A Publication of the Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants

Fall 2006

Legislative Update

Developments on "Alternate Supervising Physicians" PA 06-110

By Linda Kowalski (Government Affairs Liaison) and Tricia Marriott, PA-C (Legislative Chair)

The new law regarding supervision of physician assistants went into effect on October 1st. In many respects, the law is straightforward and is a "net positive" for our profession. As members might recall, the prior statute (as interpreted by DPH) restricted the ability of physician assistants to practice in locations offsite from their supervising physician. Working together with many interested entities, ConnAPA was able to amend the statute in the 2006 session to simply require that the oversight process be active and direct.

The bill tried to address the question of what happens to the PA when their supervising physician is on an extended

leave or vacation. Clearly, the work of the PA should not stop; but, if their supervising physician is not present, how can the law's intent that supervision be "active and direct" be maintained? The final legislation opted to state that an "alternate licensed physician" can be designated so long as that individual is "registered" with DPH. Meanwhile, a separate section of the PA statute seems to allow this delegation without requiring that the temporary supervising physician be registered by DPH.

This is a case where, once again, different sections of the same practice statute seem to conflict with one another. ConnAPA is working closely with the Department of Public Health to come to a firm conclusion as to whether this

issue needs to be resolved in legislation during the 2007 session. We will keep all members apprised of developments with the alternate supervising physician issue.

DPH is in the process of developing a fact sheet on the new PA law that they hope to post on their web site. ConnAPA also is working with DPH to develop "frequently asked questions" material that, hopefully, will continue to clarify issues and will be also posted on the ConnAPA web site. If you would like to submit a question for consideration regarding the alternate supervising physician issue as it pertains to your PA practice setting, please send it to Tricia Marriott at MarriottTBonz@sbcglobal.net.

Job Bank Goes Live

By Bruce Fichandler, PA-C, ConnAPA Webmaster

ConnAPA is pleased to announce the addition of the "Job Bank" to its newly designed website. (www.connapa.org/jobbank).

Members are able to browse the jobs listings and post their resumes for free. Members who would like to post their resumes, log on using their username (first initial, last name, no capitals or punctuation) and password (membership number). The information will be forwarded to the ConnAPA office for verification of membership. The resume will then be posted within 3-5 business days. If you have any problems logging on, please contact the ConnAPA office by email (connapa.org@verizon.net) or by phone at 800/493-9200.

Non-members can browse the job listings, but will not be able to post their resume unless they join ConnAPA.

Employers looking to hire a PA can post a job listing for \$100 for 45 days. Recruiters are asked to contact the ConnAPA office for posting rates.

We are in the process of contacting the human resource departments of all Connecticut hospitals to inform them of the new Job Bank feature. We also are counting on each of you to help spread the word by referring a potential employer who is interested in hiring a PA to consider posting the job on the ConnAPA website. Be sure to tell them the Job Bank will give them exposure to the nearly 1,000 PAs in the state as well as the more than 60,000 PAs nationally.

Within the first week of operation, we received a half dozen ads! You are encouraged to visit the website frequently to check the most current listings.

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& advertising reservations/inquiries to the ConnAPA office.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

President's Message

by Jennifer R. Madonia-Barr, MS, PA-C

It's a crisp October day, the sky is crystal blue and the remaining leaves mostly yellow. Since



it's Sunday, I have the rare occasion of being able to reflect on the patients I have taken care of this morning on my drive home. Our days are filled with taking care of patients: rounds, consults, office, admissions, surgery. We are so very busy working, and yet, there is always another patient that needs to be seen. There is much work to be done, and we are so driven by task, cost, quality, and length of stay, that I think, from time to time, we forget about the patient and put our work first. The days are long and hectic, our minds engaged and our hands industrious, but are we really going the distance? It is our duty to help our patients and meet their needs and requests; serving the system must come second.

