

Update from NCCPA: Focus on PANRE Alternative

Alicia Quella, PhD, PA-C Director of Communications and PA Relations Johns Creek, GA

Faculty Disclosure

- Staff with NCCPA
- No other financial relationships to disclose

Presentation Outline

- Overview of the Physician Assistant National Recertifying Examination Longitudinal Assessment (PANRE-LA)
- Certificates of Added Qualifications (CAQ)
- NCCPA Resources





Where it all began...

The process for designing an alternative to PANRE has ...

- been thoughtful and deliberate
- relied heavily on PA input
- included feedback from other stakeholders
- included environmental scanning for current/emerging trends
- included extensive qualitative and quantitative analysis of data gained through the Pilot administration





A paradigm shift

- Shift in assessment <u>of</u> learning to assessment <u>for</u> learning and that is both formative and summative
- Shift in thinking of recertification as a "point in time" assessment to determine if practitioners meet a standard to one that helps practitioners identify and close knowledge gaps so they can meet the standard
- Shift in the tone of the relationship between the certifying organization and certificants





Longitudinal Assessments

- Shorter assessments spread over a longer period of time
- Recurring process versus "one and done"
- Purpose is to help identify and close knowledge gaps
- Supported by research
- Not a new concept, but relatively new to the certification arena
- Adopted in some form by the 24 ABMS member boards; also under consideration by others such as the NBCRNA





Key Takeaways From the Pilot (based on 18,000+ PAs) That Helped Inform Models

Every subgroup demonstrated knowledge growth over time overall, PAs performed very well with the mean score being two full standard deviations above the passing score.



PAs appreciated the flexibility and convenience of the athome format.



A

PAs valued the immediate feedback to know if they answered a question correctly and the critiques that provided explanations – especially on questions they missed.



Having the ability and time to use references make the exam feel more like "real life" and reduces the anxiety of the exam.



Comparison with the Pilot

Similarities to the Pilot

- Same number of items per quarter
- Same number of scored quarters (8)
- Items administered one-by-one on any device
- Can log in/log out at their convenience
- Ability to use references (but not people)
- Answer "survey" questions before you know if they answered the item correctly (questions will be tweaked)
- Immediate feedback on whether item was answered correctly, critiques provided
- Remediation items (targeted questions) after Q1



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Differences from the Pilot

- Have up to 3 years to complete 8 quarters; flexibility to skip quarters
- Same time per item throughout (5 minutes)
- Ability to "save for later" a set number of questions
- Opportunity to improve score/increase learning to pass if you don't skip too many quarters
- Approved for Category 1 Self-assessment CME credit by AAPA





EXAMS									# NCCPA hor	mepage 💄	Ø
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	Quarter 1: Jan - Mar 2023		25 Answered 0	
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ns				
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NCCPA Internet	EXAMS * NCCPA	L homepage 💄 😃 Sign O
Dashboard	Open Applications View Results PAURE-LA Program/Libunds PANRE-LA History	
My Professional Profile		Supported Browse
СМЕ	Current Quarter Quarter 2: Apr - Jun 2023 O Answered O Unanswered	Due Date: 06/12/2023 Days Left: 47
Payments	0% complete	Launch Exam
Exams		take the PANRE-LA Exam.
Practice Exams	Quarter Progress Cumulative Progress to Date Score Status	
Specialty CAQs	Score Status	
Certification Information Release	After completing each quarter, your cumulative score is calculated. Below, you will find your cumulative scores to date, as well as the Passing Standard and the National A	werage for reference.
My Account		
Latest NCCPA News	Interim Results	
	Score Range: 1000 - 1500 Results Expla Your Interim Score guestions you rec	used to account for the relative difficulty of the
	1265 Cumulative P Your interim scale	erformance score is based on your performance in the quarters
	1150 Opportunities	ated in, and it will likely change over time.
	Average Score 1231	



		Physician Assistant National Recertifying
Years 1-6	 Submit application for PANRE-LA No assessment activity, but must complete CME requirements (no changes) 	 Examination Longitudinal Assessment Quarter 1 of the PANRE-LA was launched this January 2023 for the PAs due to recertify in 2024-
Years 7-9	 25 questions per quarter Remediation questions after Q1, if needed Score 8 of 12 quarters to determine pass/fail decision Potential early exit after 8 quarters based on performance and participation Continue to meet CME requirements 	 Next application cycle will open July 2023 for the PAs due to recertify in 2027.
Year 10	No assessment or 3 attempts to take PANRE, if needed Continue to meet CME requirements	 The traditional PANRE will still be available as a recertification option and it is the same cost.



