

# DMS Outcomes: Transforming PA Careers, Leadership & Scholarship

## Background and Objectives

### Background:

- There has been rapid Growth in the number of programs offering the Doctor of Medical Science degree (DMS) with a principal goal of advancing the PA profession particularly in areas of leadership and scholarship.
- Despite rapid growth, the value, outcomes and impact of DMS programs remain uncertain.

### Objectives:

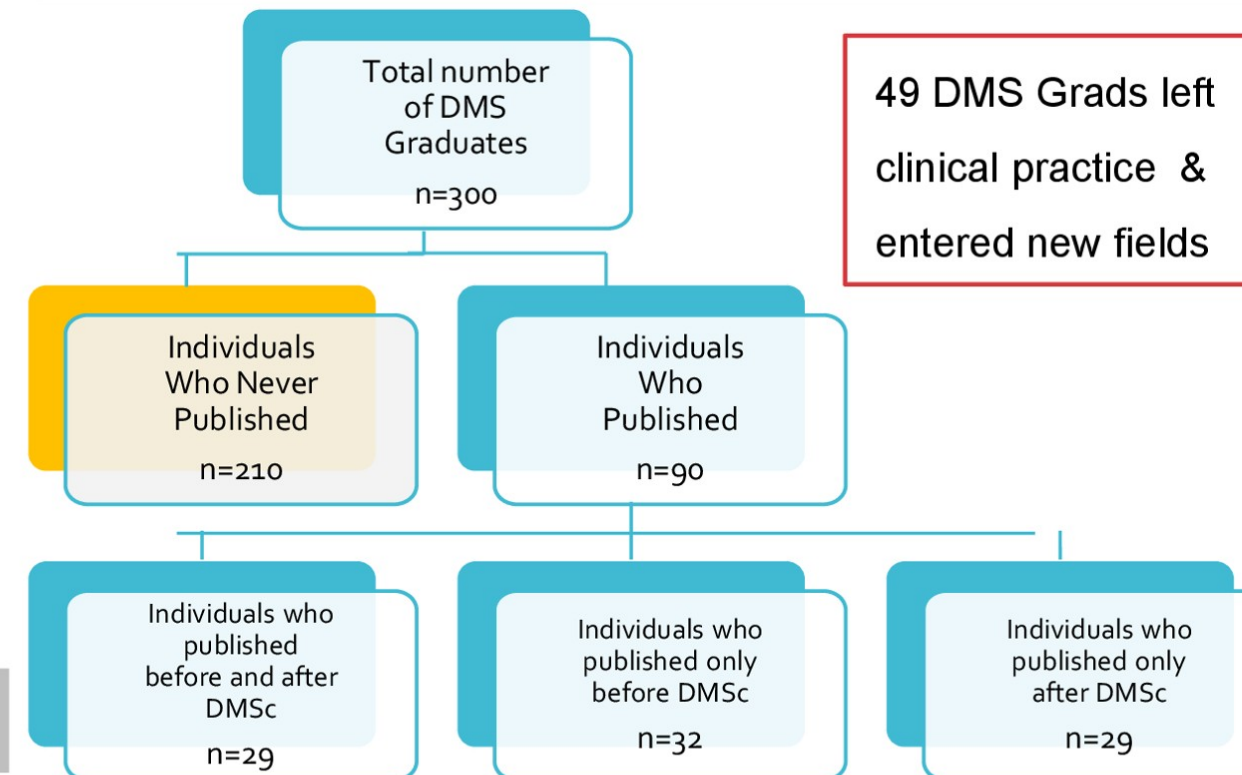
- Discuss the impact of DMS credentials on scholarship productivity of PAs
- Discuss the impact of DMS credentials on career transitions of PAs

## Methodology

- This was a **cross-sectional**, secondary analysis using publicly available data from LinkedIn, Google Scholar, and SCOPUS characteristics of DMS PA graduates.
- Phase 1- Searched LinkedIn profiles for 300 randomly selected PAs who had obtained a DMS credential between 2015 and January 2022.
- Phase 2- The scholarly productivity and career trajectories of the same PAs before and after earning the DMS credential. Published scholarly works of each candidate were identified using Google Scholar. Results were cross-referenced by searching for the graduate's name in SCOPUS. Scholarship productivity included peer-reviewed journal articles, book author credits, and book chapters.

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## Results



- 30%** of the PAs in the study had published at least one form of scholarly activity (total lifetime productivity).
- 19.33%** had published after obtaining their DMS
- 9.67%** were first time publishers of scholarly work after earning their DMS degree

## Conclusions

- Despite emphasis on scholarly activity within most DMS programs, first-time publication rates remain low, with only one in ten graduates publishing postgraduation.
- The DMS degree demonstrates potential in facilitating career transitions and growth. Upward mobility was noted in majority of those individuals who experienced a career transition

## References

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