



History of OAPA and the PA Profession in Ohio
By John Trimbath, PA-C - June 2013

1971: Gilbert Nelmes and James Asher, graduates of Duke University PA Program are the first PAs to practice in Ohio with Robert Johnson, M.D. Gen. Practitioner Coshocton, Ohio, June 1971



1974: Cuyahoga Community College PA Program becomes first program in Ohio to be accredited by Joint Review Committee for Educational Programs for the Assistant to Primary Care Physician (JRC-PA) on March 1974.



Cincinnati Technical College Urology Assistant Program becomes accredited by the American College of Surgeons co-sponsor of JRC-PA November 1974

Students from Cuyahoga Community College PA Program class of '74 & '75 meet to discuss establishing a professional society and investigate the process for drafting and introducing first statutes governing scope of practice.

First practicing PAs (Graduates of the Alderson Broaddus College and Cuyahoga Community College PA Programs) meet at the Frederick Smith Clinic in Marion, Ohio to develop bylaws for professional association and chartering as a constituent chapter in the American Academy of Physician Assistants.



1975: Rep. Phale Hale (D) 31st District introduced HB 663 to enact section 4730.01 to 4730.11 of the Ohio revised code to register physician's assistant 04/10/1975, Ohio 111th General



Assembly passes 1st enabling legislation for PA scope of practice 04/26/1976, signed by Gov. James Rhodes (R) on 05/29/1976, statutes state a PA must be "employed" by a physician before they can practice.



Kettering College PA Program is accredited by JRC-PA March 1975



The Ohio Academy of Physician Assistants is created and the Board of Directors is established as 3 Officers and 3 Trustee- At-Large positions, September 1975

Frederick Smith Clinic in Marion, Ohio designated "1st Home" of the OAPA

Gilbert Nelmes, PA-C, Coshocton, Ohio, graduate 1971 Duke University Physician Assistant Program is elected 1st President of the Ohio Academy of Physician Assistants 1975-76

1976: 1st Annual Conference of the Ohio Academy of Physician Assistants held at the Frederick Smith Clinic in Marion, Ohio on January 24-25, 1976

1st official newsletter of the Ohio Academy published, John Lemmo, PA-C is 1st Newsletter Editor, April 1976

Ohio Academy Board of Directors approves a Physician Advisory Board ,April 1976, made up of supervising physicians who will act as consultants to the Academy to provide guidance on professional and legislative issues; 1st Physician Advisory Board members: Alan B. Kunkel, M.D. Cleveland Clinic, Clinton Trott, M.D., Medical Director Kettering College Physician Program, Albert N. May, M.D., Frederick Smith Clinic, and Robert Johnson, M.D., Gen. Practitioner, Coshocton, Ohio

The Ohio Academy of Physician Assistants is the first state chapter to be “chartered” to the AAPA at the Annual Conference House of Delegates meeting in Atlanta, Ga. April 1976

Rebecca Yost PA-C, Graduated 05/01/75 Alderson Broaddus College Physician Assistant Program, issued 1st certificate of registration for PA practice in Ohio on 12/13/1976.

1977: Ohio State Medical Board resistant to registering PAs and promulgates rules and regulations without holding public hearings for comments, PAs can only be employed by a physician, restricts PAs from being employed by hospitals or other health care institutions, June 1977.



Lake Erie College PA Program accredited by JRC-PA March 1977

1978: Secondary to problems with filing taxes and IRS reports for nonprofit organizations the Ohio Academy of physician assistants is required to retile the Academy. The Ohio Association of Physician Assistants is incorporated in April 1978, Articles of Incorporation signed by James Deyling PA-C, President, Anthony Schnuerer PA-C, President-Elect and Janice Vinivky PA-C, Secretary-Treasurer.

1979: OAPA threatens legal action against OMB for developing rules and regulations without holding hearings for public comment, Rep. Hale requests Ohio legislative Joint Committee on Agency Rules Review (JCARR) require medical board to hold public hearings and promulgate new rules for PA utilization by a supervising physician.

OMB develops overly restrictive rules and creates the infamous “new patient, new condition” rule. Create rule that a supervising physician must submit a utilization plan to be approved by the medical board before a PA can receive a certificate of registration and begin employment or provide services to the supervising physician's patients.



Cuyahoga Community College Surgeon's Assistant Program accredited by JRC-PA, April 1979

Cincinnati Technical College Urology Assistant Program closes, October 1979

OAPA Boards of Directors approves addition of a Student Representative as observer on the board, October 1979

Ohio Attorney General William Brown renders an official opinion which determines that reimbursement for the delivery of primary health services rendered by physician assistants (nurse practitioners) is authorized under the Ohio Medicaid program, November 1979.



