



# Transition to Practice (TTP): Small group teaching preparation for private practice in Anesthesiology

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## ABSTRACT

A 3-month practice-based rotation was designed to allow residents autonomy in managing both their cases and their group interactions in order to prepare them for independent practice. The learning environment closely simulates anesthesia private practice. A 360 degree evaluation demonstrated that the rotation improves confidence and proficiency, and that residents are more motivated to perform their daily tasks.

### Introduction:

In order to meet the ACGME mandate of determining whether residents are capable of independent practice at the conclusion of their PGY-4 year, the University of Florida Department of Anesthesiology developed a 3-month rotation entitled Transition To Practice (TTP) that simulates private practice for residents.

### Methods:

This rotation was approved as an innovative education project by the Residency Review Committee (RRC) for Anesthesiology. In this rotation, 5 PGY-4 residents form a simulated private practice managing 4 operating rooms (ORs). Each day, one resident functions as the manager who assigns the daily workload to group members. Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) or Anesthesia Assistants (AAs) are assigned to the group if a member is not available. The manager is also responsible for working with all CRNAs/AAs to develop and implement anesthetic plans. One faculty supervises all the TTP ORs. The faculty generally functions in the background, but is immediately available for assistance. Four ORs are chosen each day to provide a case mix similar to private institutions, typically covering general surgery, orthopaedics, neurosurgery, plastic surgery, urology, gynecology, and vascular surgery. During this rotation, residents are given significantly more independence. Micro-teaching and small group discussions are often used as supplemental education tools. Lectures are provided bi-weekly and focus on business/financial management, billing/coding, and contracts. Group performance was evaluated based on data obtained from 360° evaluations performed by faculties, residents, anesthetists, and OR nurses. These evaluations assessed professionalism, communication skills, interpersonal skills, and efficiency/proficiency in OR utilization on a scale of 1-4: unsatisfactory, needs improvement, satisfactory, and outstanding.

### Results:

From January 2009 to February 2010, a total 137 evaluations were collected. Table 1 summarizes the results of 360° evaluations. [(Mean ± SD); the P-values were obtained by a Kruskal-Wallis test using one-way ANOVA mode].

Table 1

	OR Nurse	CRNA	Resident	Faculty	P-value
Communication Skills	3.46 (0.51)	3.24 (0.44)	3.33 (0.52)	3.20 (0.56)	0.22
Efficiency and Proficiency	3.32 (0.48)	3.38 (0.50)	3.42 (0.50)	3.25 (0.42)	0.28
Interpersonal Skills	3.32 (0.48)	3.24 (0.44)	3.46 (0.50)	3.30 (0.46)	0.25
Professionalism	3.46 (0.51)	3.38 (0.50)	3.40 (0.49)	3.28 (0.45)	0.43

The mean scores in all domains range from 3.2 to 3.46, translating to a level of satisfactory to outstanding. Evaluations of performance were internally consistent among faculties, CRNAs, AAs, OR nurses, and residents. (P > 0.05).

### Discussion:

This study demonstrates that the novel TTP rotation results in excellent resident practice management skills including organized team work, schedule management, and OR utilization. Previously reported data also showed that TTP teams perform better in OR efficiency compared to the rest of the OR team<sup>1</sup>. More importantly, this practice-based learning motivates the resident to take ownership of their practice and to better handle their daily tasks.

### Reference:

1. Dangler L, Wilkhu H, Mace J, Young E, Daly T, Avigne G, Good ML, Mahla ME. Transition to practice: a pilot PGY-4 private practice clinical simulation designed to refine and assess ACGME core competencies (abstract). J Clin Anesth 2005; 17:676.

## INTRODUCTION

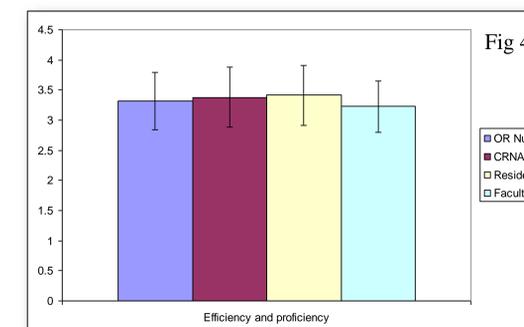
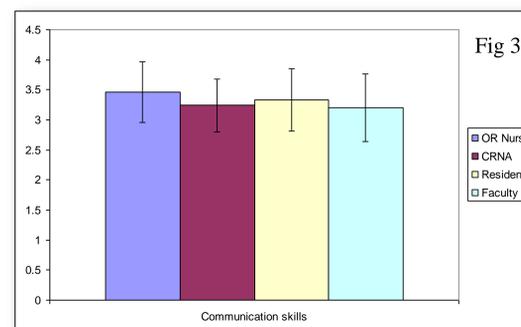
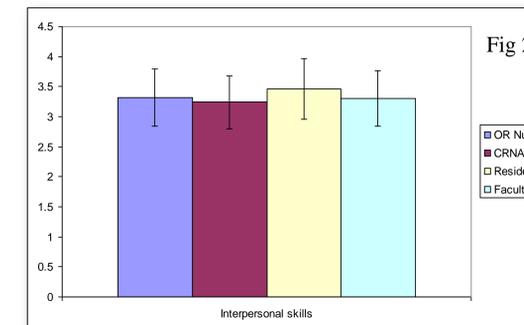
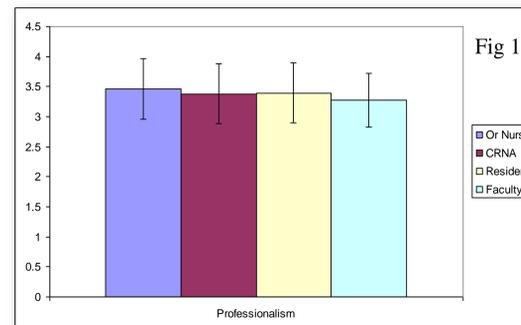
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## RESULTS

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- The mean scores in all domains range from 3.2 to 3.46, translating to a level of satisfactory to outstanding.
- Evaluations of performance were internally consistent among faculties, CRNAs, AAs, OR nurses, and residents. [(p>0.05); the p-values were obtained by a Kruskal-Wallis test using one-way ANOVA mode].
- Fig 1-4 illustrate the statistics results of 360 degree evaluations.



## DISCUSSION

- This study demonstrates that the novel TTP rotation results in excellent resident practice management skills including organized team work, schedule management, and OR utilization.
- Previously reported data also showed that TTP teams perform better in OR efficiency compared to the rest of the OR team<sup>1</sup>.
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## REFERENCE

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