I believe that if we are committed to taking better care of our patients tomorrow than we do today, then we must challenge ourselves to change. Remember that our purpose comes from the patients we serve. The team isn't taking good care of the patient if we aren't talking to each other and agreeing on a treatment plan. I hope that this morning, I didn't let my patients down. I hope I comforted the scared adolescent and reassured his mother, that I eased the anxiety of the patient who returns to the OR tomorrow, and that I adequately organized the care of the post-op patient whose "team" has come to include consultants from three other sub-specialties. I am reminded that our patients need us to be constant, reliable and (perhaps most importantly) available. They need us to remember who they are.

Tomorrow morning, when you don your white coat and running shoes, take a moment and focus. Be determined to put your patients first.

Regional Reports

Region I (NE- Northeast)

By Maureen Robert, PA-C

Max Amore Restaurant in Glastonbury was the setting for an informative talk on "Fenofibrate Therapy", presented by Dr. Edwin Fierer, Assistant Clinical Professor at UConn Health Center and a practitioner with Collins Medical Associates in Hartford. Abbott Laboratories was the grantor for our first program, and it was delightful to launch the new season with them.

Dr. Fierer followed his informative presentation with a lengthy and comprehensive question and answer period that extended through the evening. Dr. Fierer was gracious throughout, inviting people to his table to continue the discussion through his much-delayed dinner.

This is an opportune time to remind all ConnAPA members that it is important to notify the appropriate regional director whenever you cannot attend a CME you have registered for. In most cases, we have a wait-list, and because a few people called to alert me that they would be unable to attend, I was able to offer their spots to others who wanted to attend. CME dollars are at a premium and it's important that we fill all available spots not only out of respect for our presenters, but also to minimize costs to ConnAPA and our grantors. Obviously, last-minute work and family emergencies take precedence, but please remember that if you sign up for a CME and can't go, please call as soon as possible in advance. In addition, we frequently must guarantee the number of attendees and menu selections at least 48 hours ahead of time, and we may incur additional costs if people don't attend. ConnAPA wants to provide CME opportunities to as many members as possible."

Region III (SC-South Central)

By Jeanine Ondrof, PA-C

Recently, PAs on the Hospitalist Service at Yale New Haven Hospital celebrated National PA Week with a luncheon. They were thanked for the wonderful care and hard work they provide day in and day out. It is always nice to feel appreciated, albeit in a small way. This, however, does not always

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DEADLINES FOR FALL 06 ISSUE
January 8, 2007
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directly to Editor Alison Hall
alicatpa@yahoo.com
Please fax advertising reservation forms
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need to be in the form of a national holiday. It may be receiving a thank you from a distressed family member when you take an additional five minutes to listen to them express their frustrations or knowing that you have done your best by a patient, even if the outcome is undesirable.

My own celebration of National PA Week was a daily process: taking pride in the profession I chose, being thoughtful about my job and working hard for the safety and care of my patients. Also, by becoming active in ConnAPA, I have realized that there are many colleagues that feel as passionate about the profession as I do. I always leave each Board meeting feeling energized, and I enjoy getting to know other ConnAPA members

E-mail any comments or questions to jeanineon@yahoo.com and Happy PA Week!

ConnAPA Regional CME Dinner March 13, 2007

Pacifico, New Haven
"Migraine – A Practical Approach"
Presented by Region III/So. Central
contact: Jeanine Ondrof
jeanineon@yahoo.com
More details will be posted on the web
site and e-mailed to ConnAPA members
Education grant support: Ortho-McNeil
Janssen

Region IV (SW-Southwest)

By Tom Kodz, PA-C

Hope you all had a great time celebrating PA week! I am currently working on securing CME dinners for the coming months and have been researching the names of our region's representatives and congressman so that when our legislative agenda is set in November, we will have a ready list of who to call. When the time comes, we will be calling each of you in order to help us contact your representatives. Please be ready to take five minutes to contact them as it makes a difference whether legislation is considered. The holidays are coming up, so please don't work too hard, and have a happy and safe holiday season!

