



---

## ACTA FELLOWSHIP CERTIFICATION TASK FORCE DESCRIPTION

### **STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL: MEMBER ENGAGEMENT**

SCA membership will be desirable to all anesthesiologists practicing cardiovascular and thoracic anesthesiology and critical care medicine.

### **MISSION**

Establish certification for the Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology subspecialty.

### **PURPOSE**

Designating Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology as a subspecialty has recognized the advanced expertise of physicians who have acquired this subspecialty expertise through advanced fellowship training in cardiothoracic anesthesiology beyond the core anesthesiology residency, or through clinical experience deemed to be equivalent to that training.

Specific duties include:

1. To establish an evaluation process to assess the knowledge, skills, and experience of trainees who have successfully completed one year of fellowship (after successfully completing a core anesthesiology residency) in adult cardiothoracic anesthesiology training.
2. To provide a mechanism to assess the knowledge, skills, and experience of anesthesiologists who completed cardiothoracic subspecialty fellowship training either prior to the establishment of subspecialty training in adult cardiothoracic anesthesiology or who have achieved equivalent expertise through other training since that time. To provide a mechanism to assess the knowledge, skills, and experience of anesthesiologists who have obtained the equivalent of cardiothoracic anesthesiology fellowship training through clinical practice experience via a “grandparent” window of eligibility.
3. To promote and enhance the training of future subspecialists in adult cardiothoracic anesthesiology in order to maintain and improve the anesthetic and perioperative or peri-procedural care of adult patients undergoing, cardiac and intra-thoracic procedures as well as other surgical, diagnostic or therapeutic procedures that may involve cardiopulmonary bypass, mechanical cardiac assistance, transcatheter cardiac valve interventions, and/or diagnostic perioperative transesophageal echocardiography.
4. To establish uniform standards of qualification for individuals who wish to provide adult cardiothoracic anesthesiology care as defined above.
5. To promote and recognize qualified subspecialists in adult cardiothoracic anesthesiology to train anesthesiology residents in the field of adult cardiothoracic anesthesiology.
6. To foster the dissemination of knowledge and technologic advances to improve the clinical care of patients undergoing procedures requiring cardiothoracic anesthesiology expertise as defined above.

7. To promote and foster collaboration among cardiothoracic anesthesiologists, cardiothoracic surgeons, intensivists, and cardiologists in their mission to improve patient care, conduct research, and provide education.
8. To increase and improve the fundamental knowledge base for the practice of cardiothoracic anesthesiology, as well as its therapeutic impact, by promoting scholarship and basic, translational, and clinical research in areas such as the biological sciences, bioengineering, patient safety, cardiovascular medicine, heart disease, lung disease, cardiothoracic imaging, pharmacology, hematology, and extracorporeal life-support related to the practice of cardiothoracic anesthesiology.
9. To establish a means to assure the public that physicians who become certified in adult cardiothoracic anesthesiology have successfully completed an approved adult cardiothoracic anesthesiology training program or its equivalent and have also maintained certification in anesthesiology.
10. To encourage anesthesiologists to pursue a career in cardiothoracic anesthesiology, and to promote career and academic development within this field.
11. To promote the pursuit of excellence and lifelong learning in cardiothoracic anesthesiology specifically and anesthesiology in general.
12. To enhance and recognize the standing of cardiothoracic anesthesiology as a subspecialty, and that of anesthesiology overall, within the field of medicine.

#### **PARENT COMMITTEE**

The task force reports to the SCA President.

#### **MEETING**

The task force meets at least once per year.

#### **COMPOSITION**

The task force is composed of the Chair, SCA President, and up to eight other members. A Board Liaison may be appointed at the discretion of the President.

#### **TERM**

Task force members serve for the length of time necessary for completion of their defined objective.