



Quick-Start Guide

Beyond the Procedure: Educating Patients About Anesthesia

Facilitator Guide for the Anesthesia Answers Educator Toolkit

At a glance



Lesson length

15, 30, or 60 minutes

Learning audience

Students, SRNAs, and nurse anesthesia residents

Materials needed

Learning deck, YouTube video, discussion guide, and learning activity

Preparation time

10–15 minutes

Lesson purpose

Help future CRNAs recognize patient education as a clinical skill that builds trust, supports patient safety, and improves the anesthesia experience.

Learning objectives

1. Identify common patient fears, misconceptions, and knowledge gaps.
2. Recognize the role of CRNAs in patient education.
3. Apply Anesthesia Answers as a patient education resource.

Key takeaways

1. Patient education is part of quality anesthesia care.
2. Every patient interaction is an opportunity to build trust.
3. Communication is a clinical skill.
4. Trusted resources like Anesthesia Answers extend patient education beyond the bedside.



Before you begin

Before facilitating this lesson:

1. Download and review all toolkit materials, including the Learning Deck, Discussion Guide, and Learning Activity.
2. Explore the Anesthesia Answers website and watch the accompanying video to become familiar with the resource.
3. Decide how you'll facilitate the lesson by selecting the discussion guide, learning activity, or both based on your available time and audience.
4. Review the learning objectives and sample agenda to tailor the experience to your learners.

About the toolkit

The challenge

Patients often enter surgery with unanswered questions, misconceptions, and anxiety about anesthesia.

The opportunity

Future CRNAs can improve patient understanding through effective communication and education.

The solution

Anesthesia Answers provides trustworthy, patient-friendly resources that help extend conversations beyond the bedside.

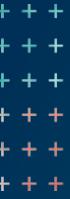
What is Anesthesia Answers?

Anesthesia Answers is a trusted patient education website that helps people better understand anesthesia, the professionals who provide it, and what to expect throughout their care.

It empowers anesthesia professionals to extend patient education beyond the procedure room, helping build understanding, confidence, and trust.

For more information

anesthesiaanswers.org/about



Toolkit contents

1. **Prepare** → Quick-Start Guide
2. **Learn** → Learning Deck
3. **Reflect** → Discussion Guide
4. **Apply** → Learning Activity
5. **Explore** → Anesthesia Answers
6. **Build Trust** → Clinical Practice

All materials are
available for download
in the online toolkit:

Toolkit

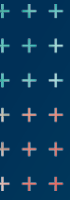
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Learning objectives

After completing this lesson, learners will be able to:

1. Identify common patient fears, misconceptions, and knowledge gaps related to anesthesia care.
2. Explain why communication and health literacy are important components of patient safety.
3. Apply practical communication strategies to improve patient understanding and trust.
4. Describe how patient education resources can extend CRNA-patient conversations beyond the bedside.



Key messages & takeaways

- + Patient education is part of quality anesthesia care.
- + Every patient interaction is an opportunity to build trust.
- + Communication is a clinical skill.
- + Trusted resources like Anesthesia Answers extend patient education beyond the procedure room.



Sample agendas

15-minute lesson

A quick introduction to patient education in anesthesia.

- + Introduce Anesthesia Answers and lesson objectives (2 min)
- + Present key Learning Deck concepts (8–10 min)
- + Share the video or facilitate a brief discussion (3–5 min)
- + Wrap up with key takeaways and share Anesthesia Answers (1–2 min)

30-minute lesson

An interactive session that combines instruction with guided discussion.

- + Introduce Anesthesia Answers and lesson objectives (3–5 min)
- + Present the Learning Deck (10–12 min)
- + Show the explainer video (3–4 min)
- + Facilitate discussion using the Discussion Guide (8–10 min)
- + Wrap up and share additional resources (2–3 min)

60-minute lesson

A complete learning experience that includes discussion and application.

- + Introduce Anesthesia Answers and lesson objectives (3–5 min)
- + Present the Learning Deck (12–15 min)
- + Show the explainer video (3–5 min)
- + Facilitate discussion using the Discussion Guide (10–15 min)
- + Complete the Learning Activity (15–20 min)
- + Wrap up, reflection, and next steps (5 min)



Facilitation tips

Before

- + Review the toolkit materials and become familiar with Anesthesia Answers.
- + Choose an agenda and activities that fit your audience and available time.
- + Consider how you'll connect the content to learners' clinical experiences.

During

- + Encourage discussion and invite learners to consider the patient perspective.
- + Connect communication strategies to real-world anesthesia practice.
- + Reinforce that patient education is a clinical skill that builds trust.

After

- + Share Anesthesia Answers and encourage learners to explore the website.
- + Continue the conversation using the Discussion Guide or Learning Activity.
- + Encourage learners to apply these concepts during future clinical experiences.



Questions or comments?

Contact the Anesthesia Answers team:

anesthesiaanswers.org/contact-us