

Carolina Skin Surgery Center Monthly Newsletter

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What is a Physician Assistant (P.A.)?

By: Lisa Matuga, PA-C

With the growing need for health care professionals, many patients today are treated under the care of a PA or physician assistant. Many patients may have questions about PA's and what exactly their role in medicine is.

Physician assistants are health care professionals licensed, or in the case of those employed by the federal government they are credentialed, to practice medicine with physician supervision. After 4 years of college with an emphasis in the biomedical sciences and 2+ years experience in health care, students apply to PA school which in most cases is 2-3 years. Schooling encompasses further class instruction as well as practical clinical education with patients in both primary care medicine and medical specialties. As part of their comprehensive responsibilities, PAs conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, counsel on preventive health care, assist in surgery, and write prescriptions. Within the physician-PA relationship, physician assistants exercise autonomy in medical decision making and provide a broad range of diagnostic and therapeutic services. A PA's practice may also include education, research, and administrative services.

Lisa Matuga, PA-C is the Physician Assistant at Carolina Skin Surgery Center. She has been a PA for over 6 years and has been providing excellent dermatologic care in the Charlotte area for over three years.

Lisa received her Master of Science in Medicine and graduated from the Physician Assistant Program at Western Michigan University in 2008. She has a passion for helping patients with their dermatological needs and we are very proud to have her as a part of our team.

Lisa is accepting new patients for body checks, spot checks, and cosmetic consultations. Please call the office to schedule an appointment. 704-295-0000.

Announcements for January:

1. January 1st – the office is closed.
2. Happy New Year!!!!



The employee spotlight for the month of January is Chiffon!

Let's get to know Chiffon:

- Favorite color: pink
- Favorite food: cantaloupe
- Hobby: shopping
- When you were little, what did you want to be when you grew up? Pharmacist

Thank you for all of your hard work Chiffon!

Is Carolina Skin Surgery Center in network with your insurance?

It is very important to make sure that we are in network with your health insurance. You may do this 3 different ways:

- Call your insurance company via the number on the back of your card.
- Check the list of insurance plans that we are in network with. Visit our website at carolinaskinsurgery.com.
- Call our office and ask to speak with our Billing Specialist. We will be able to collect your insurance information and can call to verify your benefits. If you are scheduled for surgery, our billing specialist will verify your benefits one week before your appointment. If you will owe anything other than your specialist co-pay (which is listed on your card) then we will call you to discuss.

CAROLINA SKIN SURGERY CENTER

"Specializing in the treatment of skin cancer"

About Dr. Carruth:

Dr. Marc R. Carruth is the Director of Carolina Skin Surgery Center. Dr. Carruth received his M.D. degree from Duke University where he graduated with highest honors in 1993 and was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. He was awarded a Howard Hughes Medical Institute fellowship at the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Carruth completed his internship in Internal Medicine at Harvard, Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts and a Dermatology residency at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia where he was chief resident. Dr. Carruth completed his Mohs Micrographic and Dermatologic Surgery fellowship at Baptist Hospital in Kansas City, MO.

Dr. Carruth is known for his personable bedside manner and has been providing excellent care to patients in the Charlotte region since 1997. He has performed thousands of Mohs micrographic procedures during his tenure.

About Lisa Matuga, PA-C:

Lisa has been a Physician Assistant for over 6 years and has been providing excellent dermatologic care in the Charlotte area for over three years.

Lisa received her Master of Science in Medicine and graduated from the Physician Assistant Program at Western Michigan University in 2008. She has a passion for helping patients with their dermatological needs and we are very excited to have her as a part of our team.

Meet the Staff:

Receptionist: Sandy - She always has a smile on her face and is willing to help with anything. Sandy has been with Dr. Carruth since April of 2010.

Billing: Cathy – Understanding health insurance can be overwhelming, but Cathy is always willing to call and verify benefits and then explain them to you as simply as possible. Cathy has been with Dr. Carruth since December of 2008.

Surgery Coordinator/Medical Assistant: Ashley – She assists Dr. Carruth and Lisa Matuga, PA-C with procedures and also handles the surgery scheduling. If you have had Mohs surgery then you have probably spoken with her! Ashley has been with Dr. Carruth since May of 2011.

Lab Technician / Medical Assistant: Tara – She is the one who processes the tissue for Dr. Carruth to review under the microscope (Mohs surgery). She also assists Dr. Carruth and Lisa with procedures. She has been with Dr. Carruth since September of 2007.

Registered Medical Assistant/Lab Technician: Jackie – She assists Dr. Carruth and Lisa with procedures and also helps process the tissue in the lab. Jackie has been with Dr. Carruth since October of 2008.

Certified Surgical Technician: Cynthia – She assists Dr. Carruth and Lisa with procedures and has been with Dr. Carruth since September of 2009.

Medical Assistant / Surgery Coordinator: Chiffon – our newest member! Chiffon started with us in March of 2014. Chiffon is assisting Lisa Matuga, PA-C with patients and handles surgery scheduling. We are happy to have her on our team.

Office Manager: April has been with Dr. Carruth since August of 2006. Please let her know if you have any suggestions or comments – we encourage feedback and are always willing to learn.

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