Background: In the year 2000, the United States Census Bureau reported that there were approximately 35 million people age 65 or older in the United States. The geriatric patient has been identified as the predominant recipient of all healthcare services. Though a large proportion of these patients are seen in all areas of the perianesthesia continuum, many nurses have not received education specific to the care of this age group.

Objectives: Focus on perianesthesia resources and continuing education related to the geriatric population.

Process of Implementation: Through an initial grant from Nurse Competence in Aging (NCA) and a continuation grant from Resourcefully Enhancing Aging in Specialty Nursing (REASN), ASPAN has identified and focused on improving geriatric education for perianesthesia nurses.

Successful Practice: Success is measured with the improved knowledge, skills, and competence of the perianesthesia nurse.

Positive Outcomes: According to the ASPAN Geriatric Position Statement, “The perianesthesia nurse will be respectful, knowledgeable, and insightful of special considerations related to aging when caring for geriatric patients.”

Implications: This is an opportunity to improve nurses’ knowledge of geriatrics and patient outcomes.

The views expressed in this abstract are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Navy, Department of Defense, nor the U.S. Government.