

Aurea DeSouza

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Education

Master in Physician Assistant Studies

Florida International University, Candidate: December 2023

Bachelor of Science in Applied Physiology and Kinesiology

University of Florida, August 2020

PA Clinical Clerkship Experience

Orthopedic Trauma Elective – Baptist Health, Preceptor: Eduardo Rodriguez, PA-C Oct 16-Nov 9, 2023

- Assisted in the following procedures: Total Shoulder Arthroplasty, Total Hip Arthroplasty, Total Knee Arthroplasty, Joint debridement with arthroscopy, Open Reduction Internal Fixation of ankle, pelvis, distal radius, femur, and humerus.
- Demonstrated proficiency in the following suture techniques: Horizontal and Vertical Mattress, Simple interrupted, and Deep Dermal.
- Reduced Ankle and Wrist fractures following casting and splinting techniques, including coaptation splint, posterior ankle splint, and ulnar gutter splint.
- Administered corticosteroid and hyaluronic acid joint injections, performed physical examinations, and analyzed and interpreted X-ray findings to better assist in diagnosis and treatment planning.

Psychiatry & Behavioral Health – Mount Sinai Hospital, Preceptor: Dr. Zarate Sep 11- Sep 29, 2023

- Participated in the management and care for patients with various disorders including but not limited to depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and personality disorders.
- Actively engaged in the administration of electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) for psychiatric patients.
- Conducted comprehensive in-patient psychiatric assessments and collaborated with interdisciplinary teams to discuss medication adjustments, treatment regimens, and overall care for each patient.
- Displayed empathy, active listening, and proficient communication skills to establish trust and rapport with patients, delivering culturally sensitive care that honors the diverse backgrounds and beliefs of individuals.

Emergency Medicine – Jackson South Hospital, Preceptor: Dr. Flanagan Aug 7- Sep 1, 2023

- Obtained comprehensive evaluations of patients' chief complaint, physical examination, and interpreted laboratory and imaging studies to develop differential diagnoses, treatment regimens, and disposition of patient.
- Performed laceration repairs, fracture reductions, incision and drainage, digital block, wound care, slit lamp examination, femoral line placement, and chest compressions.
- Collaborated with PAs and Doctors to strategically select the appropriate diagnostic and imaging studies necessary for each patient's presentation and history.

Pediatric Orthopedics Elective – Nicklaus Children's Hospital, Preceptor: Evelyn Silva APRN July 5- July 28, 2023

- Evaluated and assessed pediatric patients for scoliosis by performing physical examinations and interpreting X-rays by measuring the Cobb angle.
- Assisted in the OR during spinal transfusion procedures and counseled the patient and caregiver on post operative instructions and aftercare.
- Collaborated with an interdisciplinary team to plan appropriate treatment regimens for each patient and provided counseling on proper use of a Thoracic-Lumbar-Sacral-Orthotics (TLSO) brace.

Family Medicine – Miami Beach Community Health Center, Preceptor: Nadejda Dobrydnik May 29- June 23, 2023

- Conducted comprehensive medical assessments, including medical history and physical examinations to formulate diagnoses and develop individualized treatment plan for patients including medication management, lifestyle recommendations, and referrals to specialists.

- Assisted in the management and care for chronic health conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, asthma, and arthritis.
- Provided primary healthcare screenings including routine check-ups, immunizations, and preventative care screenings.
- Obtained experience in treatment of HIV due to high prevalence in the clinic's population.

Pediatrics – Miami Lakes Pediatrics, Preceptor: Dr. Capote

April 24- May 19, 2023

- Performed physical examinations and vital signs on pediatric patients, including infants as young as 2 days old.
- Proficiently gathered and documented comprehensive medical histories of pediatric patient.
- Administered rapid flu and strep testing.

Cardiothoracic Surgery – Jackson Health Hospital, Preceptor: Ana Marin APRN

Feb 13- March 10, 2023

- Evaluated pre-operative and post-operative patients undergoing procedures such as Transthoracic Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR), Coronary artery bypass graft (CABG), heart and lung transplants, and ablation for atrial fibrillation.
- Acquired and interpreted diagnostic imaging such as, cardiac catheterizations, echocardiograms, transthoracic esophageal echocardiogram, carotid ultrasound, duplex ultrasound of lower extremities veins, and CT scans of chest, abdomen, and pelvis.
- Assisted in the cardiac catheterization lab, participating in percutaneous coronary intervention, transthoracic aortic valve replacements, cardiac biopsies, and stenting.

Internal Medicine – Jackson Health Hospital, Preceptor: Dr. Fonarov
2023

Feb 13- March 10,

- Performed comprehensive physical examinations.
- Contributed to the care and control of acute and critical medical conditions, prepared patient progress notes, and interpreted laboratory results and imaging using the Cerner EMR system.
- Observed and assisted with bedside procedures, including but not limited to venipuncture, lumbar puncture, thoracentesis, and intubation.

Women's Health – Miami Beach Community Health Center, Preceptor: Dr. Fujan

Jan 9- Feb 4, 2023

- Obtained patient vitals, history of present illness, medical reconciliation, and physical examination in the outpatient setting while counseling on HIV and HPV care.
- Supported in prenatal counseling, which involved using ultrasound to evaluate fetal heart rate, position, and movement, as well as measuring fundal height, conducting POC urine analysis, and screening for GBS culture.
- Performed gynecological visits involving pap smears, culture swabs, endometrial biopsy, GBS testing, and colposcopy with biopsy.
- Assisted with vaginal and caesarean deliveries, and dilation and curettage procedures at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Health Care Experience

Medical Assistant – Accent Dermatology, Gainesville, FL

Aug 2020- June 2021

- Evaluated patient vital signs, updated medications, and conducted A1C and blood tests.
- Assisted Physicians in biopsy procedures which include preparing ultrasound rooms, preparing syringes, and labeling samples.
- Collaborated with PAs regarding patient care, facilitated lab orders, organized schedules, and provided patient education on glucose control and monitoring.

