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CRNA Clinical Instructors Knowledge, Beliefs, Attitudes and Practices on Pimping in SRNA Clinical Education

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Background: Inquiry and research regarding the prevalence of pimping in the clinical setting has been exposed among students within the medical community, but minimal among those instructing students within the profession of nurse anesthesia.

Objectives: The study examined the knowledge, beliefs, attitudes and practices of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) clinical instructors regarding the educational technique of pimping for student registered nurse anesthetist (SRNA) education.

Method: The study utilized a descriptive, cross-sectional design using a quantitative online survey and included Illinois CRNA clinical instructors of SRNAs who are members of the Illinois Association of Nurse Anesthetists. The survey included sociodemographic and pimping questionnaires adapted to fit the context of SRNA clinical education.

Results: A total of n=112 Illinois CRNAs participated. As a result, (n=85) participants do not utilize pimping as an educational technique in their practice, while (n=24) participants choose to enact this educational tactic in their clinical instruction of SRNAs. A total of (n=64) participants believe pimping does not help the student understand and apply the material better. The most prevalent downside to pimping included: embarrassing the student (n=86), does not allow for higher order critical thinking (n=44), and squanders student curiosity (n=40).

Conclusion: The study found a minority of CRNA clinical instructors report using pimping as an educational modality. Pimping does not appear to empower SRNAs nor does it engender positive clinical instruction to cultivate

confidence among future CRNAs. Studies examining instructional techniques that support SRNAs learning needs are warranted. A closer look into strategies that can strengthen the position of clinical instructors as a support system for SRNAs is needed.

Keywords: Pimping, clinical instructors, clinical education, CRNA, SRNA, educational techniques