

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND AND SEVENTEEN

—
S.P. 387 - L.D. 1166

An Act Regarding Anesthesia Care in Rural Maine

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §2211 is enacted to read:

§2211. Nurse anesthetist; authority

1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Critical access hospital" has the same meaning as in Title 22, section 7932, subsection 10.

B. "Rural area" has the same meaning as in Title 22, section 5104, subsection 10.

2. Authority generally. A certified registered nurse anesthetist is responsible and accountable to a licensed physician or dentist for aspects of anesthesia practice that require execution of the medical regimen as prescribed by that physician or dentist, except as provided in subsection 3.

3. Authority; critical access hospitals and rural hospitals. In a critical access hospital or in a hospital located in a rural area, a certified registered nurse anesthetist may, in accordance with the bylaws and policies of the facility in which the certified registered nurse anesthetist is practicing, formulate and implement a patient-specific plan for anesthesia care, which may include:

A. A preanesthetic assessment;

B. Verification of informed consent;

C. Adjustments and corrective actions as indicated;

D. Ordering appropriate laboratory tests and diagnostic imaging tests in the preoperative period and immediate postoperative period; and

E. Ordering and prescribing prescription drugs in the preoperative period and immediate postoperative period in accordance with this paragraph. For controlled

substances listed in United States Drug Enforcement Administration Schedules III, IIIN, IV and V, a certified registered nurse anesthetist may prescribe drugs only:

(1) For a supply of not more than 4 days, with no prescription refills; and

(2) For an individual for whom the certified registered nurse anesthetist has, at the time of the prescription, established a client or patient record.

4. Rules. The board shall adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.