

Dr. Christopher R. Cannell, DMSc, MPAS, PA-C, CAQ EMERGENCY MEDICINE, DFAAPA

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Summary:

Doctorate-trained and Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Physician Associates with 22 years of extensive clinical experience, seeking to leverage expertise as a Medical Professional Legal Consultant and Expert Witness. Proven track record in medical legal risk analysis, clinical operations, quality/safety, healthcare technology integration, education, and leadership. Expertise in providing objective case analysis, meticulous review of medical records, and expert opinions in medical negligence claims. Experienced Clinical Instructor with expertise in medical education, presentation building, and team management.

Areas of Expertise:

- Medical Malpractice
- Standard of Care
- Medical Record Review
- Causation Analysis
- Risk Management & Mitigation
- Healthcare Delivery Systems
- Clinical Operations & Workflow
- Healthcare Technology & Innovation
- Quality & Safety
- Emergency Medicine
- Urgent Care
- Orthopedics
- Emergency/Critical Care and Procedural Ultrasound

Current:

Clinical Practice at:

1. Emergency, Urgent Care, and Internal Medicine Physician Associate – South Shore Health System, South Weymouth, MA: 2005 – Present
2. Orthopedic Surgical Physician Associate, per diem – South Shore Health System, South Weymouth, MA: 2023 – Present

Risk Management, Professional Liability, and Healthcare Provider Entrepreneurship Consultant – MedPro Group

July 2023 – Present

Collaborator with MedPro as a PA entrepreneurship thought leader, Medical Professional Legal Consultant, and Risk Management Consultant – leveraging my expertise to help healthcare professionals navigate the complex landscape of safety, quality, wellness, burnout, medical-legal liability, and risk mitigation. My role at MedPro is to drive impactful change through:

1. Medical-Legal Consulting – Guiding clinicians and organizations in risk mitigation strategies to enhance patient safety and legal preparedness.
2. Entrepreneurship & Thought Leadership – Empowering PAs and clinicians to explore non-traditional career paths and innovative opportunities in healthcare.
3. Content Development & Blogging – Providing insightful, data-driven content that supports healthcare professionals in making informed decisions and protecting their careers.

President & Board Member – Academy of Physician Associates in Legal Medicine (APALM)

2023 – Present

1. Spearheading educational initiatives for PAs and PA students, focusing on healthcare law, risk management, documentation, and coding.
2. Editorial board for medical-legal newsletters targeting healthcare professionals.
3. Leveraging extensive consultant experience to offer expert insights and guidance on matters related to medical malpractice.
4. Part of collaborating with a cross-functional team aiming to develop comprehensive curriculum content, workshops, and seminars that will enhance PA students and PAs in professional practice's understanding of legal aspects in medicine.
5. Contributing to strategic decision-making processes within the association to align initiatives with the evolving landscape of healthcare regulations and legal practices.

Medical Legal Consulting (Independent Consultant & Expert Witness) – The APC Consultant, LLC

2017 – Present

1. Offer objective case analysis and meticulous review of medical records for plaintiff and defense cases.
2. Provide expert opinions and testimony in medical negligence claims.
3. Prepare affidavits of merit, provide guidance during the discovery process, and deliver depositions and trial testimony as an expert witness.
4. Specialize in cases involving Physician Associates in Emergency Medicine, Urgent Care, and Orthopedics.

Healthcare Consulting – The APC Consultant, LLC

2017 – Present

1. Provide valuable insights on medical devices and pharmaceuticals, leveraging extensive clinical experience.
2. Evaluate products using evidence-based approaches and offer actionable recommendations.
3. Collaborate with industry leaders to develop evidence-based strategies for communicating complex medical information to non-medical audiences.
4. Offer expert medical input and advice for clinical trial protocols, product marketing materials, and other medical communication materials.

Adjunct Faculty, Clinical Instructor – Northeastern University Department of Medical Science PA Program, Boston, MA

2024 – Present

Train and supervise PA students in emergency medicine by developing and maintain a community based Emergency Medicine Program

Adjunct Faculty, Clinical Instructor – Tufts School of Medicine, Physician Assistant Program, Boston, MA

2015 – Present

Train and supervise PA students in emergency medicine by developing and maintain a community based Emergency Medicine Program

Previous:

Senior Autonomous ER Physician Associate – Lawrence General Hospital

2023 – 2024

ED Lead and Ambulatory Care APC Director – South Shore Health

2008 – 2014

1. Enhanced Patient Care Outcomes: Improved patient outcomes through effective communication of complex medical information, collaboration, mentoring, research, and program implementation.