Region III PAs Celebrate National PA Week



(seated, l-r): Jonathan Weber, Medicine; Megan Salm, Cardiology; and Gwendolyn Bruch, Medicine. Medicine PAs (l-r) Julie Guentner, Janelle Pacini, Barbara Walden and Amanda McCabe stood with Victor Morris, M.D., assistant chief of staff and director of the Hospitalist Service, who supervises the medical and cardiology PAs.

CONNAPA WELCOMES ITS NEWEST MEMBERS

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Beverly A. Isaac, PA-C Jennifer L. Lardner, PA-C Kelley S. Piechowicz, PA-C Matthew Sobolewski, PA-S Cristina Worth, PA-S

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Region 4

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At Large

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John T. Carlsen, RPA-C
Darlene M. Haviland, PA-C
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Dale C. Pappas, PA-C, MS, RTR
Andrea M. Powell, PA-C
Denise Wilbert, PA-S
Amy Zeldes, PA-C



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Members in the News

ConnAPA Member Elected to Board of Medicine

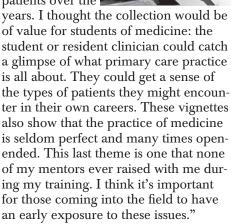
By Drew Morten, MPH, PA-C

This past July Trish Loving was appointed the PA representative to the Connecticut Medical Examining Board. She replaces Mary Warner who represented the Connecticut PA community on the Board for 6 years. ConnAPA wishes to extend both our thanks to Mary and our congratulations to Trish for taking on this important assignment.

ConnAPA Member Author of New Patient Care Book

PA Brian T. Maurer has chronicled three decades of patient encounters in primary care in his new book, Patients Are a Virtue, recently released by Lulu Publishers.

"I chose to record these vignettes for several reasons," Mr. Maurer said in a recent interview. "I felt a need to preserve those most poignant encounters that I've had with patients over the



Although Mr. Maurer spent the first several years of his career in family practice, he gravitated toward pediatrics, opting to complete two years of post-graduate training in a pediatric residency program for Physician Assistants at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut. He has worked in primary care pediatrics ever since, first with the urban poor and subsequently in a suburban community.

"Over the years, I have found that my patients have been virtuous most of the time," Maurer said, "virtuous in the sense that they have taught me much of what I have learned about the practice of the art of medicine,"—hence the name of the book

Maurer spent much of the first half of his medical career searching for clinicians interested in the delivery of humane medical care. "I learned early on that many times all I could offer patients was a listening ear, a reassuring touch. Many ailments we treat have no cure, but humane medicine, practiced with compassion, goes a long way toward promoting healing—healing in the Old English sense of the word, being made whole."

The fifty-seven clinical vignettes in Maurer's book speak to compassionate interaction with patients.

Patients Are a Virtue can be ordered by direct-link access to Lulu Publishers at: http://www.lulu.com/content/362517. Readers have the option of buying the print edition or downloading the e-book. The author also has a website: www.lulu.com/BrianTMaurer

Professional News

Governor's Proclamation: October 6 – 12 is now Connecticut Physician Assistant Week

By Linda_Kowalski

The week of Friday, October 6, 2006, through Thursday, October 12, 2006, has been designated "Connecticut Physician Assistant Week" in the State of Connecticut in recognition of the ever-growing role these medical professionals play in the delivery of health care services to patients throughout the state. Governor M. Jodi Rell made the designation through an official proclamation issued by her office at the State Capitol.

"We are delighted Governor Rell is recognizing the key role physician assistants play in the delivery of health care services," said Jennifer Madonia-Barr, PA-C, President of the Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants. "As the health care system continues to evolve in Connecticut, we see a constant need for more physician assistants. PAs are well-trained to handle many issues surrounding patient care while working under the close supervision of licensed physicians."

The State of Connecticut began recognizing and licensing physician assistants in the 1970s, and they have increasingly been recognized as a key part of the medical team. Physician assistants are licensed by the Department of Public Health and must meet rigorous educational and professional standards.

