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Qualifications

I am currently employed at the Tahoe Forest Hospital District for the Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Service. I have administrative, program development, and long term planning as the Director of Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Service line. Clinically, I participate in the evaluation and admission of orthopedic injuries in our emergency department. I perform as the surgical first assistant in acute and elective orthopedic surgeries. I then follow and co-manage the orthopedic inpatients. I also practice in the outpatient clinic and supervise three additional surgical Physician Assistants. Under my direction we joined the American Orthopaedic Association's "Own the Bone" Fragility Fracture program and registry, for which I serve as the site coordinator. Simultaneously as we joined "Own the Bone", we worked with our hospitalist service to implement a protocol for early hospitalist involvement with all geriatric hip fractures and optimizing their preoperative evaluation timing and minimizing time to OR while also optimizing their postoperative medical management. We joined the California Joint Replacement Registry, CJRR, and I am the site coordinator and principal investigator. Participation in CJRR, allows us to produce Patient Reported Outcomes, PRO, for our total joint patients and compare our outcomes to 50+% of all total joint surgeries in California Annually. We are in the process of developing a more formalized services including carve-outs focusing on a total joint surgery program but our current changes in patient management including day of surgery mobilization and multimodal pain control have taken our average length of stay to one night for total knees and our direct anterior hips while also achieving a Medicare patient satisfaction ratings of 4 and 5 stars. I also worked with the surgeons and Directors of our Surgical Services and Materials Management and renegotiated pricing of our reconstruction implants which resulted in a 50% cost reduction of implants. The new pricing structure allowed us to level pricing between 5 suppliers, and the reduced supply cost and shorter lengths of stays resulted in total charge reductions to our patients and payers of approximately 25%.

Prior to my current position, I was employed for 8+ years at Renown Regional Medical Center (formerly Washoe Medical Center) for the community staffed Orthopedic Trauma Service with house staff of Physician Assistants. Prior to Renown, I was employed in a joint practice with a general orthopedist and a hand specialist. By working with a generalist and hand specialist, I have a strong foundation for orthopedics, both chronic and traumatic injuries. I was also employed at Harborview Medical Center's Urgent/Ambulatory Care in the main Emergency Department and previously at Kern Medical Center. My ER and Urgent Care experience allows me to stay current with general medical issues, which is an asset when evaluating and managing patients for pre-operative evaluation, inpatient care, and post-operative care. My educational experiences as a health care team member include various settings at large medical centers and private medical offices in primary, as well as, specialty disciplines of orthopedics, general surgery, urology, obstetrics and gynecology, and emergency medicine. I also have over 20+ years of pre-hospital BLS and wilderness medicine as a ski patrolman, wilderness guide, and commercial raft guide.

Past Employment Experience

Orthopaedic Trauma Physician Assistant- June 2005 to January 2014, Jan. 2003- July 2004, and Sept. 2001-Feb. 2002: Responsibilities included evaluating patients with acute/traumatic and chronic orthopedic problems, performing initial evaluations, stabilization, and communication with Orthopedic Surgeon to formulate care plan, and request any consults/referrals if indicated. Performing pre-operative history and physical examinations, serving as primary house staff in a community staffed Level II trauma centers, surgical first assistant, and managing post-operative patients.

Emergency Medicine Physician Assistant- Nov. 2013-April 2017, Sept. 2003-Mar. 2005, Feb. 2002 -July 2002, and Sep 2001-July 2002: Evaluation and treatment of patients in urgent care and/or emergency department at Northstar Ski Clinic, St. Mary's Reno, Harborview's Level I Trauma Center and Kern Medical Center's Level II Trauma Center. Being the only trauma centers and county hospitals in King County and Kern County, we regularly treated higher acuity patients that often required consultation from sub-specialties and admission to the hospital.

Commercial Raft Guide- 1987-1996: Responsibilities included leading trips on Class IV- V Rivers, group management skills, rendering emergency medical care and swift-water rescue in remote wilderness areas.

