

SHAC NEWSLETTER

Student Health and Counseling Center (SHAC)

Physician Assistants (PA) Week

October 2015

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National PA Week is held every year from Oct 6-12

What is a PA?

PAs have been part of the healthcare team for nearly 50 years. A PA is a medical practitioner who works under the supervision of a physician. PAs are nationally certified and state licensed to practice medicine. Today, there are more than 100,000 certified PAs in the United States.

What does a PA do?

A PA is a licensed medical professional who can examine, test, treat and prescribe medication for patients. PAs play vital roles in hospital, private practice and nursing home settings. PAs are trained with a focus on primary care, and are able to identify the symptoms of a wide range of illnesses.

How are PAs Educated?

PAs typically acquire extensive healthcare training and experience before they enter an intense, three year graduate-level program that requires the same prerequisite courses as medical schools. PAs practice in every medical and surgical setting and specialty.

The Future of PAs

With the advent of health reform and continued shortages of physicians in all areas, the PA profession continues to grow in America and the future for increased PA utilization remains very strong. Since MPA is a program here at SMU, if you are, or know someone who is a PA/PA student, show them your support and appreciation this month.



Source:
<https://www.aapa.org/paweek/>

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence and sexual assault are pervasive and life-threatening crimes affecting millions of individuals across our nation regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, or education.

Statistics

- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 77 men has experienced rape in her or his lifetime.
- Nationwide, an average of 3 women are killed by a current or former intimate partner every day.
- Female victims of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner experienced impacts such as fear, concern for their safety, need for medical care, injury, need for housing services, and missing work or school.

What is Domestic Violence?

- Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse or financial abuse (using money and financial tools to exert control).
- Batterers make it very difficult for victims to escape relationships. Sadly, many survivors suffer from abuse for decades.
- For many victims, concerns over their ability to provide for themselves and their children are a significant reason for staying in or returning to an abusive relationship.

What can you do? This month, there are various events to promote domestic violence awareness organized by the SHAC counseling staffs. The "SMU Clothesline Project" is a visual display of t-shirts to educate, bear witness to, and celebrate the survivor's courage to heal. Colored paper T-shirt and decorating supplies will be available October 22- October 30th in the Peralta Second Floor Living Room and the SHAC (MOB 3rd floor, suite #3015).



October Is Domestic
Violence Awareness Month

Source:
<http://nnedv.org/getinvolved/dvam.html>