

Upcoming Events

LAPA Teaching

[PAs in Canada Teach-in - 15th July 19:00 - 20:00](#)

[August Teach-in and date - TBC](#)

[Interventional Radiology - 9th Sept 18:00 - 19:00](#)

[Infectious Diseases - 7th Oct 18:00 - 19:00](#)

Other Events

[Acute Medicine Series - Acute Medical Emergencies - 21st July 18:30](#)

[Adapting to Life after COVID-19 - 7th Sept 18:30](#)

Past LAPA CPD Events

You can now catch up on all our previous events online [here](#).



@PASofLondon



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Welcome to the July edition of the London Affiliation of Physician Associates (LAPA) newsletter.

Brighter days are ahead with both the sun hopefully shining and easing of restrictions for travel – we hope you are all keeping well and we are here if anyone wants to reach out and need support.

If you are keen to get involved with organising this years FPA Conference, get in touch – it is a very friendly team to work with and it is your chance to ensure you and your peers get the teaching you want.

This month we have Dhiral, a PA who works in Urology in Ontario, giving us teaching on the landscape of PAs in Canada and everyone's favourite – microscopic haematuria. She has answered a Q&A below for some more insight about life as a PA in Canada currently. If you miss the teaching, you can catch up in the CPD video library.

We are currently running a survey of PAs in Primary Care. Please take <5 minutes to complete the survey corresponding to the London region you work in before they close on 16th July.

SWL: <https://forms.gle/cqG9wjMzUjRZq9587> SEL: <https://forms.gle/3g7g866sscydDCTs9>

NWL: <https://forms.gle/ATtqztXeU1t12Bv39> NCL: <https://forms.gle/nzZ2LMBriFs7Psr59>

NEL: <https://forms.gle/M5zhrL9LMmGFn3MU9>

Q & A with Dhiral Kot, Canadian PA in Urology

1) How do you find your role as PA in urology?

Starting off in this role I had a very steep learning curve. This being mostly due to the fact that it isn't just general Urology but Oncology as well. Getting up to speed on anatomy and pathology made it quite exciting because it gave me something to work towards and learn. Obtaining the basic knowledge helped me work towards individual patient cases and treatment plans. I find that I'm now an integral part of the team that can contribute to the management and plan of patient care. This continues to evolve and the learning never stops but I now have confidence in some niche areas of practice. Navigating towards this has been the most exciting part of my role in this specialty.

2) How do you see the role progressing in Canada?

As we speak Ontario is currently underway to regulating PAs. This has been a huge hurdle for us for the last 15 years and we have for the first time made significant headway. Once we become regulated this will increase our scope of practice as well as increase jobs for the profession. Physicians who had previously been leery of hiring unregulated professionals will now come closer to understanding our role in the healthcare system. I hope personally this will increase our individual roles in our current positions. As a whole in Canada some of the provinces have already established the profession with regulation. In a way as the profession grows, more PA programs in universities will be created. This should enhance placements in provinces where there are no PAs or schools to ease the transition. Currently those living in provinces where they have educated are likely to practice there and establish their lives there. Recruiting to areas where there are no PAs is still a challenge and most PAs go to these areas temporarily but if residents of the specific provinces enrolled in the program and did their clinical practices are likely to serve the healthcare system of that province. This continues to be a work in progress for us.

3) If you could be any animal, what would it be and why?

If I could be any animal, it would be an eagle so that I can fly and experience the world from above.