



Mississippi Physician Assistant Happenings

Karmen Clark PA-C

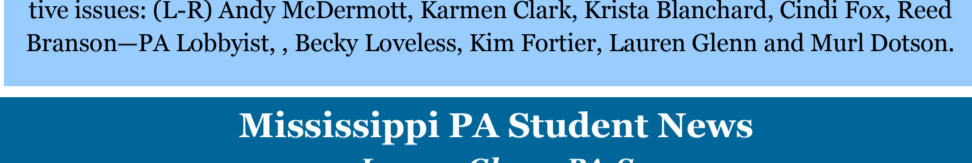
August was a busy month for MAPA as we kicked off the beginning of the new leadership year with several events in August including a meet and greet with the first PA Class at MS College. As MAPA President, I had the pleasure of arranging a get together with the students and sharing lunch with them following their Friday exams. I was pleasantly surprised about their enthusiasm for the profession. It was a great experience to see how eager they were to learn more about practicing as a PA, their involvement in their student organization, and to learn of their PA week plans. I left our meeting feeling hopeful for the future of the PA Profession in Mississippi.

In addition, MAPA was able to sponsor a Controlled Substance Education Program (CSEP) at MS College PA Program Education Room on August 14th. Approximately, 28 PAs from across the state attended and received 10 hours of category 1 CME. This program satisfies the educational requirements of the MSBML in obtaining the prescriptive authority for controlled substances. This year, a few representatives from the MSBML attended in observation and answered some of the questions of the PA registrants. It was also an opportunity for networking with fellow PAs.

Finally, MAPA concluded the weekend with our annual strategic planning meeting to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the new board members and committee chairs. We discussed goals and plans for the upcoming year, as well as, enjoyed some time out together for dinner. We are excited to have an active legislative committee this year, representing MS PAs at all the MSBML board meetings. MAPA has also launched online registration for membership and events, bi-annual membership opportunities, free advertisement of PA job opportunities for independent practices/physicians, biannual (CSEP) for those new to the state and seeking privilege to obtain DEA licensure or just wanting continuing education pertaining to prescribing controlled substances (10 hours required by MSBML each year). We are striving to improve the practice of PAs in MS and offering services to our MAPA members including legislative representation and continuing education opportunities.

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MAPA Board Members and House of Delegates Representatives met to discuss legislative issues: (L-R) Andy McDermott, Karmen Clark, Krista Blanchard, Cindi Fox, Reed Branson—PA Lobbyist, , Becky Loveless, Kim Fortier, Lauren Glenn and Murl Dotson.

Mississippi PA Student News

Lauren Glenn, PA-S

At Mississippi College, the students have had an exciting semester so far! They are beginning to learn the basic physical examination procedures. The fall schedule consists of Clinical Medicine, Evidence Based Medicine, Professional Development, Cross Cultural Medicine, Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Fundamentals of Medical Science, and Diagnostic Medicine II. All of the students have been eager to participate in PA week and bring attention to the profession of PAs in Mississippi. The admission process is in the works for the class of 2014. Currently the program has accepted 5 students and interviews are currently in session for competitive applicants.

PA Week Student Events:

- Mississippi Diabetes Foundation Walk for Diabetes on Oct. 1
- Blair E. Baxton Children's Hospital—volunteering with the children while publicizing the profession of PAs in Mississippi.
- Jackson State University - recruiting and promoting diversity amongst healthcare providers.

Legislative Corner

Rebecca Loveless, MHS, PA-C

In August 2011, MAPA created its first organized Legislative Committee. The goal was to transition the role of MAPA lobbyist Reed Branson with Capitol Resources. Reed previously did the vast majority of MAPA legislative work and communicated with Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (MSBML) on behalf of MAPA. He communicates and works with the MSBML and the Legislative Committee, thus allowing him to serve as a legislative watchdog.

The transition was to be slow with Reed advising us and helping us to establish needed relationships. However, due to an unforeseen submission of change to the Rules and Regulations governing Physician Assistants (PA), the Legislative Committee was thrust into action immediately.

Over the last four months, I have been working diligently to establish relationships with MSBML staff and physicians that serve on the Board. MAPA has also submitted a change request to our Rules and Regulations in regard to physician co-signatures. We anticipate the outcome will be favorable for all PAs in Mississippi. Additional news is expected to be forthcoming soon.