Research Staff Member – McKnight Brain Institute, Gainesville, FL

April 2019- April 2021

- Established and managed a networking website for the SEEG consortium, overseeing data input and correspondence related to epilepsy.
- Facilitated local and global communication with physicians, discussing upcoming projects, new research, and plans within the organization.

- Attended meetings at Shand's Hospital to enhance understanding of epilepsy research protocols, emphasizing the crucial role of collaboration between physicians and institutions in making groundbreaking discoveries.

Patient Care Assistant – Shand's Hospital, Gainesville, FL

Sep 2019- Oct 2020

- Provided attentive assistance to patients in dressing, eating, and grooming, prioritizing their well-being.
- Conducted thorough patient assessments by monitoring vital signs, intake, and output, and performed medical tasks including intermittent catheterization, bladder scanning, and IV removal.
- Ensured a safe environment, maintained effective communication with healthcare professionals, and gained a profound understanding of compassion and empathy essential for a future provider.

Medical Assistant – North Florida Integrative Medicine, Gainesville, FL

April 2020- Aug 2020

- Administered weekly COVID-19 antibody tests at the office.
- Demonstrated effective communication skills by assisting patients with telemedicine appointments, facilitating Zoom meetings, and providing support and comfort to high-risk patients during the pandemic.

Research Coordinator – University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Jan 2018- Jan 2020

- Gathered and analyzed data on the progress of students with disabilities at Sidney Lanier Center, conducting both quantitative and qualitative assessments during interactions.
- Administered pre- and post-testing to assess baseline fitness and track improvements throughout the semester. Additionally, held weekly meetings to enhance program facilitation and foster an inclusive community that positively impacts physical fitness, social engagement, and overall quality of life for all participants.

EEG monitor watcher – Shand's Neuromedicine Hospital, Gainesville, FL

Nov 2018- Nov 2019

- Conducted surveillance of epileptic patients, promptly notifying nurses of seizure episodes, and maintaining updated patient management forms.
- Supported EEG technicians in daily tasks, including adjusting cameras, organizing medical equipment, and reviewing EEG recordings.
- Gained valuable understanding of various seizure types.

Shadowing at Gainesville Dermatology, Tara Andrisin PA-C

Jan 2020- April 2020

- Observed and participated in medical procedures such as cryotherapy, biopsies, dermal fillers, and skin check.
- Acquired a deeper understanding of the daily communication practices of a Physician Assistant during patient interactions and observed the dynamics of teamwork in a medical environment.

Shadowing at Medical Associates of Brevard, Dr. Dhruv

Dec 2016- Jan 2017

- Observed and gained exposure to a range of diagnostic tests conducted by Dr. Dhruv, including screening tests for osteoporosis such as bone density scans, ultrasound examinations, thyroid biopsies, and other endocrine-related tests.

Community Service

Medical Volunteer, Miami Marathon, Miami, FL

Jan 2023

- Assisted with assessing patients' vital signs, dehydration status, musculoskeletal cramping, wound care, and starting IV lines on patients who had completed the marathon.
- Worked alongside a medical team of physicians, PAs, nurses, physical therapists, and athletic trainers.

Inclusive Fitness and Unified Sports Committee Member, Gainesville, FL

Jan 2017-April 2019

- Served as a workout companion, motivating students with disabilities throughout active participation in fitness workout and friendly sports competitions, fostering inclusivity and building trusted friendships.
- Developed a keen understanding of individual preference, needs, and adaptability when working with this special population, recognizing the significance of being attentive and understanding in creating a

supportive environment.

Student Researcher at Florida Autism Center, Gainesville, FL

Aug 2017- Dec 2018

- Collaborated with a PhD student, assisting in their research at the center by managing toilet training protocols for two autistic students between the ages of 3-6.
- Conducted thorough literature reviews, underwent training, documented data, gained insights into diverse intervention strategies, and played a role in analyzing and interpreting research findings.

Student Organization/Leadership

Wellness Chair, FIU MPAS Class of 2023 Cohort, Florida International University

Aug 2021- Present

- Spearheaded wellness initiatives as the program's wellness chair, curating activities such as anti-stress activities, massages, and dog picnics to enhance student well-being.
- Organized motivational events, including distributing uplifting snacks with encouraging messages before exams, fostering a positive and supportive atmosphere within the program.

Secretary, University of Florida Pre-Physician Assistant Program

Jan 2019- Aug 2019

- Diligently served as secretary for the Pre-Physician Assistant Program, meticulously tracking meeting objectives and times.
- Successfully planned and organized future events for students, contributing to efficient program management and student engagement.

License & Certification

Physician Assistant

License #:

Expires:

Basic Life Support (BLS)

American Heart Association

Renewal date: September 2024

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS)

American Heart Association

Renewal date: September 2024

Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)

American Heart Association

Renewal date: September 2024

Honors and Awards

Bright Futures Scholarship, June 2016- August 2020

Magna Cum Laude, University of Florida

Professional Societies

Florida Academy of PAs (FAPA)

American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA)

FIU Physician Assistant Student Organization