faculty in conjunction with the Chair, honors and peer recognition, active participation in teaching, service on hospital and/or other committees as requested by the Chair, and participation in and certification by the AANA. Specifically, duties shall include, but are not limited to:

1. **PRIMARY CLINICAL DUTIES:** Clinical duties will be those assigned by the Clinical Director on review of the surgical schedule plus night call on a rotational basis as assigned.

2. **ACADEMIC DUTIES:** To include, but not be limited to, teaching of students, residents, and other professionals, committee or administrative responsibilities, research and scholarly writing, or as otherwise assigned by the Chair of the Department.

At the discretion of the Chair, the Department of Anesthesia may provide the Nurse Anesthetist with an annual stipend for professional and continuing education expense in accordance with Department of Anesthesia policy, which shall be prorated for any period less than one (1) year.

Throughout the term of this Agreement, the Nurse Anesthetist at all times must be qualified, professionally competent and currently certified by the AANA, and duly licensed in the District of Columbia. The Nurse Anesthetist must maintain a full-time faculty appointment in good standing in the Georgetown University School of Medicine and/or School of Nursing and appropriate clinical privileges at MGUH and such other facilities as the Chair of the Department of Anesthesia may designate.

Upon the determination of the Chair of the Department, the Nurse Anesthetist may participate in the night and weekend call compensation system at the rate then in effect for MGUH Department of Anesthesia faculty and applicable to the professional services provided by the Nurse Anesthetist and subject to the attached guidelines.

#### **SCOPE AND DEFINITION OF DUTIES ATTENDING ANESTHESIOLOGIST**

Physician shall provide professional services in the field of anesthesiology to patients of the Department of Anesthesia at MGUH on a per-diem basis, including, but not limited to, the duties outlined in the Department Policy Manual, the Department's Practice Plan, and the By-Laws of the Medical Staff. and privileges on file in the Department. Included in these responsibilities are the following:

1. Total clinical care of patients to include anesthetic and critical care, as well as preoperative assessment and postoperative follow-up.
2. Night call, inclusive of weekends and holidays on an availability basis as assigned by the Chief of the Service or Deputy.
3. Continuing medical education consisting minimally of 25 hours of Category I credit annually.
4. Attendance at one General Staff meeting each year.
5. Clinical teaching when working with residents or SRNAs and medical students.
6. Membership in the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

All staff are responsible for supervising clinical cases with residents and non-physician anesthetists, and for conducting teaching rounds with students and/or residents during which a thorough examination of the patient and a total review of the patient's care is held. All staff are additionally responsible for participating in the continued development of clinical standards in the department through the documentation of protocols, and the continuous audit of care.

The performance of all attending staff is reviewed annually by the Chair of the Department, in accordance with the criteria established by the Department. Factors which are considered in determining reappointment include satisfactory clinical performance and quality assurance

activities, evidence of continuing medical education, achievement of goals set by the faculty in conjunction with the Chair, honors and peer recognition, active participation in teaching, service on hospital and/or other committees as requested by the Chair, participation in the various specialty societies and certification by the American Board of Anesthesiology. Specifically, duties shall include, but are not limited to:

1. **PRIMARY CLINICAL DUTIES:** Clinical duties will be those assigned by the Clinical Director on review of the surgical schedule plus night call on an availability basis.

2. **ACADEMIC DUTIES:** To include, but not be limited to, teaching of students, residents, and other professionals, committee or administrative responsibilities, research and scholarly writing, or as otherwise assigned by the Chair of the Department.

At the discretion of the Chair, the Department of Anesthesia may provide the Physician with an annual stipend for professional and continuing education expense in accordance with Department of Anesthesia policy, which shall be prorated for any period less than one (1) year.

Throughout the term of this Agreement, the Physician at all times must be qualified, professionally competent, board eligible, duly licensed in the District of Columbia, and have a current narcotics number. The Physician must maintain a full-time faculty appointment in good standing in the Georgetown University School of Medicine and appropriate clinical privileges at MGUH and such other facilities as the Chair of the Department of Anesthesia may designate.

Upon the determination of the Chair of the Department, the Physician may participate in the night and weekend call compensation system at the rate then in effect for MGUH Department of Anesthesia faculty and applicable to the professional services provided by the Physician.

---

Russell T. Wall, MD  
Chief of Service, Anesthesia