Examples of the PANRE-LA Timeline

	Year to Start the Process														
on Year		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036
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ertif	2025	X	Х	Х	PANRE*						Х	Х	Х	PANRE	
Re-Certification	2026	X	Х	Х	PANRE							Х	Х	Х	PANRE

*Requires an extension



Before We Leave PANRE

- Blueprint has been updated (January 2023)
- Assessment of <u>core</u> medical knowledge vs general medical knowledge
- Much more specificity provided about possible content on exam
- Many more details on NCCPA website at: <u>https://www.nccpa.net/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2022/04/2023-PANRE-PANRELA-By-</u> <u>Content.pdf</u>
- Practice PANRE questions: <u>https://www.nccpa.net/resources/sample-panre-questions/</u>
- <u>PANRE-LA Tutorial: https://www.nccpa.net/maintain-</u> certification/#about-panre-la



Content Blueprint

		Performanc	e Expectation	n
	History & Physical	Diagnosis	Intervention (Basic)	Intervention (Complex)
Cardiovascular System – 12%				
Abdominal aortic aneurysm	•	•	•	
Acute myocardial infarction: non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI)	•	•	•	
Acute myocardial infarction: ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI)	•	•	•	•
Acute myocarditis	•	•		
Acute pericarditis	•	•		
Angina pectoris (stable and unstable angina)	•		•	
Aortic dissection	•	•		
Arterial embolism/thrombosis	•	•	•	
Atrial fibrillation	•	•	•	



Presentation Outline

- Overview of PANRE-LA
- Certificates of Added Qualifications (CAQ)
- NCCPA Resources



Key Principles Of The CAQ Program

 NCCPA (and many stakeholders) agree that the <u>PA-C</u> must maintain its position as the *primary credential for all PAs*.



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- NCCPA has remained committed to developing a voluntary specialty program.
 - A CAQ is not required to maintain NCCPA certification, and we require licensure as a condition of earning a CAQ so that it can not become a requirement for licensure



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- NCCPA has remained committed to developing a voluntary specialty program.
 - A CAQ is not required to maintain NCCPA certification, and we require licensure as a condition of earning a CAQ so that it can not become a requirement for licensure
- The program has been developed to be as inclusive as possible, recognizing the individual differences among and within specialties.



Which Specialties ?

- Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery
- Emergency Medicine
- Hospital Medicine
- Nephrology
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Pediatrics
- Psychiatry

Coming soon:

- Dermatology
- Palliative Medicine and Hospice Care
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Occupational Medicine



CAQ Components

- Prerequisites
 - Unrestricted license from state(s) and/or unrestricted privileges to practice for a government agency
 - Current PA-C
- Specialty-related CME (not in addition to certification maintenance CME requirement)
- Experience
- Attestation re specific procedures and/or cases
- Specialty CAQ exam (resources available)



Presentation Outline

- Overview of PANRE-LA (alternative to traditional PANRE)
- Certificates of Added Qualifications (CAQ)
- NCCPA Resources



NCCPA Guiding Principles

- NCCPA is dedicated to serving the interest of the public
- We remain committed to the flexibility that PAs have to change specialties during their career and to work in multiple specialties





You Can't Spell NCCPA Without PA

- PAs are involved in many important aspects of the NCCPA
- CEO/President and Board of Directors (11 of 18 are PAs)
 - Apply for a PA Director at Large position soon- this elected position starts in January 2024
- Exam development and advisory activities
- PA Ambassador program to increase awareness



Benefits to volunteering – volunteer@NCCPA.net



Expenses for travel/hotel accommodations covered

Experience that can be included on a CV, and enhanced personal and professional development Volunteers play an important role contributing to quality of the exams administered by NCCPA

Honoraria (\$\$\$) issued after attendance at each meeting



NCCPA Communications to PAs

- Monthly electronic newsletter
- All platforms of social media
- PA Insights with NCCPA podcasts
- Live and virtual presentations like this
- Newly redesigned and updated website



An Online Overview of the PA Profession www.PAsDoThat.net



Take the Quiz PAs Do That! **Did you know? Certified PAs** Collaborate **Certified PAs practice medicine** diagnose, treat, and manage acute and chronic illnesses. collaboratively with physicians on health care teams. < 2.000 Hours Militarv Roots The PA profession has military roots. The Certified PAs complete more than 2,000 original three PAs who graduated from the hours of clinical rotations in PA school. first PA program were ex-Navy corpsmen.