"Physician assistants are found in virtually all medical settings including skilled nursing facilities, veterans' facilities, hospitals, community health centers, hospice facilities and many others. We take pride in being a recognized valuable member of the medical care team and providing front-line access to the health care system to all patients," said Tricia Marriott, PA-C, Legislative Chairperson of the Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants.

ConnAPA held several events to coincide with the Governor's proclamation recognizing the work of physician assistants during the week of October 6-12, 2006.

There are approximately 1,200 licensed physician assistants in Connecticut.

DO NOT DELAY or Medicare will not pay!

Edited by Trish Marriott, PA-C

Beginning May 23, 2007, only those health care professionals with an active National Provider Identifier (NPI) number will be able to submit claims to Medicare, Medicaid, and all other public and private payers. The NPI will replace Medicare's PIN, UPIN, and the host of the provider identification numbers issued by Medicaid, workers' compensation, and private payers. Small health plans will be required to use NPI numbers to process transactions by May 23, 2008.

To obtain more information, or to apply online, go to www.nppes.cms.gov/NPPES. Proceed to the line that reads, "If you are a health care provider" and click on National Provider Identifier. You will be able to apply for a NPI or update existing NPI information. This online process takes only a few minutes to complete, and your number is assigned usually within 5-7 days. You may also obtain a paper copy of the NPI application (form CMS-10114) and mail it to Fox Systems at: NPI Numerator, PO Box 6059, Fargo, ND 58108-6059.

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Medicare continued

A few tips before applying for an NPI:

- Check with your billing office staff to determine if an NPI number has already been applied for on your behalf either individually or as part of a group (known as bulk enumeration).
- If you apply for yourself, gather all of your existing provider numbers with various public and private payers as Medicare wants those numbers, known as legacy numbers, placed on the NPI application.
- Do not wait until the last minute to apply. You will need to test your number before May 23, 2007 by submitting a claim to be sure that the system will recognize the number.

Information originally published in the bi-monthly newsletter written by Michael Powe, *American Academy of Phy*sician Assistants' **Reimbursement Watch**, **September 12, 2006.** Used with permission.

Special Report

The Globalization of the Yale PA Program

By Mary Warner, MMSc, PA-C

Earlier this month, I traveled with our Medical Director, Dr. John Hayslett, to Kampala Uganda. Our clinical student, Gerald Kayingo, Ph.D, PA-SII, spent one month in the internal medicine service at Mulago Hospital with the Yale Infectious Disease physician Dr. Majid Sadigh. After visiting him at the hospital, we met with the Ministries of Health to discuss the PA profession and the Yale curriculum. We also discussed the curriculum with the Makerere University Medical School faculty. The trip was long (we missed our connecting flight in London) yet despite our fatigue we found Uganda to be a lively and color-

Mulago was built in the 1960s by the Ugandan government. It is a very large public referral hospital caring for 120,000 in-patients annually. The 4A ward recently has been dedicated to an internal medicine service created as a result of the collaboration between the faculty of Makerere and Yale Universities. The wards are gender specific and

PA Day Celebration

By Tricia Marriott, PA-C

"The Department of Orthopaedics at Waterbury Hospital celebrated PA Week 06 by throwing its Third Annual PA Breakfast, complete with bacon, eggs and hot, gooey, cinnamon buns. Waterbury's CEO, Dr. John Tobin, as well as many other hospital staff, stopped by to recognize the PAs."



Picture: (L to R) Seated: Alan Houle, PA-C; Juliet Rivera PA-C Standing: Erika Skinnon, PA-C; Heather Babington, PA-C; Brian Major, PA-C; Tricia Marriott, PA-C; Back Row: Dept Chairman Dr. Robert Wetmore; Joan Doback, PA-C; Dept Director and Supervising Physician Dr. John Keggi.

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there are no private rooms. The wards contain up to 40 patients on stretchers and their families. Family members care for all of the patients needs because there is no hospital laundry or food service. Since this hospital is a referral hospital for the entire country, most family members come with the patient and stay at the hospital between the stretchers for the remainder of the hospitalization. The families sleep on brightly colored grass mats, wash the linens outside and prepare the food in an adjacent kitchen. If a medication is required that is not available at the hospital, the family member is given a prescription that they bring to a local pharmacy. Laboratory equipment, oxygen and other medical supplies are very limited.

