



Photos courtesy of ISDPA



Illinois Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants

ISDPA Mission Statement

The ISDPA is organized to promote the professional and personal development of Physician Assistants in the State of Illinois in the practice of quality, cost effective, and accessible health care in the medical specialty of dermatology. The ISDPA will also promote the Physician/PA relationship of the health care team in the practice of patient centered medical care.

ISDPA Objectives

- Establish and maintain a representative organization and forum for physician assistants who practice, or have an interest in the medical specialty of dermatology.
- Develop, sponsor and evaluate continuing medical or medically related education programs for the physician assistant.
- Serve as a public information center and educate the medical community, health professionals and the public regarding physician assistants in dermatology.
- Promote the academic and clinical training of physician assistants in dermatology.
- Serve as a scientific, research and educational resource for its members and other health care professionals.
- Assist in the development of published articles in appropriate professional journals, of topics in dermatology.
- Participate in the development of academic and clinical training programs of physician assistants.

Dermatology PAs are the fastest growing specialty in America. Find out what it means to be a dermatology PA as we take you behind the scenes of some of today's top dermatology PAs as they talk about their education, challenges and passion for the work they do every day.

Physician assistants (PAs) in dermatology play a number of varied and vital roles, reflecting many facets of the field. From patient care and education, to skin surgery, treatment of chronic skin conditions, and cosmetic procedures, PAs are dynamic and flexible members of the medical team. Adaptable and versatile, they complement the work of their supervising physicians, making the practice of dermatology more flexible and responsive to the needs of patients and dermatologists. PAs practice medicine with physician supervision and have the authority to diagnose and treat patients with a range of medical conditions.

PAs' generalist medical education provides a solid foundation from which to address the diverse aspects of dermatology practice, including performing physical exams, diagnosing conditions and developing treatment plans, providing health counseling, prescribing medications, and assisting in surgery. PAs have



suture training and, in the field of dermatology, perform biopsies and simple and complex excisions, as well as assist in major medical procedures such as Mohs. Dermatology PAs routinely see patients for acne, eczema, and other common skin disorders.

Physician assistants are trained in intensive medical education programs accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant. The average PA program curriculum is 26 months and is characterized by a rigorous, competency-based curriculum with both didactic and clinical components. Programs are offered at medical schools, colleges and universities, and teaching hospitals.

All states, the District of Columbia, and Guam regulate PAs. In those 52 jurisdictions and in federal agencies, physicians may delegate to PAs those medical duties that are within the physician's scope of practice and the PA's training and experience as allowed by law. After graduation, PAs are required to pass the national certifying examination administered by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) before they can practice. To maintain certification, PAs must complete 100 hours of continuing medical education every two years and take a recertification examination every six years.



Categories of Membership

FELLOW

A Physician Assistant who practices full or part-time in dermatology and is supervised by a Board Certified Dermatologist.

ASSOCIATE

A Physician Assistant who does not work in dermatology but who wishes to or has a keen interest in dermatology.

AFFILIATE

Health professionals or individuals employed by government agencies who do not qualify for any other membership category, who have an interest in dermatology and desire to be affiliated with the ISDPA.

STUDENT

A Student enrolled in a CAHA, CAAHEP or successor agency approved PA program, or and AAPA approved program.

The Best Reasons to Join the ISDPA

Benefits

- No Membership Fee for the first year of Membership
- Effective representation promoting Dermatology Physician Assistant's interests to our Physician colleagues
- Opportunity to inform the public of what the role of Dermatology PAs is to them in the medical community
- Stay informed about advanced Dermatology and CME opportunities
- Access to Dermatology PA job listings

Future Benefits

- Philanthropy / Volunteerism
- Miles for Melanoma 5K Run/Walk
- Walk to Cure Psoriasis
- Sun Smarts skin cancer screenings

Events

There is an Annual CME Conference as well as many other opportunities for education and professional development through the quarterly journal club, the yearly Holiday Networking Event and industry speaker programs throughout the year, including these recent programs:

- "Current Treatment Approaches for Acne" presented by Dr. James Del Rosso
- "An Introduction and Provision of Prescribing Information for a New Medication" presented by Dr. Michael Bukhalo
- "Factors to Consider in the Diagnosis and Management of Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria" presented by Dr. Gary Goldenberg



Leadership

President
Andrea Brezill, PA-C
aib@illinoisdermpa.org

Immediate Past President
B. Jang-Mi Johnson, PA-C
jmj@illinoisdermpa.org

Vice President
Christine Go, PA-C
ccl@illinoisdermpa.org

Secretary
Joy Logothesis, PA-C

Treasurer
Erin Bartels, PA-C

Director at Large
Tracee Douse, PA-C
tad@illinoisdermpa.org

Affiliated Associations

- Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants
- Illinois Academy of Physician Assistants
- American Academy of Physician Assistants
- American Academy of Dermatology
- National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants
- Pre-PA Students Shadowing Opportunities: PA Shadow Online ♦

CONTACT US

P.O. Box 220611 | Chicago, IL 60622 | isdpa@illinoisdermpa.org

More information is available at:
<http://www.illinoisdermpa.org/> and <http://www.dermopa.org/>

PAs

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