



Boston University PA Program Goals Report (Standard A3.14b)

- **Goal 1: Provide the didactic and clinical experiences that cultivate the development of competent entry level PAs.**

Data that demonstrates the program is meeting Goal 1 is from A. Disease and Therapy Course Outcomes, B. PANCE Pass Rate, C. Graduate and Exit Surveys.

A. Disease and Therapy Course Outcomes: The Boston University PA Program’s unique didactic curriculum combines second year MD and didactic phase PA students in the same systems based course for the study of pathology, pathophysiology, pharmacology and microbiology called Disease and Therapy (DRx). This provides a strong foundation of medical knowledge. In general, the mean exam scores for the 30 PA students is usually 1-5 points below the mean exam scores for the 150 MD students with a standard deviation of 5-7 for each group.

B. PANCE Pass Rate: The first time taker pass rate for the PA National Certifying Exam (PANCE) has been 100% since our first class graduated in 2016. The national first time taker pass rate has varied from 93-98%. [PANCE Five Year First Time Taker Summary Report](#)

C. Graduate and Exit Surveys: The Boston University PA Program has recently changed from a graduate survey administered one year after graduation to an exit survey at the end of the program. The classes of 2016 – 2018 received the Graduate Survey and the class of 2019 received an Exit survey. Boston University PA Program uses a 5 point Likert Scale (0= not applicable, 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=neutral, 4=agree, 5= strongly agree)

Classes of 2016 – 2018 Graduate Survey and Class of 2019 Exit Survey	Graduate Survey			Exit Survey*
	Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019
Question/Area Assessed*				
The didactic course content prepared me well for the practice of medicine.	4.60	4.54	4.69	4.32

The training in counseling patients and professionalism prepared me well for the practice of medicine.	4.53	4.46	4.62	4.11
The clinical experiences during the clerkships prepared me well for the practice of medicine.	4.73	4.54	4.85	4.37
The overall quality of teaching you received during the clinical year helped prepare me for clinical practice.	4.67	4.15	4.85	4.37
The training I received in medical practice management and quality improvement prepared me for clinical practice.	3.53	4.15	3.77	4.40
Compared with other new graduates, I believe I am better prepared for clinical practice.	4.40	4.31	4.38	N/A
The diversity of experiences, patients and clinical settings in the PA education at BU made it easy for me to adjust to my life as a clinical PA.	4.53	4.54	4.85	N/A

*questions on the Exit Survey varied slightly from those on the Graduate Survey and have been used if they applied to the same topic.

Exit Survey: Additional statements below were found only in the Exit Survey and each statement was scored using a 5 point Likert Scale (0= not applicable, 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=neutral, 4=agree, 5= strongly agree).

The BU PA Program accomplished its Program Goals of preparing me to:	2019 Mean
Establish a therapeutic rapport with the patient in order to facilitate an accurate patient-centered interview and physical examination.	4.65
Counsel and educate patients in a patient centered manner, using the principles of informed consent and patient autonomy, taking into consideration patient's unique healthcare beliefs	4.55
Order and/or perform appropriate diagnostic studies, procedures, and therapeutic interventions.	4.50
Interpret results of diagnostic studies, formulate a differential diagnosis and develop an appropriate treatment plan.	4.40
Communicate patient information confidentially and effectively in both oral and written form to other health care providers.	4.50

Qualitative Exit Survey Data: In the Exit Survey, 75% of respondents noted the Disease and Therapy curriculum with the medical students as a strength of the program.

- **Goal 2: Support an environment of professionalism within the program and the broader medical community.**

Data that demonstrates the program is meeting Goal 2 includes the A. Student Preparedness for Clinical Education Survey, B. Exit Surveys, C. Preceptor Evaluation of the Student.

A. Student Preparedness for Clinical Education Survey: The survey is administered to clinical preceptors who have a student in the first three months of the clinical phase and started with the class of 2019. Boston University PA Program uses a 5 point Likert Scale (0= not applicable, 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=neutral, 4=agree, 5= strongly agree)

	Class of 2019	Class of 2020
Area Assessed	Mean	Mean
Professionalism	4.65	4.86

B. Exit Survey: Two statements in the Exit Survey that began with the class of 2019, measure professionalism. The statements below were rated using a 5 point Likert Scale (0= not applicable, 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=neutral, 4=agree, 5= strongly agree).

	2019 Mean
The BU PA Program accomplished its Program Goals of preparing me to:	
Develop professional relationships with the supervising physician and other members of the health care team.	4.60
Demonstrate professionalism within the medical community	4.60

- **Goal 3: Prepare students to care for patients from vulnerable and underserved communities.**

Data that demonstrates the program is meeting Goal 3 is from the A. Graduate Survey, B. Exit Survey and C. Student Preparedness for Clinical Education Survey, D. Exit Survey

A. Graduate Survey: Respondents who affirmed they were caring for underserved patients at least 70% of the time.

Class	Caring for underserved patients at least 70% of the time
2016	50%
2017	27%
2018	46%

B. Exit Survey: Respondents who affirmed they planned to care for underserved patient at least 70% of the time.

Class	Plan to care for underserved patients at least 70% of the time.
2019	85%

The Exit Survey statements below were rated using a 5 point Likert Scale (0= not applicable, 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=neutral, 4=agree, 5= strongly agree).

The BU PA Program accomplished its Program Goals of preparing me to:	2019 Mean
Care for patients from vulnerable populations with compassion and respect in all health care settings with consideration for social determinants of health.	4.70

C. Student Preparedness for Clinical Education Survey: The survey is administered to clinical preceptors who have a student in the first three months of the clinical phase and started with the class of 2019.

Area Assessed	Class of 2019	Class of 2020
	Mean	Mean
Relating to Patients	4.65	4.75

- **Goal 4: Prepare students to practice medicine as an ethical member of a patient-centered, inter-disciplinary health care team.**

Data that demonstrates the program is meeting Goal 4 is from the A. Student Preparedness for Clinical Education Survey, B. Exit Survey.

A. Student Preparedness for Clinical Education Survey: The survey is administered to clinical preceptors who have a student in the first three months of the clinical phase and started with the class of 2019. Preceptors are asked to assess students in the areas below which are related to the ability to work on a patient-centered, inter-disciplinary health care team.

Area Assessed	Class of 2019 Mean	Class of 2020 Mean
Relating to Colleagues	4.53	4.74
Relating to Patients	4.65	4.75
Reliability/Dependability	4.65	4.74
Professionalism	4.65	4.86

B. Exit Survey: The statements below were rated using a 5 point Likert Scale (0= not applicable, 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=neutral, 4=agree, 5= strongly agree).

The BU PA Program accomplished its Program Goals of preparing me to:	2019 Mean
Practice medicine as an ethical member of a patient centered inter-disciplinary health care team.	4.55
Develop professional relationships with the supervising physician and other members of the health care team.	4.60
Communicate patient information confidentially and effectively in both oral and written form to other health care providers.	4.50
Advocate for quality patient care, patient safety, and participate in quality improvement projects.	4.40

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