License to practice

In order to obtain their license to practice medicine, Certified PAs must graduate from an accredited PA program and pass the **Physician Assistant National Certifying** Examination (PANCE). Once they have completed these requirements they can apply for a license with their state's medical board,

State licensure laws authorize PAs to practice medicine either pursuant to a supervision agreement with a physician or in collaboration with a physician.



Ongoing Certification Maintenance



Certified PAs are required to complete 100 hours of continuing medical education (CME) every two years.

Certified PAs participate in the Physician Assistant National Recertifying Examination (PANRE), a periodic



Certified PAs are educated at the master's degree level. Before entering PA school, PAs complete a bachelor's degree program, and most are required to have prior health care experience with hands-on patient care. PA programs are typically 27 months, and PA students must complete at least 2,000 hours structured clinical education before they graduate.



Need More Time To Meet a Deadline or Other Requirement?

Requests for exceptions to policy (ETP) which are extensions of certification for additional time to earn/log CME and/or take and pass an exam due to (requires documentation):

- military obligation
- death in the family
- personal or family medical issues
- other significant and severe extenuating circumstances



PA-C Career Center | **NC**

Powered by Health eCareers



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- Set up alerts for new jobs

JOB TITLE, SKILLS, KEYV	WORD, COMPANY	

FIND JOBS

716 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT JOBS | NATIONAL COMMISSION ON **CERTIFICATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

LOCATION

Certification. Excellence

	Sort results:	BEST MATCH	DATE	JOB TITLE	EMPLOYER
	Physician A	ssistant			Today
UPDATE RESULTS	Nevada Orthop	oedic & Spine Center is celei	brating twenty years	of orthopedic excellence	by providing quality
	comprehensive	e orthopedic care and setting	g the standard in Sou	thern Nevada.	
Job Category -		THOPEDIC & SPINE CENT	TER		
Physician Assistant (716)	Las Vegas, Nev Orthopaedic - P.				
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	Naval Hospital	in Bremerton, Washington	(
	Spectrum Healt	thcare Resources			
	Bremerton, Wa	ashington			
	Internal Medicir	ne - PA			
	Physician A	ssistant - Family Me	dicine		Today
	Spectrum Prim	ary Care has an opportunit	y for a civilian Family	v Medicine Physician Ass	istant at the Veteran's
	Affairs Outpati	ient Clinic (CBOC) in Alam	ogordo, New Mexico		
	Spectrum Healt	thcare Resources			
	Alamogordo, N	lew Mexico			
	Family Medicine	e - PA			
	Family Prac	ctice Physician Assist	ant		Today

Click "Career Center" Link at www.nccpa.net

PA-C Emeritus

A Recognition Program

Benefiting the PA Foundation's

PA Student Scholarship Fund

PA-C Emeritus

Recognition for PAs retiring from clinical practice –

NOTE: The PA-C Emeritus designation is <u>not</u> the equivalent of PA-C certification. Those designated as PA-C Emeritus are <u>not</u> considered certified by NCCPA and may not hold themselves out as such.

- Eligibility requirements:
 - Retired from clinical practice
 - Unable to practice due to permanent disability
 - Have been NCCPA-certified at least 20 cumulative years during the PA career
 - No reportable actions in NCCPA disciplinary history
- One-time \$50 application fee



NCCPA Research

	<i>Maintain</i> Certification	<i>Earn Specialty</i> Certificates	Resources	News	About	PA Career Center		
爺 ≥ Resources ≥ NCCPA Research			Coronavirus Verify PA Ce NCCPA Rese FAQ Policies & Pr	earch	sources			
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources Verify PA Certification		NCCPA RESEA	L	o Policy and Exa	am Grievances ainst A PA-C Desig	mee		
NCCPA Research		Most Recent Report: NCCPA has published t insights into the demog	Forms			<u>ysician Assistan</u> d PAs.		
FAQ		Other Reports:	NCCPA Pode Marketing O					
Policies & Procedures Exceptions to Policy and Exam Grievances		 <u>2019 Statistical Pr</u> <u>2018 Statistical Pr</u> 		-		<u>ite</u>		
Submitting A Complaint Against A P Designee	A-C	 2018 Statistical Profile of Recently Certified Physician Assistants 2018 Statistical Profile of Certified Physician Assistants by Specialty 						
Forms		• 2018 Statistical Pr	ofile of Certifi	ied Physician .	Assistants			
State Licensing Boards		• 2017 Statistical Pr	ofile of Certifi	ied Physician A	<u>Assistants by Sta</u>	<u>ite</u>		
NCCPA Podcasts		• 2017 Statistical Pr	ofile of Recent	<u>tly Certified P</u>	<u>hysician Assista</u>	<u>nts</u>		