1980: OAPA honors Charles L. Hudson, M.D. by creating an award in his name to be given to an individual who demonstrates outstanding service to the PA profession. 1st recipient: The Honorable Charles L. Hudson, M.D.

1981: OAPA and the Ohio College of Surgeons Assistants cosponsor the First Annual Ohio Health Practitioners Conference September 10-13, 1981 in Cleveland Ohio




1983: Rep. Frank Mahnic (D) 13th District introduces HB 358 on 05/05/1983 OAPAs 1st effort to introduce legislation to expand PA scope of practice including physician delegated prescriptive authority, passes the Ohio House 03/29/1984, but is stalled in the Senate Health Committee.



1985: OAPA Board of Directors approves new Logo July 1985.



1986: Representative John Thompson (D) 16th District introduces HB 769 on 12/18/1985 to reform the Ohio State Medical Board as a result of the Ohio Legislative Service Commission's investigation that the OSMB "is taking longer to approve PA registration than any other licensee, passed

by the 116th General Assembly on 11/21/1986, signed by  Gov. Dick Celeste (D) on 12/15/1986. The new law expanded the grounds upon which the medical board can take disciplinary action on physicians and physician assistants, and makes recommendations to modify the registration process for PAs and also create a Physician Assistant Advisory Committee to the medical board consisting of 2 PAs ,4 physicians and a consumer representative responsible for making recommendations on approval of certificates of registration, PA scope of practice and reviewing rules every 5 years, Ohio State Medical Board changes title to State Medical Board of Ohio so not to be confused as affiliated with the Ohio State Medical Association.

OAPA Boards of Directors approves Student Representative as a full voting member to the board, July 1986

Medical board approves guidelines for group practices, states" any group of 3 or more physicians may employ an equal amount of PAs as there are physician in that group", November 1986

1987: OAPA hosts the 15th Annual American Academy of Physician Assistants Conference in Cincinnati May 23-28, 1987

The Ohio State Medical Board creates the PA Advisory Committee to the OSMB on June 17, 1987,



Tony Miller, PA-C and



Jeff Fisher, PA-C appointed to the committee.

Lake Erie College PA Program closes July 1987

OAPA is first state chapter to be invited to make a presentation at a state medical society, given invitation to the Ohio State Medical Association's Annual Conference in Columbus on September 17, 1987 to exhibit and give a lecture on PA utilization

1988: The Physician Assistant Advisory Committee and OMB develop a new system to register PAs and method to approve supervising physician's utilization of PAs. OMB creates the "standard" and "supplemental" utilization plans, March 1988.

Ohio College of Surgeon's Assistants dissolved and OAPA creates affiliate membership category to include Surgeon's Assistants, July 1988

1989: OMB recognizes many PAs have been practicing in Ohio under assumed titles in order to be employed by healthcare facilities, i.e.; Staff Assistant/Clinical Assistant. OMB places a one-year moratorium on all PAs who have been practicing under assumed titles to apply for a certificate of registration, February 1989

OAPA and Columbus law firm Brickler & Eckler file suit against the Medical Board in Franklin County District Court for failure to approve physician's utilization plans in a timely manner. OMB had been taking up to one year to approve some physician's utilization plans, placing hardships on supervising physicians, PAs and patients, March 1989.



Rep. Frank Mahnic (D) 13th District introduces HB 358 on 06/27/1989 to gain institutional employment for PAs and create the Physician Assistant Registry Board, over much opposition from the Ohio State Medical Association and the Medical Board the bill never gets a hearing

OAPA Board of Directors approves restructuring of the board by organizing the state into 4 regions each with a trustee position, maintaining the 2 Trustee-at-Large positions July 1989.

Franklin County District Court judge issues pretrial injunction instructing OMB to develop a new method to expedite approval of physician's utilization plans and certificate of registration for PAs, October 1989.

1990: OAPA dismisses legal action without prejudice and OMB agrees to resolving issues of delays in approving utilization plans and efficacy of registration, February 1990.

