Understanding Patient Views on CRNA Certification: Survey Findings



In 2023, NBCRNA conducted an online survey, through a third-party vendor, among patients to:

- Gauge awareness, understanding, and perceptions of CRNAs and their roles in ensuring patient safety.
- Better understand the degree to which patients trust CRNAs to administer safe, quality care and the factors that impact trust.

The survey sample included 1,003 US adults (aged 18+) who had a procedure or surgery that required anesthesia and/or pain managements within the past two years.

"CRNAs are dealing with peoples' lives.
They most certainly need continued education to be sure they are up to date on all procedures and have the correct knowledge moving forward."

SURVEY PARTICIPANT

"Continuous education is very important for CRNAs because anesthesia is literally a matter of life and death, so anyone involved in this field needs to be continuously educated."

SURVEY PARTICIPANT

What we found



90% of patients agree that CRNAs play an important role and provide safe, quality care during a procedure/surgery.



The majority of patients also greatly trust CRNAs – including in their role of educator (91%) and in their role as a member of the healthcare team (91%).



Most patients (60%) are aware of CRNAs' involvement in anesthesia/pain management during surgeries/procedures. However, most patients are not aware of CRNAs continued certification requirements or advanced degrees/practice.



Additionally, **85%** of patients said it is very important for CRNAs to complete continued certification components.



After learning more about certification, **98%** of patients valued CRNAs continued certification requirements.