If you come across a legislative issue that you would like to discuss, or if you would like to be involved with the Legislative Committee, please contact me at Rloveless4@gmail.com. I look forward to representing you to protect and improve our professional practice in Mississippi.

MAPA 2011 Annual Spring CME Meeting

MAPA's 2011 Spring CME Meeting was a great success providing convenient and affordable CME at the Courtyard by Marriott Beachfront Gulfport. A welcome reception held at Vintage Stone Wine Bar was a great start for attendees to see old friends and meet new ones. A networking reception was held at Salute Italian Restaurant the next night. Attendees and family members were able to unwind with refreshments following a full day of classroom sessions. Twelve hours of CME were provided. Topics by local specialists covered HTN, STDs, pulmonary, urology, GI, sports medicine, sleep disorders, wound /hyperbaric therapy, pediatric musculoskeletal disorders, narcotics use and abuse in the ER.



Join MAPA on May 5-6 for the next MAPA 2012 Spring CME Meeting at the Courtyard by Marriott Beachfront Gulfport in Gulfport, MS. Details coming soon!

MAPA's 2011-2012 Board of Directors

President: Karmen Clark, PA-C

Immediate Past President: Kimberly Fortier, PA-C

President-Elect : Rebecca Loveless, PA-C

Secretary/Treasurer: Cindi Fox, PA-C

Director at Large (South/Coastal): Andy McDermott, PA-C

Director at Large (Central): Brad Robbins, PA-C

Director at Large (North): Amy Ballard, PA-C

Save the Date

2012 MAPA Controlled Substances Education Program

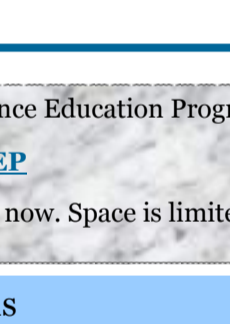
Saturday, February 25, 2012
Ocean Springs Hospital Education Center
(2nd Floor near Emergency Room)
3109 Bienville Boulevard, Ocean Springs, MS 39564
8am-6pm •Lunch Included •Registration at 7:30am

Program Overview

In order to obtain prescriptive authority to prescribe controlled substances in Mississippi, the MS Board of Medical Licensure requires the Physician Assistant to first attend a board approved educational program prior to making application. This educational course is approved by the MS Board of Medical Licensure and satisfies this requirement. The next course will not be offered until August 2012.

The 2012 Controlled Substances Education Program will include a Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure (MSBML) Presentation, a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Presentation, information about avoiding prescribing pitfalls, addiction as a brain disease, a review of the current regulations and the appropriate documentation, maintaining your DEA Licensure, and pharmacology of controlled substances. Please check the MAPA website for registration and additional details coming soon at <http://www.mississas.org>

This program is not yet approved for CME credit. Conference organizers plan to request 10 hours of ACPA Category 1 CME credit from the Physician Assistant Review Panel. Total number of approved credits yet to be determined.



Online registration is now open for the Controlled Substance Education Program on February 25 at [2012 MAPA CSEP](http://www.mississas.org)

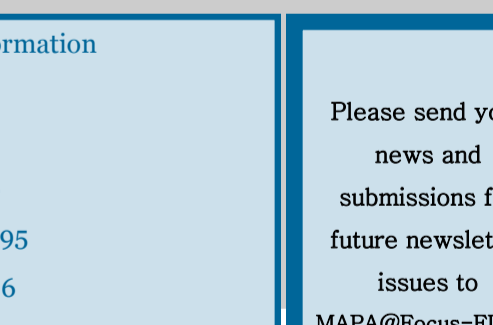
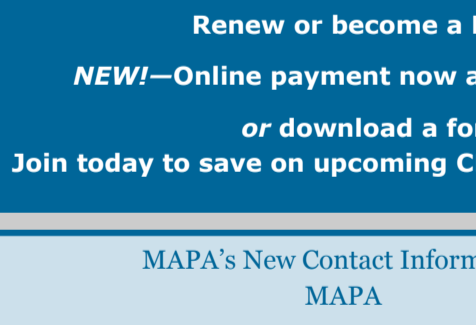
The next course will not be held until August, so register now. Space is limited.