The most surprising element of my visit was the ongoing toll of HIV on the people of Uganda. Nearly a third of the patients admitted to the medical floor were HIV positive and were suffering from an infectious complication of their disease. The nursing staff of up to four women cares for the entire ward of 70 patients. My student warned, "you cannot finish rounds without seeing someone die." This was true. In fact, because so many patients die per day, the reaction is quite bland. There is no code called. There is no rush of interns, medical students, attendings, PAs or nurses to the bedside. The patients die quietly with their family and other patients next to them. There are no curtains to be drawn and the floor has only one privacy screen. These conditions make the death a very public event.

Despite the medical care and conditions at Mulago, I found the people of Uganda hopeful, upbeat and very friendly. The focus on community and family was inspiring. I look forward to returning someday.

Academic News

AAPA President Addresses Local PA Students

By Alison Hall, PA-C

On August 24th, Mary Ettari, MPH, PA-C, the President of the AAPA, spoke to Yale and Quinnipiac PA students about patient safety and health literacy. She also discussed a concern about the possible introduction of certificate programs to prove competency in specific disciplines - a concern to many students and practicing PAs.

"PAs, as you know, are trained as generalists, and we think that's a really good idea. I do represent the official views of the AAPA, and we like to think about PAs practicing in specialties rather than being specialty PAs," said Ettari who spoke at Quinnipiac University to 120 students and several faculty.

"The fact that PAs are able to move from one specialty to another demonstrates the flexibility of their generalist education and the profession itself, and it's something that I would like to see continue," Ettari said. PA programs, like those at Yale and Quinnipiac, expose

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ACADEMIC continued from page 5

students to many medical disciplines through class work and clinical rotations.



(left) Cynthia Booth Lord, Assistant Professor and Chair of the Physician Assistant Program at Quinnipiac University, (center) Mary Ettari, President of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, and (right) Mary Warner, Assistant Dean, Yale University School of Medicine Physician Associate Program.

"If you have good training, you can do just about anything," Ettari said. There has been a recent call for PAs to get more advanced recognition for what they do when they practice in a particular discipline for life, she said. Because of this, the AAPA has recently named an "Advanced Recognition Task Force" that will look at recognizing PAs who practice and demonstrate excellence over the years. The AAPA also is looking at ways to partner with physician specialty groups in order to get more clinical and didactic education for those PA students who know they want to enter a particular specialty or for those practicing PAs who want to change from one specialty to another.

Ettari also outlined the AAPA's focus during her tenure. The organization has selected health literacy as its theme for the next three years because "it impacts virtually everything you do." PAs often give written instructions to patients leaving a hospital. They also write directions on how or when to take prescription medications. But if those patients are unable to read or comprehend instruc-

tions, medical errors, some leading to death, can occur, she noted.

Ettari encouraged students to join national and state professional organizations because they promote the profession, provide educational opportunities, develop leadership skills, help shape medical industry policy and help students understand global issues.

Congratulations to the Graduates

47 QU PA Program Students Graduate in August By Alison Hall, PA-C

The Quinnipiac University PA Program held its commencement ceremony on August 12 where a total of 47 degrees were awarded. Kenneth Kaloustian, Director of Quinnipiac's graduate programs in biomedical sciences was the guest speaker. He had the audience in stitches as he recounted a trip to Florida -- in which nothing went right -- to interview a candidate for Director of the Quinnipiac PA program when it first began in 1994.

Lisa Barratt, Educational Coordinator, sprung a medical pop quiz as an introduction to sharing the news that three members of the Class of 2006 -- Nathan Gurtowsky, Ellee Loffler and Gina Corrado -- were on the team that won the AAPA's medical challenge bowl at last year's conference. "They will go down in history as the first [Quinnipiac PA] class to win the national competition," Barratt said.

