




Physician Associates An Overview

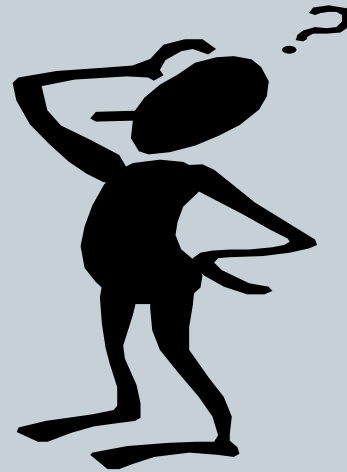
**Jeannie Watkins PA-R
President**

**Faculty of Physician Associates
Royal College of Physicians**

Jeannie.watkins@rcplondon.ac.uk

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- The PA role and duties
 - Workforce Benefit impact on patient care
 - Accountability and Governance
 - Supporting the PA in their roles
 - National Developments

What is a Physician Associate?



A healthcare professional trained in medicine who works as part of a medical team in Partnership with doctors to provide medical care to patients.



Main PA Duties

- Take medical history
 - Physically examine a patient
 - Diagnose with possible differentials
 - Diagnostic tests/procedures
 - Treatment and Management Plans
 - Referrals accept and receive
 - Medications*
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- All with physician supervision*



Benefits and Impact on Patient Care

- Building capacity
- Expanding skill mix
- Redistributing physician workload
- A defined health profession to expand midlevel staff without depleting current roles
- Help meet demand for increased quality of care
- Consistency of care and team stability



Accountability and Governance

Personal and Professional

- Self
- PA Managed Voluntary Register

Physician Supervisor

- Delegated authority

Employer

- Medical Line Management
- Trust/GP Systems and Processes



Supporting the PA in their Role

Recruitment

- The right person
- Prepare workforce

Retention

- Clear job plan
- Sufficient time
- Clear lines of supervision
- Champions/Lead
- Career Progression/Salary progression
- CPD

Reward



National Developments

- Regulation
- No. of PAs working
- No. of PA Programmes and students
- Faculty of Physician Associates



Regulation

“There is a real appetite for physician associate roles in the NHS and with this comes the issue of regulation of such groups. I am therefore keen to consider this in earnest and will be consulting on the issue early next year to establish whether, as happens in other countries where the role exists, physician associates should be regulated”

(The Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Nov 30th 2016, NHS Providers, Keynote Speech)

Regulation



How many PAs Currently work in the UK?



1. 0-100
2. 100-200
3. 200-300
4. 300-400
5. 400-500



How Many PA Programmes are there currently in the UK?



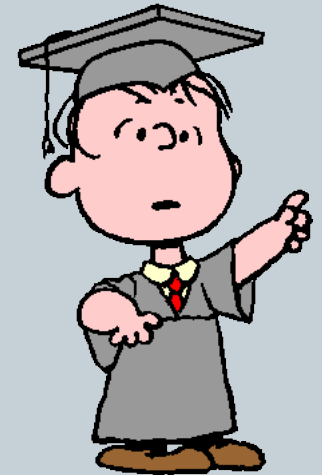
1. 7
2. 13
3. 18
4. 25
5. 27



How many PA students are there currently in training in the UK?



1. 100
2. 300
3. 500
4. 700
5. 900





Faculty of Physician Associates

- Purpose and 5 year strategy

Sub-Committees

- Professional Standards
- Examinations
- Education
- Research and Development



PA Challenges

- Regulation
- Patient and Public engagement & involvement
- Raising the profile - communication
- Supporting PAs
- Supporting Employers
- Supporting Supervisors



The Future.....

- PAs will be an established, recognised and valued part of the medical workforce
- The public, government, employers and supervisors will be clear about who PAs are and what they do
- Significant numbers of PA programmes, qualified PAs and those in training
- Achieved Regulation, prescribing and ionising radiation authority
- Employers and supervisors will be experienced in employing and supervising PAs
- PAs will be continuing to deliver service and support the medical workforce in the provision of excellent patient care

References/Resources

Faculty of Physician Associates www.fparcp.co.uk

FPA Census 2016 (fparcp website)

NHS Providers Keynote Speech

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/nhs-providers-annual-conference-keynote-speech>