2021 Statistical Profile of **Certified PAs**

- Geographic Distribution
- Gender, Age, Race and EthnicityEducation (Highest Level Reached)
- Top PA Practice Areas (Principal Clinical Position)
- Practice Setting



2021 Statistical Report of **Recently Certified PAs**

- Assessment of Job Opportunities
- Plans to Seek Additional Education or Training
- Educational Debt .
- Practice Environment and Work Life Balance .
- Iob Search

DEI Initiatives and Media/Public Relations

- Back 2 School Program increasing awareness of PA profession in elementary, middle and high schools
- REPRESENT! Summit hosted by NCCPA September 2022 at the National Center of Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta, GA.
- Annual PR campaign Certified Partners
- PA Week outreach billboards, etc.
- PA Student appreciation outreach and give-aways







Board Certification and Title Change Updates

- In May 2022, NCCPA's Board of Directors approved the use of the term *Board Certification* when referring to PANCE, PANRE, the PA-C credential, and NCCPA Certification where appropriate.
- This terminology more definitively represents and communicates the rigorous process PAs engage in to demonstrate medical knowledge, clinical skills and competencies, and the generalist credential earned by all NCCPA Certified PAs upon entry to the profession and maintained throughout their careers.
- Additionally, NCCPA has adopted policies that treat the titles "physician assistant," "physician associate," and "PA" as equivalent and synonymous and is updating its policies, published guidance, and publications to reflect that.



History of the PA Licensure Compact

The PA Compact is a joint initiative started in 2019 to improve licensure portability for PAs.

The initiative is made possible through the partnership with the following organizations:

- Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)
- American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA)
- National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of funding for grant #H1MRH24097. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

PA Licensure Compact Purpose

- Facilitates PA licensure portability
- Ensures PAs meet acceptable standards of practice
- Expands the availability of PA services
- Supports military families
- Promotes cooperation among PA member states in the areas of licensure and regulation
- Offers a high degree of patient protection across state lines

Individual Requirements to Obtain Compact Privileges

To obtain the compact privilege, a licensee must:

- Have graduated from an accredited PA program
- Hold current NCCPA certification
- Have no felony or misdemeanor convictions
- Have never had a controlled substance license or permit suspended or revoked
- Have a unique identifier as determined by the compact commission

Additional Resources



https://www.pacompact.org/

pacompact@csg.org

Compact Toolkit

- Model Legislation
- Section by Section Summary
- Reference Sheet for Legislative
 Testimony
- FAQ

There's an App For That!

- Keep track of your certification status
- Log CME as you earn it
- Update your professional profile

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NCC PA Certification. Excellence.	Name Lastname Cycle 3: 2021 Cycle 4	PAID 1: 2022 Cycle 5	Dashboard Cycle 3: 2021	
User or NCCPA ID		2019 - 2021 5/01/2019 - 12/31/2021	Search Activity	
Password	Initial Certification: Certification Expiration:	05/26/2015	Activities	
Sign In Forgot Password Forgot User Id Remember Me Output Certification at your fingertips	Total Credit Details 76.50 CREDITS 100 Total Credits Required Category 1 Credit Details 75.50 260 Credits Required Category 2 Credit Details 0 Category 2 Credit Details 0 Cereorrs No Minimum Credits Required Log New C	tails ••tails	Dial Credit Dedails Total Credit Dedails Dial Dial Credit Seequired Total Category 1 Credit Total Regular (Othor) Credits Total Regular (Othor) Cred	Totals: 76.50 75.50 42.50 33.00 0.00 1.00

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NCC

More About NCCPA

2 Supporting Organizations:

PA History Society



nccPA Health Foundation





Thank you!!

Any questions:

- Phone at 678-417-8100
- Text at 678-417-8101
- E-mail at nccpa@nccpa.net

Email direct: aliciaq@nccpa.net