The graduates were honored for their 27 months of hard work, not only academically, but in their community service efforts as well. They logged about 2,500 hours of community service according to Educational Coordinator Terry O'Donnell. This was accomplished by participating in fund-raisers, road races, health fairs and educational programs; providing medical assistance to athletes at Special Olympics; collecting toys and food for needy families; and bringing cookies and toiletries to homeless shelters. Additionally, they raised \$7,500 for the AAPA Host City Prevention Campaign, "the single largest donation from any PA student group throughout the country," O'Donnell said.

Several students received awards. The Directors Award went to Lyubov Lupyan-Teytelman and the Distinguished Alumni Award went to Patrick Creedon, class of '02, who introduced the very successful fundraiser, the unique Cow Chip Bingo competition.

The graduates presented PA program secretary Janice Dadio with a scholar-ship for her three sons in memory of her husband, Harry, who died in late July. It was a break from tradition. The class gift usually goes to a non-profit organization. "Janice means so much to us. We wanted to contribute to help her family," said Class Secretary Heather Cronkhite.

Yale Students Graduate in September

By Mary Warner, PA-C

The Yale Physician Associate Program held its 34th Commencement on September 18, 2006, at Woolsey Hall on the Yale campus. A total of twentynine degrees were awarded.

Jerome P. Kassirer, MD, former Editor in Chief Emeritus of the New England Journal of Medicine was the guest speaker. Dr. Kassirer encouraged the graduates to take responsibility for their careers by always maintaining professionalism. Furthermore, he suggested that PAs guard against receiving gifts from the pharmaceutical companies as a quid pro quo for prescribing their drug.

Student awards went to Maura Brennick, MMSc, PA, who received the Academic Achievement Award; Annie Flitner, MMSC, PA, who received the Clinical Excellence Award, and Scott McKay, MMSC, PA, who was given the Dean's Humanitarian Award for his work with the Student Run Free Clinic.

The Didactic Instruction Award for dedication and excellence in the classroom went to Kalpana Gupta, MD. MPH, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases). The Clinical Instructor Award for a clinical rotation site that provides exemplary clinical teaching was given to two preceptors in geriatric medicine: Chandrika Kumar, MD, Assistant Clinical Professor, Yale Geriatric Services and Harborside Healthcare Arden House in Hamden, Conn.; and Gerard Kerins, MD, Section Chief of Geriatric Medicine at the Hospital of Saint Raphael.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 20th Anniversary Charter Oak Conference March 25 – 30, 2007

Whether you have just a few hours or many days, please get involved. We've need of many "hands": speaker follow up, registration material preparation before the conference, A-V coordination during the conference, registrations staff, greeters and more. Be a part of this annual event and meet lots of new people.

Call 800/493-9200

Congratulations Graduates continued

The Jack Cole Society Award for significant contributors who support the physician associate profession, was given to Claire Hull, PA-C, a former academic coordinator at the program who is now at Oregon Health & Science University.

Quinnipiac PA Students Celebrate PA Week

By Keith Paul, PA-S

On Friday October 6, the QU PA Program's Class of 2008 kicked off the celebration of PA Week. Knowing how important this week is to PAs across the country, the students put together three different events over the course of the week to not only promote the profession but also to show appreciation for the professors who are responsible for their training. The events planned had the unifying theme of promoting health literacy that is the current focus of the AAPA.

The first event was held on Friday at a men's emergency shelter in New Haven where approximately a dozen students and several faculty members participated in a Health Fair. Stations at the fair included general health awareness, vision screening, smoking cessation, nutritional selections, blood pressure screens, glucose screens and men's health issues. At each of the stations, students explained the importance of each area as it related to health. Students also promoted health literacy by teaching

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OPPORTUNITIES

To place an ad in ConnAPA News, contact the ConnAPA office at 800/493-9200 for ad insertion forms and lay-out specifications. Ad reservation deadline for the next issue is January 15, 2007. Camera ready ads (jpg files) can be sent to connapa.org@verizon.net



FULL TIME PA

Flexible Evening Hours (No Weekends/Holidays)

The Hospitalist Program at Waterbury Hospital is seeking a full time Physician Assistant to work as an in-patient caregiver. Duties include cross coverage and admissions of in-patients with continuous on-site physician backup.

