What is a Dermatology Physician Assistant?

Physician Assistants are also termed Mid-Level Providers. They are health care providers who are trained to administer medical care in coordination with a ‘Supervising Physician.’ They are trained to deliver a wide range of medical services through an advanced training program accredited by the American Academy of Physician Assistants. Similar to a Nurse Practitioner, they have a master’s degree and are certified and licensed to see patients, perform procedures and write prescriptions. Their work is directly supervised by the head medical doctor of the practice, which at DermacenterMD, is Dr. Roger Moore, a board certified dermatologist.

Dr. Moore’s physician assistants maintain good standing and are members of the Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants. They are required to be certified and licensed as physician assistants (PA-C) and are medical providers formally trained in primary care and graduating from an accredited academic training program in the U.S. The average PA student is age 33, has over 4 years of health-care experience and a college degree before entering a PA program. Typical backgrounds of PA students include nursing, EMT, paramedic or other medical backgrounds. Most Physician Assistant Programs last 24-27 continuous months and use the medical school model. To remain nationally certified, PAs must complete 100 hours of Continuing Medical Education (CME) every 2 years and pass a national re-certification exam every 6 years. While over half of all PAs remain in primary care, the rest can be found in every medical and surgical specialty, including dermatology.

Dr. Moore has chosen, like many dermatology providers, to have PAs because it allows his valued patients to have more rapid access to highly trained dermatology providers. DermacenterMD’s PAs are required to train under Dr. Moore years before they are able to function in a more independent manner. In addition, Dr. Moore has them participate in his rigorous training program that requires reading, lectures and examinations. In fact, Dr. Moore’s work with PAs has been integral in spurning Dr. Moore to develop an advanced online training program for mid-level providers across the nation. The new training program is termed Dermwise and has already been used by the former president of Chicago Dermatologic Society, with rave reviews.

The benefit for our patients is having access to PAs who are focused individuals, competent and able to treat them in an efficient and professional manner. Our PAs have dedicated themselves
to the field of dermatology and are surpassing the time devoted to dermatology by any other specialties.

Learn more about Dr. Roger Moore and his PAs at our website www.DermacenterMD.com. If you would like to schedule an appointment with Dr. Moore or his PAs please call us at 574-522-0265.