1991: OAPA has its 1st Board of Directors Retreat to develop a “Five-Year Strategic Plan” at Mohican State Park, February 1991

OAPA holds 1st Workshop for PA students in Columbus, November 1991

The Ohio College Health Association, founded in 1938, a state nonprofit organization serving and representing the interests of professionals and students in health and higher education, is the only non-PA organization to date to make a public resolution that “supports any legislative effort by the OAPA to change the law in order to resolve the problem of limited access to affordable health care for the people of Ohio, November 1991

1992: OAPA contracts with Wolfe and Associates to develop fundraising strategies for future legislative efforts, March 1992

AAPA House of Delegates May 1992 passes policy to require all constituent chapters officers term of office begin on July 1, OAPA Board of Directors set the date for terms of office to comply, July 1993

The Hon. Charles L. Hudson, M.D. recognized as founders of the concept of the PA profession received an Honorary Membership in the AAPA in May and passed away August 1992

OAPA contracts with Government Policy Group, Inc. of Columbus as 1st lobbying group for the Association, Brooke Chaney is OAPAs first professional lobbyist, October 1992



1995: Sen. Grace Drake (R) 22nd District sponsors SB 143 introduced 06/27/1995, revisions to statutes included changing terminology of “employ” to “supervise” which opened the doors for PAs to be able to be employed by hospitals and other healthcare facilities, inserted a definition of a “standard physician assistant utilization plan” and “new patient/new condition” from the rules in to statutes, defines supervisory agreements, re-titled Physician Assistant Advisory Committee to the Physician Assistant Policy Committee and further define their role, passed by the 121st General Assembly on



11/04/1995 and signed by Gov. George Voinovich on 12/05/1995

1996: Hospitals and other healthcare facilities may begin to employ PAs but must be supervised by a physician with a physician utilization plan approved by the medical board, March 1996

OAPA relinquishes the infamous “box that goes to meetings” to Roger Peckinpugh, Esq. and contracts with him to provide management services and he becomes the Association’s 1st Executive Director, September 1996



University of Toledo PA Program accredited by ARC-PA October 1996

1997: University Hospitals of Cleveland file suit against OMB in Franklin County Court of Common Pleas for denying their supplemental utilization plan, June 1997

1998: OAPA hosts AAPA North Central Regional Meeting during winter CME meeting in Cleveland, holds “Toga Party” which can only be described as “What a hoot and a half!”, February 1998

OAPA files “amicus brief” in Franklin County Court of Common Pleas to support University Hospital of Cleveland's suit against OMB, March 1998

Franklin County Court of Common Pleas reverses the decision of the OMB to deny University Hospital of Cleveland's supplemental utilization plan which opens the door for PAs in Ohio to begin being approved for invasive procedures such as bone marrow biopsies and aspiration, lumbar punctures and other procedures, November 1998

1999: OAPA contracts with the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners for management services,




Elizabeth Adamson is the new Executive Director of the OAPA, May 1999


OAPA Board of Directors approves restructuring of the board by reorganizing the 4 existing regions into 7 geographical regions, all regions having a seat on the board, July 1999


2000: Ms. Adamson leaves AOHC and forms Associates in Issues Management, brings OAPA as her client





University of Findlay PA Program accredited by ARC-PA April 2000

2002:  Marietta College PA Program accredited by ARC-PA March 2002

2003:  Sen. Lynn Wachtmann (R) 1st District introduces SB 147 on 11/07/2003 which is OAPAs first politically opportunistic prospect, in over 20 years, to be afforded the opportunity to submit legislation to request physician delegated prescriptive authority. The bill receives only one hearing in the Senate Health Committee before time ran out on the legislative session.



2005:  Cuyahoga Community College Surgeon's Assistant and Physician Assistant Programs are combined into one program, April 2005


2006:  Sen. Lynn Wachtmann (R) 1st District introduces SB 154 and  Rep. Jon Peterson (R) 2nd District introduces companion bill HB 305 to expand PA scope of practice including physician delegated prescriptive authority with Schedule III-V drugs, will require a masters degree to prescribe and practice after 2008, included a “grandfather clause” for PAs who had been in practice for greater than 10 years, changed terminology of a "physician assistant utilization plan" to "physician supervisory plan" and further define that process, removed the "new patient/new condition" requirements, redefined "supervision" to include a 60 minute distance requirement for off-site supervision and no

countersignature for writing medical orders, passed by 126th General Assembly on 01/31/2006, signed

by  Gov. Robert Taft (R) on 02/14/2006

2008:  Mount Union University PA Program accredited by ARC-PA September 2008

2012:  Rep. Anne Gonzalez (R) 19th District and  Rep. Tom Letson (D) 64th District introduces HB 284 on 06/28/2011 to expand PA scope of practice including adding Schedule II drugs to PA formulary, pronouncing death, giving medical direction to emergency medical providers, waived the masters degree requirement to practice in this state for PAs who have served 3 consecutive years in the