Professional and National Alpine Ski Patrol-1995-2016: Responsibilities at Northstar at Tahoe Ski Resort included education on skier safety, rendering emergency medical care and transportation for traumatic and medical emergencies in the alpine environment.

Education

University of Colorado Business School Executive MBA in Health Administration, enrolled with completion July, 2018

Pacific University: Masters in Health Science, August 2008.

Western University of Health Sciences: Physician Assistant Certificate Program, July 2001

University of California at Davis: Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Biology, June 1995

Licenses/Associations

California Physician Assistant License No. 16069
Nevada Physician Assistant License No. PA853
National Commission of Certification of Physician Assistant License No. 1052339
DEA number: Available on Request. Schedule II-V
Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)
Wilderness Advanced Life Support
AAOS/OTA Disaster Responder Course Feb. 2012

Awards/Volunteer

CARES Award- Kern Medical Center 2001
Renown Employee Recognition Awards- Multiple at Renown Regional Medical Center 2005-2014
Distinguished Fellow in the American Academy of Physician Assistant- DFAAPA 2015
PA Clinical Rotation Provider- Multiple PA Student Clinical Rotations
PA Applicant Interviewer for University of Nevada Reno Inaugural Class of 2017

Lectures/Presentations/Meetings

OTA Orthopaedic Trauma for NPs and PAs-Course Co-Chairman, Chairman, and Lecturer October 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
PAOS Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery National Meeting Lecturer and Workshop Presenter 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
FORE Orthopaedic Trauma & Fracture Care Pushing the Envelope Lecturer and Workshop Presenter 2013,2014,2015,2016, 2017
AAPA American Academy of Physician Assistant National Meeting Lecturer May 2015, May 2016

Professional Memberships and Committees

Orthopaedic Trauma Association, since 2006
Orthopaedic Trauma Association Public Relations Committee Ex-Oficio Member, Past
Orthopaedic Trauma Association Education Committee Member, Appointment October 2014 to Present
American Academy of Physician Assistants, since 2001
California Academy of Physician Assistants, since 1999
Nevada Academy of Physician Assistants and BOD Director at Large, Past
Nevada Academy of Physician Assistants BOD Legislative Affairs Committee, Past
Washoe County Medical Society
Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery

Publications

Althausen, PL, Coll, D, Cvitash, M, Omara, TJ, Bray, TJ. Economic Viability of a Community-Based Level-II Orthopaedic Trauma System. J. Bone Joint Surg. Am., Jan 2009; 91: 227 – 235.

Althausen, Peter L.; Shannon, Steven; Watts, Chad; Thomas, Kenneth; Bain, Martin A; Coll, Daniel; O'Mara, Timothy J; Bray, Timothy J Early Surgical Stabilization of Flail Chest With Locked Plate Fixation Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma. November 2011; 25(11):641-647.

Althausen, Peter L.; Shannon, Steven; Boyden, Eric M.; Thomas, K.;

Lu, Minggen; Implant Standardization for Hemiarthroplasty: Implementation of a Pricing Matrix System at a Level II Community Based Trauma System Journal of Arthroplasty, Aug. 2013.

(Significant Contributors Coll, D; O'Mara, Timothy J.; Bray, Timothy J.)

Althausen, Peter L.; Shannon, Steven; Owens, Brianne; Coll, Daniel; Cvitash, Michael; Lu, Minggen; O'Mara, Timothy J.; Bray, Timothy Impact of Hospital-Employed Physician Assistants on a Level II Community-Based Orthopaedic Trauma System Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma. April 2013;27(4):e87-e91.

Althausen, PL, Kurnik, CG, Shields, T, Anderson, SR, Gurnea, TP, Coll, D, Lu, M. Clinical and Economic Impact of Generic 7.3mm Cannulated Screw Use at a Level II Trauma Center. American Journal of Orthopaedics, Sep 2014; 43(9):405-10.

References: Available on Request