



## LEARNER NOTIFICATION

### **Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists**

**Activity Title:** SCA Basic Perioperative TEE Program

**Release Date:** 1/15/2026

**Activity Type:** Enduring Material

**Expiration Date:** 1/15/2028

### **Acknowledgement of Financial Commercial Support**

No commercial support was received for this educational activity.

### **Acknowledgement of In-Kind Support**

No in-kind support was received for this educational activity.



### **Accreditation Statement**

The Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists designates this enduring material activity for a maximum of 60.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### **Description:**

The SCA Basic Perioperative TEE Program is an online program that has two components. The first are knowledge modules designed to give learners the basic information on how to conduct and interpret a transesophageal echocardiography exam, and to produce a written basic report.

The second component are 100 online case studies where learners must review an echocardiography exam, write a report, and answer questions to test their understanding. These 100 cases can be used as part of the National Board of Echocardiography basic TEE accreditation process. It takes approximately sixty to eighty hours to complete the program.

## **Educational Information**

### **Physician Practice Gap:**

In accordance with SCA CME Mission, this educational activity must be designed to improve (1) physician competence, and/or (2) physician performance-in-practice, and/or 3) patient outcomes. Based on educational a survey of a variety of sources such as evaluation data or survey data from learners, peer reviewed literature, national guidelines, inferred needs, such as new methods of diagnosis & treatment, availability of new medications, development of new technology, input from experts regarding advances in medical knowledge, legislative, regulatory, or organizational changes effecting patient care, surgical procedure statistics, professional society requirements, consensus of a committee or committees) SCA has determined the following practice gaps and associated learning needs as a focus of its CME program.

Comprehensive TEE has been used in cardiac anesthesiology for many years. TEE in any form is not a primary part of anesthesiology practice outside of cardiac anesthesia. However, echocardiography is increasingly incorporated in anesthesiology and critical care medicine as a diagnostic tool, even at a basic level. Therefore, the educational need is to provide a BASIC program to get practitioners started in their journey of basic perioperative TEE. From a standpoint of very little knowledge by anesthesiologists, we determined that there needs to be educational modules to give sufficient knowledge for the participants to then meaningfully interpret case studies. To this end, we have designed a program that provides knowledge on ultrasound use and safety, how to perform a basic TEE exam, how to interpret hemodynamic and valvular function, and then to put it together and learn how to interpret and write a report. We also determined that participants need a significant number and variety of case studies so that they are confident when performing Basic TEE in clinical practice. We constructed 100 case studies that covered all the major pathologies they were likely to encounter.

### **Target Audience:**

The target audience includes cardiac anesthesiologists, anesthesiology residents, anesthesiology fellows, perioperative teams, and other interdisciplinary team members involved in perioperative cardiac care and quality care initiatives.

### **Needs that Underlie the Gap**

- Many anesthesiology and other critical care specialists have little or no understanding of echocardiography, including basic transesophageal echocardiography.
- There is increasing demand to use basic TEE when managing high-risk patients.
- Not all patients can be imaged using less invasive echocardiography (transthoracic echocardiography in anesthetized and critically ill patients).
- The program is recognized by the National Board of Echocardiography as part of the credentialing program for Basic Perioperative TEE, specifically, by allowing 100 case studies to be performed online.

**DESIGNED to Change/Outcome:** This CME activity is designed to change learner knowledge, competence and performance by equipping them with practical tools and strategies for improving communication, reducing procedural errors, and utilizing data-driven quality improvement measures. The goal is to enhance patient safety and outcomes in cardiac anesthesiology.

### **Educational Objectives**

*After completing this activity, the participant should be better able to:*

- learn how to perform a basic TEE examination
- learn the basic principles of how to use Basic TEE and how images are formed
- describe how to interpret ultrasound images using two-dimensional and color flow Doppler
- describe how to integrate ventricular function and valvular abnormality
- learn how to write a basic TEE report
- practice basic TEE interpretation and report writing

### **Satisfactory Completion**

Learners must complete an evaluation form to receive a certificate of completion. All videos must be viewed in their entirety. Partial credit of individual sessions is not available.

### **Contact Information**

If you have questions regarding your CME certificate, please contact [nbaus@veritasamc.com](mailto:nbaus@veritasamc.com).

### **Disclosure of Financial Relationships**

As an accredited provider of the ACCME, SCA adheres to all [ACCME Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education](#). The following individuals in control of content development for this activity have indicated that they do have financial relationships with ACCME defined ineligible companies within the past 24 months. All financial relationships have been mitigated. All have indicated that they have no financial relationships to disclose.

### **How to Get Your CME Certificate**

1. Go to <https://scauniversity.pathlms.com/courses/122690>
2. Login and evaluate the meeting.
3. Print all pages of your certificate for your records.