

Feedback by PatientsVoices@RCoA on the AA Scope of Practice 2024

PatientsVoices@RCoA support the Anaesthesia Associate Scope of Practice 2024.

We believe that this Scope of Practice presents a workable solution to the use of Anaesthesia Associates (AAs) in hospitals and that the employment of AAs could result in an increase in the amount of patient care delivered in the NHS.

We are pleased to see the large number and wide range of organisations that have been consulted about this draft Scope of Practice and are pleased to have been included at all stages of its production and to have had our questions answered.

The amount and breadth of evidence sought and reviewed is to be commended.

We appreciate that concerns about patient safety have been foremost in the decisions made about the Scope of Practice for AAs and are happy to support the supervision arrangements, the types of procedures and the kinds of patients to be treated by AAs as outlined in the draft. The introduction of phases of practice post qualification should also promote patient safety.

Compromises have been made but we believe that the transition arrangements for existing AAs who may currently be doing procedures outwith this Scope of Practice are fair.

We look forward to continuing to contribute to this important project.