



Oklahoma PAs: State of the State Address

Allison Garrison, PA-C
OAPA Leadership and Advocacy Liaison
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Let's Take a Look



01. How Do We Assess The Situation?

1. A look at our history.
2. Comparing states.
3. Comparing competitors.

02. Why Do We Care?

1. Employment
2. Equality
3. Change in standards of practice, access to care

03. What Do We Do With The Information?

1. Assess need for change.
2. Plan.

04. What's next

1. Fundraising
2. Involvement
3. Proactive change

05. Educate

1. Educate PAs, other health professionals, and possibly the public of any changes.

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Assessing the Situation

Looking back

Oklahoma used to be top in the U.S. for scope for PAs
New grads often had multiple jobs to choose from
Students and practicing PAs involved

Comparing to other states:

Oklahoma now has fewer CTR and other scope allowances than most other states despite recent legislation.

Comparing to competitors:

PA scope numbers: 11/77
NPs have more scope in most states despite less education.
NPs are employed over PAs for the same position more and more often, including in Oklahoma. Why?



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Why Do We Care?

Access to Jobs

- barriers from scope or red tape
- competitors are doing the hiring
- lack of PR

Access to care

- barriers from scope
- practice changes from federal standards/time/situations (covid)
- telehealth, rural med, socioeconomic, race, etc



State	Physician/PA Ratio	Supervision Language	Schedule IIs	PA Board/PAs on Med Board	Other issues??
Alabama	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Alaska	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Arizona	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Arkansas	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
California	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Colorado	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Connecticut	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Delaware	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Florida	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Georgia	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Hawaii	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Idaho	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Illinois	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Indiana	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Iowa	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Kansas	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Kentucky	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Louisiana	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Maine	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Maryland	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Massachusetts	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Michigan	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Minnesota	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Mississippi	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Missouri	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Montana	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Nebraska	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Nevada	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
New Hampshire	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
New Jersey	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
New Mexico	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
New York	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
North Carolina	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
North Dakota	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Ohio	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Oklahoma	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Oregon	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Pennsylvania	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Rhode Island	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
South Carolina	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
South Dakota	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Tennessee	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Texas	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Utah	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Vermont	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Virginia	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Washington	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
West Virginia	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Wisconsin	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	
Wyoming	1:6 ratio	Collaborative	Yes	PA Board	

Comparing Oklahoma



Physician/PA Ratio

Oklahoma 1:6 ratio - In Question
31 states have NO ratio or exceptions

Supervision Language

Oklahoma **Delegating (2020)** with context of supj/collab/deleg
21 states have moved away from supervision to collaboration (in 2020 it was 14) (6 PA)

Schedule IIs

Oklahoma **newly recognized but still in progress**
Only 3 states fully restricted
Only 4 states no outpatient

PA Board/PAs on Med Board

Oklahoma NO
30 states have their own PA Board or at least 1 PA on the Medical Board

Other issues??

We need to hear from YOU

“

The difference between the almost right word and the right word is really a large matter.

Mark Twain



Words that Matter



Supervision

Generally means to be physically present or within immediate distance



Delegate

The act of giving another person the responsibility of carrying out the performance agreed in a contract



Collaborate

The process of two or more people, entities or organizations working together to complete a task or achieve a goal.



Must vs. May

Must: the only word that imposes a legal obligation that something is mandatory.
May: is an expression of possibility, a permissive choice to act or not, and ordinarily implies some degree of discretion.

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Deeper Into The Issues

Ratio Issue

- SB 1915 passed in 2020 intending to remove ratios
- Medical Board unanimously passed emergency rules 9/20/20 to eliminate ratios to comply with SB1915 but never sent to governor
- Covid rules expired during Summer 2021. Medical Board went back to old 1:6 ratio despite never retracting other rules or promulgating new ones
- SB 516 to clarify ratio was stalled out by physician associations claiming independent practice
- AG opinion in process, possible FTC action

MEDICAL DOCTOR	11,880	6,724	(2021 OBMAL)
Physician Assistant	1,975	1,740	(2021 OBMAL)
Osteopathic Physicians	3,153	2,543	(2019 OSBOL)
APRNs	5,217	4,130x	(FX20 NR)

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Schedule IIs

<p>2014</p> <p>Hydrocodone changes to schedule III by DEA</p>	<p>2018</p> <p>CDC and other authorities begin making best practice guidelines for opioids in response to opioid epidemic</p>	<p>2020</p> <p>OAPA begins seeking legal advice on authority as more PAs express barrier to care in Peds, hospice, ER, rural med, etc</p>	<p>2021</p> <p>OSNDD released "on-site/ongoing" administration to comply with law. MD and DO Boards agree. Pharmacy Board asks for help with PBM.</p>
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Safety Data (2020)

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Our Legislative Team



Allison Garrison, PA-C
Leadership and Advocacy Liaison



Jan Loftis
OAPA Lobbyist



Tyler Powell
OAPA Lobbyist



Matt Latham
OAPA Lobbyist

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What's Next?

Fundraising

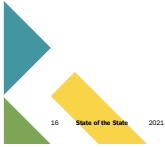
- PAPAC
- OAPA general funds

Involvement of Membership

- What members want/need
- Grassroots efforts
- Healthy association
- PAs/students in advocacy at every level
- PAs needed in administration

Public Relations

- Public support of issues
 - Legislator support, etc
- Transition with changes
- Protection from smear campaigns/efforts



Summary

The PA profession is lagging behind in Oklahoma compared to other states

PAs can be part of the physician shortage solution if barriers are removed

Funding is necessary

Involvement is necessary

Change is inevitable-for better or worse



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Thank you

The best way to predict the future is to create it.
-Abraham Lincoln

Allisongarrisonopa@gmail.com