

SURGICAL PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PAST DIRECTOR OF ORTHOPEDICS & SPORTS MEDICINE

Administrator and clinician with extensive experience in program development and long term planning focused on increasing operational and clinical care efficiencies. Successful at increasing patient satisfaction and decreasing overall expenses for episodes of care. Acknowledged for expertise in outpatient and inpatient clinical and surgical care operations, clinical quality registries, surgical supply chain, and PA/NP practice, with additional focus on Orthopedic Surgery. Known for being proactive, positive, and adaptable to achieve successful outcomes. Experienced with EPIC, multiple Digital Imaging platforms, MS Office, Windows and Macintosh Operating Systems.

EDUCATION

PA AND NP LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE, Northeastern University
MBA HA, Masters of Business Administration in Health Administration
MHS, Masters in Health Sciences, Pacific University
PA, Physician Assistant, Western University of Health Sciences
BS, Environmental Biology and Management, University of California at Davis

EXPERTISE

- Identified clinical and operational needs for service lines and developed new positions for Surgical Physician Assistants
Duties / Skills including evaluation, admission, and inpatient management of orthopedic injuries in emergency department, surgery and hospitalization.
- Improved coverage and staffing for hospital and Surgery Center and Orthopedic Clinic 24/7/365 by interviewing, hiring, training, and supervising four Surgical Physician Assistants. This transition replaced non-billable providers with billable advanced practice providers.
- To meet critical access hospital (CAH) surgery department needs, expanded Orthopedic Physician Assistant role to Surgical First Assistant in acute and elective orthopedic, general surgery, and OB/Gyn surgeries. This surgeon support is critical with lower numbers of surgeons at CAH and using Surgery PA frees partner Surgeons from assisting to visiting patients in clinic, performing their own primary surgeries, or allows for time off reducing Provider burnout and increasing satisfaction.
- Reduced length of stay after total knee / hip replacement surgery to one-day on average while achieving Medicare patient satisfactions rating of 4 and 5 stars through formalizing and standardizing orthopedic day of surgery mobilization, multimodal pain control and regional anesthesia.
- Reduced implant cost 50+% by partnering with surgeons, Director of Surgical Service and Director of Materials Management to re-negotiate contracted cost for reconstruction implants which improved annual budget by providing predictable cost structure while simultaneously increasing implant selection for surgeons and their patients.
- Decreased patient costs and payer fees up to 30% by reducing supply costs, length of stays and expanding the number of orthopedic suppliers.
- Identified need for multidisciplinary care of hip fractures and worked with Orthopedic Surgeons and Hospitalists to develop Protocol for Team Care and Medical Management from admission on all hip fractures.
- To drive best practice and allow external benchmarking, led membership and serve as Site Coordinator for American Orthopaedic Association's "Own the Bone" Fragility Fracture registry and principal investigator for California Joint Replacement Registry
- Established and staffed, for ten years, the Orthopaedic Trauma Physician Assistant house staff program at Renown Regional Medical Center (formerly Washoe Medical Center). Re-wrote privileges and created program structure and duties. Renown is the highest level of care trauma center for Northern Nevada and the eastern slope of the Sierra Mountain Range and was staffed by community Orthopedic Surgeons.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

TAHOE FOREST HOSPITAL DISTRICT , Truckee, CA Orthopedics and Sports Medicine and Surgical Physician Assistant	2014-Present
TAHOE FOREST HOSPITAL DISTRICT , Truckee, CA Director of Orthopedics and Sports Medicine	2014-2019
VITUITY , Northstar, CA On Hill Ski Clinic Physician Assistant	2015-Present
RENOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER , Reno, NV In House Orthopedic Trauma Physician Assistant at Regional Level II Trauma Center	2005-2014
NORTHERN NEVADA EMERGENCY ROOM PHYSICIAN , Reno, NV Emergency Room Physician Assistant	2004-2005
HARBORVIEW KING COUNTY HOSPITAL , Seattle, WA Per Diem Physician Assistant in Emergency Department of Level I Regional Trauma Center	2002-2004
PUGET SOUND SPECIALTY PHYSICIANS , Enumclaw, WA Orthopedic Surgery Physician Assistant in Hand and General Orthopedics Practice	2002-2004
KERN COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER , Bakersfield, CA Emergency and Orthopedic Physician Assistant in Level II Regional Trauma Center	2001-2002
PROFESSIONAL AND NATIONAL SKI PATROLLER , Northstar CA	1995-Present

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

California Physician Assistant License No. 16069
Nevada Physician Assistant License No. PA853
National Commission of Certification of Physician Assistant License No. 1052339
DEA California and Nevada: Schedule II-V
Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)
Wilderness Advanced Life Support
AAOS/OTA Disaster Responder Training
Eagle Scout

AFFILIATIONS

Own the Bone Site Coordinator at Tahoe Forest Hospital District, since 2014
California Joint Replacement Registry Site Representative, since 2015
Orthopedic Trauma Association Member, since 2006
Orthopaedic Trauma Association Public Relations Committee Ex-Oficio Member, Past
Orthopaedic Trauma Association Education Committee Member, Appointment October 2015 to 2019
Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery Fellow
American Academy of Physician Assistants Fellow, since 2001
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Associate, 2018
California Academy of Physician Assistants Member, since 1999
Nevada Academy of Physician Assistants and BOD Director at Large, 2012-2014
Nevada Academy of Physician Assistants BOD Legislative Affairs Committee, Past
Washoe County Medical Society, Past

LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS/MEETINGS

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

AWARDS/VOLUNTEER

AAPA Medical Liaison to the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery July 2019 to Present
AAPA Representative to National Quality Forum's Rural Health Workgroup 2017 to Present
CARES Award- Kern Medical Center
Renown Employee Recognition Awards- Multiple at Renown Regional Medical Center
Distinguished Fellow in the American Academy of Physician Assistants (DFAAPA)
PA Clinical Rotation Provider- Multiple PA Programs' Student Clinical Rotations
University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program Applicant Interviewer for Classes of
2017/2018/2019 and Community Faculty volunteer and guest lecturer to PA Students.
Host and Sponsor High School Students for Surgical Cadaver Lab and Anatomy Lab Tours at UNR 2016 to 2020

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.