PA Week Celebrations

PA week 2011 was celebrated on the Gulf Coast this year with a well-attended dinner at the Phoenician Restaurant in Ocean Springs on the evening of October the 11th. There were 12 PAs who attended, including the event organizer and current MAPA President Karmen Clark. Other MAPA Officers present were Murl Dotson, Senior HOD Delegate; Cindi Kauveyiakul-Fox, Treasurer; and Southern Director-at-Large Andy McDermott. In addition, the pleasant company of many PAs from the area included: Shey Washburn, Taylor Easterling, Kim Struble, James Jankins, Shelley Brake, Alan Crawford, Angelle and Jason Lowery, Dr. Barnes and Dr. Karcher. Dinner was provided by the Avani Company in promotion of their new product Nuedexta.

I would like to thank all of those who attended the dinner. It is only through everyone's support that we can be a successful professional organization in Mississippi. Many great conversations were had, and stories told that evening. I would also like to thank all the hard working, professional physician assistants in our state that couldn't attend. Please remember there is plenty of room within MAPA to include everyone, and a place for everyone's unique skill sets.

We are tentatively planning our next informal dinner in the Hattiesburg area in February 2012.



(L-R) Shawn & Jo Lollar, Andy McDermott, and Cindy Kauveyiakul-Fox enjoying dinner following the CSEP

Renew or become a MAPA Member Today!

NEW!—Online payment now available at www.mississas.org

or download a form to mail or fax .

Join today to save on upcoming CME courses and holiday shopping!!

MAPA's New Contact Information

MAPA
PO Box 17932
Tampa, FL 33682
Phone: (813)988-7795
Fax: (813) 988-7796
Email: MAPA@Focus-ED.net
Website: www.mississas.org

Please send your news and submissions for future newsletter issues to MAPA@Focus-ED.net

Save the Date!

Let your views be heard!

PA Day at the MS Capital

February 29, 2012, 7:45am

Jackson, MS

Check www.mississas.org for details

MAPA Spring CME Meeting

Saturday-Sunday, May 5-6, 2012

Courtyard Marriott Beachfront

1600 East Beach Blvd.

Gulfport, MS 39501

Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to get involved with MAPA please consider volunteering to participate as a Committee Chair or member. This is a great way to get involved and utilize your talents. Committee opportunities include:

- Conference Planning: CME/DEA conferences
- Publications/Website/Newsletters
- Public Education/Communications
- Legislative
- Membership

Please let me know if you have any questions or wish to get involved.

Karmen Clark, PA-C

MAPA President

Employment and Sponsorship

MAPA will feature PA employment opportunities currently available in Mississippi and surrounding states. For additional information, please email mapa@focus-ed.net

Attention Mississippi PAs!

Just in time for the holidays, MAPA Members can **Save 10%** off your entire order of medical clothing, supplies, accessories and more at www.ShopAdvanceWeb.com through January 2012 (some exclusions apply). Current members will be receiving their promo code and details in their email this week.

MAPA members qualify for **free subscriptions** to:

- *Clinician Reviews*, a leading medical journal for PAs containing clinician advice and emerging medical news - including archived articles
- *ADVANCE for NPs & PAs*
- *Current Psychiatry Online*
- *MAPA News* quarterly newsletter

Additional MAPA benefits include:

- CME discounts and updates
- Exclusive Job Postings
- Legislative representation
- Networking opportunities with colleagues
- MAPA offers a common ground where all PA's can be heard

Membership Categories Include:

Fellow, Associate, Affiliate, Student, Active Duty Military, and Physician/PA team

MAPA Student Membership is only a one-time fee of \$25 and covers you until 6 months after graduation from PA School. Dues categories are \$25-\$150/yr.

Only your continued support of MAPA makes these resources possible! Please take a few minutes to renew your membership.

Don't miss out on all of your membership benefits. Let your voice be heard and join MAPA NOW at www.mississas.org or return the attached membership application & start enjoying your benefits now!! Contact MAPA at mapa@focus-ed.net for any questions.

To Unsubscribe please email mapa@focus-ed.net