



ASSOCIATION OF
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
IN ONCOLOGY
partners in cancer care



Association of Physician Assistants in Oncology (APAO) and Physician Assistants in Hospice and Palliative Medicine (PAHPM) announce partnership to provide complimentary membership

The Association of Physician Assistants in Oncology (APAO) and Physician Assistants in Hospice and Palliative Medicine (PAHPM) jointly announce a partnership to provide complimentary dual membership to their organizations. The partnership will involve providing all current members of APAO a free 1-year membership to PAHPM, and vice versa. This partnership will provide each organization's member enhanced access to both oncologic and palliative care resources, advocacy efforts, and CME/educational opportunities.

APAO is the preeminent national organization representing physician assistants in oncology with a mission centered on promoting the utilization of physician assistants in the delivery of exceptional care to people with cancer and related disorders.

“APAO is extremely excited about this partnership,” notes APAO President Cory Williams, PA-C. “We believe it will allow our members to have privileged access to palliative and hospice medicine resources we would otherwise be unable to provide. As all providers in the field of oncology know, palliative and hospice medicine is a vital part of our practices. It is important that our members stay educated and up to date in this field in order to be able to deliver exceptional care to our patients. Partnering with an organization that represents a group of people we work with so closely makes sense and will help decrease barriers to providing effective patient care.”

PAHPM is the preeminent national organization representing physician assistants in the field of palliative and hospice medicine with a mission focused on education, maximizing the utilization of PAs in optimal team practice, and advocating for PAs in policy arenas on both the state and national levels. Both organizations share a common goal of advancing PA practice through education, leadership, and advocacy. Due to the overlap between oncology and palliative medicine in clinical practice, the partnership will allow increased access to critical resources and experts in each field, thereby facilitating the continuing education and professional development of each organization's membership.

Leadership from PAHPM have heralded this initiative: “PAs who look at the challenges of the healthcare arena see the management of *serious illness patient populations* as primary palliative medicine. This has become – along with telemedicine and the interdisciplinary team – a primary focus of our professional practice model. We see collaboration with groups such as APAO a way to:

- Strengthen and enhance our role in healthcare practice.
- Sustain our involvement in policy and research, and
- Continue to enhance our roles together in the future of 21st century healthcare”

The dual partnership went into effect July 15, 2020. Members will receive an email with additional information about creating a membership account for either APAO or PAHPM. This complimentary membership will expire after 1 year, at that time members can continue their membership. However there may be a different fee negotiated based upon the response of this initial offering. There will also be an opt-out option for members.

About APAO: The Association of Physician Assistants in Oncology (APAO) is a non-profit 501(c) specialty organization affiliated with the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) that consists of physician assistants working in the field of oncology. For more information, visit www.apao.cc.

About PAHPM: Physician Assistants in Hospice and Palliative Medicine is a non-profit 501(c) specialty organization affiliated with the American Academy of Physicians Assistants, that consists of physician assistants working in the field of hospice and palliative medicine. The mission of the organization is to educate PAs on the fields of Palliative and Hospice medicine in the care of Serious Illness patient populations, to enhance this area of medicine through the utilization of PAs in optimal team practice, and to advocate for PAs in policy arenas on state and national levels and on all levels of care. For more information, visit www.pahpm.org.