

Critical Care Anesthesiology

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Questions and Answers
about
Critical Care Anesthesiology

1. What role does critical care play in anesthesiology ?

Critical Care's Role

- The first expansion of anesthesiologist's role outside the OR
- The most challenging, diverse and complex patient population
- Biggest growth area in a hospital

Pathways to Critical Care

- Anesthesia
- Surgery
- Medicine
 - Pulmonary & Critical Care
 - Other fellowship & Critical Care
 - “Straight” Critical Care
- Emergency Medicine
- Neurology

2. How much critical care experience will I get as an anesthesia resident?

Resident experience in Crit Care

- Internship (Clinical Base Year): 2 months
- Anesthesia Residency: 4 months
- More than Medicine & Surgery residents!

3. Why is critical care exciting to many medical students interested in anesthesiology?

Med students & critical care

- Physiology
- Pharmacology
- Stuff happens
- Novelty
- Variety of patients

4. Why do relatively few
anesthesia residents pursue
critical care fellowships?

ICU Fellowship vs. OR practice

- OR is a really fun place to work
- Discrete episodes of care in OR
- OR has 1 patient, 1 surgeon, 1 nurse
- Other interesting subspecialties
- Physiology, pharmacology, stuff happening, etc.
- Economics-training, \$, practice setting

5. What is the structure of an ICU fellowship?

ICU Fellowship structure

- One year program
- At least 9 months ICU rotations
- Up to 3 months electives/research
- Apply during CA-2 year of residency

ICU Fellowship structure

- New combined residency/fellowship tracks
 - OHSU, UCSF
 - Wash U St. Louis, Stanford, UW-Seattle...
- 5 years including internship
- Apply as MEDICAL STUDENT

6. Why should you consider an ICU fellowship after anesthesia residency?

Why ICU fellowship

- Challenge and complexity
- It makes you a better anesthesiologist
- It's consistent with a growing perioperative role for anesthesiologists
- It's a marker of leadership potential

Leadership roles of intensivists

- ICU director
- Chair, Hospital QI committee
- President, Medical Staff
- Division Chief
- Department Chair
- Acute Pain Service Director
- PACU Director
- Vice Dean
- Residency Director

Conclusion:
Critical Care is critical to
Anesthesiology!