Federal services, passed by 129th General Assembly on 12/13/2012, signed by  Gov. John Kasich(R) on 12/24/2012

 Ohio Dominican University PA Program accredited by ARC-PA March 2012

2013:  Baldwin Wallace University PA Program accredited by ARC-PA March 2013

OAPA drafts legislation and secures a Sponsor with the intent to have legislation introduced as soon as possible. The draft language includes removal of the list in ORC 4730.09, elimination of the 60 minute rule and the restriction limiting the number of PAs that can be supervised as well as clarifying that PAs can delegate to MAs. Also on the agenda will be combining both the certificate to practice and certificate to prescribe into one license and removing the Ohio Medical Board approval of supervisory agreements and supervision plans. The agreements and plans would be kept on file at the practice.

2014

HB412 is introduced with Rep. Ann Gonzales as its sponsor. It passes the House but is amended in the Senate. It passes the Senate but the House failed to concur so the bill died in December 2014.

2015

SB55 is introduced in April with the same content as HB412 and Senator Burke as the sponsor. It encountered difficulties in the Senate Health Committee and was eventually amended into SB110. SB110 passed the 131st General Assembly and was signed by Governor Kasich in July. It became effective in October.

Ohio Association of Physician Assistants

Presidents

1975-76	<i>Gilbert Nelmes, PA-C</i>	
1976-77	<i>William Falkenstein, PA-C</i>	
1977-78	<i>James Deyling, PA-C</i>	
1978-79	<i>Anthony Schnuerer, PA-C</i>	<u><i>Charles L. Hudson, MD Award</i></u>
1979-80	<i>Janice Vinicky, PA-C</i>	
1980-81	<i>Ronald Roberts, PA-C</i>	1 st <i>Charles L. Hudson, MD</i>
1981-82	<i>Ellen Weaver, PA-C</i>	2 nd <i>William Falkenstein, PA-C</i>
1982-83	<i>Dodi Foster, PA-C</i>	3 rd <i>Allen B. Kunkle, MD</i>
1983-84	<i>John Gardiner, PA-C</i>	4 th <i>Raymond Sasaki</i>
1984-85	<i>Samuel Roth, PA-C</i>	5 th <i>Janice Vinicky, PA-C</i>
1985-86	<i>Tony Miller, PA-C</i>	6 th <i>Tony Miller, PA-C</i>
1986-87	<i>Greg Grooms, PA-C</i>	7 th <i>Samuel Roth, PA-C</i>
1987-88	<i>John Booher, PA-C</i>	8 th <i>John Booher, PA-C</i>
1988-89	<i>John Trimbath, PA-C</i>	9 th <i>John D. Trimbath, PA-C</i>
1989-90	<i>John Booher, PA-C</i>	10 th <i>John Pund, PA-C</i>
1990-91	<i>Jeff Fisher, PA-C</i>	
1991-07/93	<i>Cindy Bjerstedt, PA-C</i>	
07/93-1995	<i>Jeremiah Curran, PA-C</i>	
1995-96	<i>Robin Hawn, PA-C</i>	
1996-97	<i>Russell Hedderly, PA-C</i>	
1997-98	<i>John Booher, PA-C</i>	17 th <i>David Ballinger, PA-C</i>
1998-99	<i>Josanne Pagel, PA-C</i>	18 th <i>Josanne Pagel, PA-C</i>
1999-2000	<i>Josanne Pagel, PA-C</i>	
2000-01	<i>Robert Zaayer, PA-C</i>	20 th <i>Dean Vanderhoof</i>
2001-02	<i>Robert Zaayer, PA-C</i>	

2002-03	Margaret Cook, PA-C	21 st Robert Zaayer, PA-C
2003-04	Ray Wawrowski, PA-C	
2004-05	Amie Rinaldi, PA-C	
2005-06	Robert Zaayer, PA-C	24 th John D. Trimbath, PA-C
2006-07	Albert Etheart, PA-C.	25 th Josanne Pagel, PA-C
2007-08	Douglas Eulberg, PA-C	26 th Sharon Luke, PA-C
2008-09	Daniel Goodrich, PA-C	
2009-10	Albert Etheart, PA-C.	27 th Erwin "Earl" Morse, PA-C
2010-11	Douglas Eulberg, PA-C	
2011-12	JP Thompson, PA-C	
2012-13	Andrea Boyd, PA-C	
2013-14	John Trimbath, PA-C	
2014-15	Scott Cackler, PA-C	28 th Carla Streepy O'Day, MD
2015-16	Scott Cackler, PA-C	