2. **Leadership: Dedicated Physician Associate in Internal Medicine and Urgent Care.** Directed a team of Advanced Practice Practitioners, fostering a collaborative environment and achieving exceptional patient outcomes.
3. **Optimized Emergency Department Operations:** Spearheaded role optimization and streamlined processes for Advanced Practice Practitioners (APPs), resulting in enhanced scheduling, patient care delivery, and increased efficiency.
4. **Strengthened Clinical Adherence:** Ensured consistent adherence to clinical protocols and guidelines, maintaining high standards of care.
5. **Contributed to Strategic Leadership:** As part of Senior Emergency Department Leadership, actively contributed to the healthcare system's vision, mission, and objectives.
6. **Developed and Mentored Staff:** Played a key role in the recruitment, selection, mentorship, training, and development of staff.
7. **Drove Data-Driven Improvements:** Utilized a strong analytical and problem-solving approach, leveraging data and analytics to drive operational change.
8. **Championed Quality and Safety Initiatives:** Educated and trained staff on Collaborative Just Culture & High Reliability CHRO methodologies and served as a Key Opinion Leader (KOL) on the ED Capacity Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan Task Force.
9. **Facilitated Multidisciplinary Collaboration:** Collaborated with diverse healthcare providers to develop comprehensive care plans for complex patient cases and actively participated in hospital committees and multidisciplinary meetings.
10. **Improved Emergency Department Efficiency:** Developed and presented an impactful program on ED avoidance strategies and conducted significant research leading to actionable recommendations for executive leadership.
11. **Advanced APC Practice:** Spearheaded APC Center of Excellence, APC Leadership Committee, and Career Ladder Projects.
12. **Implemented Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Program:** Led the evaluation, recommendation, and implementation of the POCUS program.

Clinical Practice – South Shore Health

1. Critical Care Physician Associate Per Diem: 2017 – 2022
2. Hospitalist Medicine Physician Associate Per Diem: 2014 – 2018
3. Orthopedic Surgical Physician Associate Per Diem: 2010 – 2012
4. Urgent Care Physician Associate: 2008 – 2020

Hospitalist Physician Associate – New England Sinai Hospital 2007 – 2010

Professional Society Volunteer Experience:

Physician Associate (PA) Foundation Volunteer – IMPACT Grant Reviewer October 2023 – Present

1. Evaluate and determine eligibility of community health project applications.
2. Contribute to the selection of impactful projects, emphasizing critical evaluation and decision-making for community-focused health initiatives led by Physician Assistants.

Director-at-Large – Academy of Doctoral Physician Associates 2023 – Present

1. Foster connections with academic institutions to promote the growth and development of future physician associates.
2. Lead committee efforts to create a medical conference.

Director at Large, Leadership Task Force, Industry Relations Chair – Massachusetts Association of Physician Associates (MAPA) 2023 – Present

1. Dynamic leader with legislative acumen, regulatory expertise, and proactive government advocacy.

2. Collaborative committee member spearheading positive transformations in the PA profession across Massachusetts.
3. Develop and implement strategic initiatives enhancing recognition, scope, advancement, partnerships, leadership roles, and impact of PAs within the Massachusetts healthcare landscape.
4. Contribute to the creation of a medical podcast.
5. Pivotal role in fostering collaboration and partnerships between MAPA and industry stakeholders.

Community Liaison – South Shore Health

November 2023 – Present

1. Contribute to the career and health care system education.
2. Mentoring HS students on career development within the US Healthcare System

Licensure & Certifications:

- Massachusetts PA License Number: AP1636
- ACLS, PALS & ATLS
- Just Culture & High Reliability training (2024)
- FEMA – Emergency Management (2022)
- HI (Institute for Healthcare Improvement) -Safety, Risk Mitigation, and Quality Improvement (2022)
- Distinguished Fellow American Academy of Physician Associates (2021)
- Leadership Training Certificate – Center for Healthcare Leadership and Management (CHLM) (2020)
- NCCPA-CAQ certified as a PA in Emergency Medicine (2015)
- Concussion Management-IMPACT (2010)
- Ambulatory Dermatologic Procedures (2009)

Honors:

- Distinguished Emergency Medicine Preceptor
- Appreciative Patient Award – Charitable Donation South Shore Health

Education:

- Medical Professional Legal Consultant Certification – University of Auburn, AL (2025 – in process)
- Doctorate of Medical Science – University of Lynchburg, Lynchburg, VA, 2022
 - Summa cum laude, 4.0 GPA.
 - Doctorate Thesis and Professional Publication: Acute Epistaxis Management
- Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Boston, MA, 2003
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Pre-Medical – Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA, 2000

Professional Publications:

Stop the Bleed: Acute Epistaxis Management – Lynchburg Journal of Medical Science 2025

Technology Skills:

- EMRs: Epic, Meditech, eMD
- Clinical Key AI
- Microsoft Office Suite: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Teams
- Telehealth Technologies