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# SUPERSEDES Physician’s Assistant (PD0310)

# TITLE Physician Assistant CLASSIFICATION GRADE 11

**SPECIALTY GRADE 94**

### BASIC FUNCTION AND RESPONSIBILITY

Perform direct patient care including diagnostic and therapeutic services with physician supervision. Within the Physician Assistant (PA)/Physician relationship, PAs exercise autonomy in medical decision-making and services provided. Assist in educating healthcare students, residents and fellows as they rotate through the respective departments and divisions. To assist in research endeavors as appropriate.

#### CHARACTERISTIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide care responsibilities as directed by a supervising physician.

Obtain medical history and perform physical examination.

Assess, assist, diagnose and treat medical or surgical problems and record findings.

Perform or assist in and interpret the performance of laboratory and related studies.

Perform therapeutic procedures such as injections, immunizations, the suturing and care of wounds, removal of foreign bodies, ear and eye irrigation and other clinical procedures.

Perform office surgical procedures including skin biopsy, mole or wart removal, toenail removal, arthrocentesis, incision and drainage of abscesses.

Perform or assist in surgery.

Perform pre- and post-natal care and assist in obstetrical care.

Provide care for orthopedic problems including but not limited to strains, sprains, dislocations and simple fractures.

Perform and screen results of special medical exams including but no limited to electrocardiogram or holter monitoring, radiography, audiometric and vision screening, tonometry, and pulmonary function screening tests.

Instruct and counsel patients regarding physical and mental health on matters such as diets, disease, therapy, and normal growth and development.

Assist in delivery of services to patients requiring continuing care.

Refer patients to appropriate specialty and subspecialty physicians as indicated by the patients’ problems.

Evaluate, treat and institute procedures essential to providing an appropriate response to emergency medical problems.

Maintain awareness of health facilities, agencies and resources in order to facilitate the appropriate referral of patients.

Assist in the ordering of drugs and supplies, record keeping, and maintenance of equipment.

Admit patients to hospital or health care facility as directed.

Order and interpret laboratory tests and x-ray procedures.

Order diets, physical therapy inhalation therapy, or other rehabilitative services.

Distribute properly packaged and labeled prescription drugs, controlled substances or contraceptive devices when pharmacist services are not available or when it is in the best interests of the patient.

Order medications and administer drugs.

Withdraw a blood specimen for the purpose of determining the alcohol concentration or the presence of drugs as requested by law enforcement officers.

Direct other medical personnel and health professionals in the execution of patient care.

Perform endoscopy, treadmill testing, subclavian lines, lumbar punctures, bone marrow biopsy, and interthercal therapy as directed.

Perform duties appropriate to a physician’s practice.

Participate in educating fellows, residents and students in various programs.

Assist with and participate in clinical research and/or trials.

May set up the research design, coordinate the research, and tabulate and analyze the results.

Participate in committees within the division, department, College of Medicine and University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics.

Maintain effective working relationships with faculty, staff, students and the public.

*In addition to the duties and responsibilities noted above, the position description must include statements from*[*UI Health Care Core Values (WECARE)*](https://medcom.uiowa.edu/theloop/employee_info/icare-core-values)*for Health Care positions or*[*Universal Competencies*](https://hr.uiowa.edu/careers/competencies/universal-competencies)*for all other positions.*

##### SUPERVISION RECEIVED

Supervision is received by a physician certified by the Board of Medical Examiners.

##### SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Functional and administrative supervision may be exercised over support staff.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

Must comply with registration and licensure requirements as specified by the Iowa Board of Physician Assistant Examiners which include graduation from an accredited PA educational program and/or certification by the NCCPA.

Excellent written and verbal communication skills are required.

Previous experience in specialty area may be desired by the division or department.