This is a growing, energetic, collaborative and intellectually curious academic Hospitalist group that is just starting to incorporate mid-level practitioners. The ideal candidate is open to creative thinking, eager to learn, and develop professionally and personally.

Qualified candidates possess a CT license and have completed a PA training program accredited by ARC-PA; Board Certified by the National Commission on the Certification of Physician Assistants; 1-2 years experience working in-patient, acute care hospital; excellent communication and interpersonal skills, clinical judgment and demonstrated ability to work as a team player.

Please apply by e-mail: skotomski@wtbyhosp.org
Or send resume to Waterbury Hospital, Human Resources
Attn: S. Kotomski, 64 Robbins Street, Waterbury, CT 06721
Fax: 203-573-7324 www.waterburyhospital.org



During PA Week, QU students Ryan Makuck, Nicole Currier and Matt Sage, provided health screenings

The Yale Physician Associate Program is looking for PA volunteers to precept Yale Medical and PA students at the Student Run Free Clinic in New Haven on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m. If interested, please contact Mary Warner at 203-785-2860 or mary. warner@yale.edu

ConnAPA

Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants 591 North Avenue, Suite 3–2 Wakefield, MA 01880–1617

CALENDAR

If you know of CME programs or other events of particular interest to PAs, please submit to the Newsletter Editor, Alison Hall, for inclusion in the calendar. Visit www.connapa.org for CME opportunities between newsletter issues.

November 15, 06 Albany, NY "Type 2 Diabetes: Restoring Incretin Function" 2 hrs Cat I CME contact: www.professionaled.joslin.org

November 30, 06 Providence, RI Pri-Med Update 8.75 hrs Cat I CME contact: www.pri-med.com

Wed., Dec. 6, 2006, New Haven, CT "Treating Patients With Bipolar Disorder in Primary Care" 2.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ designated by The France Foundation or 1.25 Prescribed credits by the American Academy of Family Physicians contact: Peer Connections at 866/227-6407 or peerconnect@francefoundation.com

January 17 – 21, 07 Manchester, VT PAAV 25th Anniversary Winter CME Conference 28.5 hrs Cat I CME contact: www.paav.org or 603/343-2325 January 26 - 27, 07 Atlanta, Georgia 2007 National Women's Health Conference "Current Issues in Women's Health Care" 8 hrs Cat I CME contact: www.paobgyn.org

January 31 – February 4, 07 Bethel, ME Downeast Association of PAs 17th Annual Winter CME Conference contact: 207/564-2828 or www.deapa.com

February 25 - 28, 07 Bartlett, NH PA & NP Topics 2007: "Medical & Surgical Update for Hospital Based Clinicians" 16 hrs Cat 1 CME pending *contact*: Jay Chamberlain @ 508/998-6000 or jay@chamberlainmedical.com or www.cmr4cme.com

SAVE THE DATE

20th Annual Charter Oak Conference

> Monday - Friday, March 26 - 30, 2007

Pre-Conference Symposia Sun., March 25, 2007 Hotel Viking Newport, RI QU PA Week Activities continued from pq. 7

how to read nutrition labels, medication bottles or general health information found in pamphlets in an effort to make people more health conscious.

On Tuesday, the students provided the professors with a breakfast to thank them for all their hard work. The training they provide is the key to our future success in this profession. Each professor received a plaque that reflected his or her unique personality.

The final event was held on Thursday and was focused on literacy. A group of 22 students went to ACES, a school whose aim is to provide educational opportunity to troubled children. At ACES, the group of students read to small groups of children that ranged from kindergarten to 8th grade. This was truly an opportunity of a lifetime and one that the students will not soon forget.

Overall, the celebration of PA week was a huge success and we, the Class of '08, feel an enormous amount of pride going out into the community and being leaders. Events like these make all the hard work in the classroom worthwhile.