**Current Challenges and Tomorrow of Nurse Anesthetist Education in Finland, South Korea, Taiwan, and the United States**

**Background:**  
Nurse anesthetist education plays a pivotal role in healthcare systems across various countries, ensuring the provision of safe and effective anesthesia care. The International Council of Nurses (ICN) advocates for nurse anesthetists to attain a master’s degree or higher as a minimum educational standard. However, the implementation of such standards varies across different regions.

**Aim:** To identify the challenges and propose solutions in nurse anesthetist education in Finland, South Korea, Taiwan, and the United States, with the goal of providing globally relevant recommendations for other countries facing similar situations.

**Method:** Narrative literature review.

**Findings:** In Finland, the nurse anesthetist program, which began in the 1960s, was discontinued in 1994, leading to staff shortages and reduced access to anesthesia care. Proposed solutions include reintroducing training programs and enhancing collaboration between anesthesiologists and nurses.

In South Korean, the education program for certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) requires a master's degree from a graduate school. It includes theoretical education and hands-on clinical practice. The program spans five semesters, after which students must pass the national examination.

Taiwan has trained nurse anesthetists, who remain the main workforce in anesthesia care since 1958. Although the government recognized them as advanced practice nurses in 2020, nurse practitioner (NP) education is not regulated, relying on an on-the-job training model. The transformation of the education model needs further exploration to achieve a balance between knowledge and skills for CRNA-NPs.

In the United States, nurse anesthesia programs leading to a doctoral degree for entry into practice typically last 27–32 months and involve rigorous coursework. CRNA graduates have an average of 9,369 hours of clinical experience and must pass the National Certification Examination. This strengthened educational process addresses the growing demand for healthcare and anesthesia services, especially in response to an aging population.

**Conclusion:**  
Despite the varying contexts, common challenges in nurse anesthetist education include regulatory barriers, disparities in access, and the need for continuous professional development. A comparative analysis of competencies among these countries could further inform global best practices, helping tailor effective strategies for other nations.