

YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Physician Associate Program



WHITE COAT
CEREMONY
Class of 2027
August 22, 2025

The mission of the Yale School of Medicine
Physician Associate Program is to educate
outstanding clinicians and to foster leaders
who will serve their communities
and advance quality healthcare.

Welcome to the Yale Physician Associate Program's White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony is a celebration and an initiation. Today, senior clinicians welcome the novice physician associate student into clinical medicine. By donning the white coat, the student declares their commitment to learn the skills needed to care for patients with compassion and as part of an interdisciplinary team. The act of robing reminds us that medical skill is not a possession to be owned, but a gift to be passed on to those who follow. The Class of 2027 will also receive their stethoscopes today. Stethoscopes are provided through the generous donations of Yale PA Program alumni.

We thank the Yale Physician Associate Alumni who have graciously donated stethoscopes to the incoming Class of 2027.

James Alsup, PA-C	Vickie Christine Gerdon, PA-C	Benjamin Olmedo, PA-C
Abner J. Arias-Olson, PA-C	Becket Greten-Harrison, PA-C	Maureen Pawlak, PA-C
Dr. J. Mark Blue, PA-C	Evelyn C. Hamann, PA-C	Fay R. Peterson, PA-C
Lynne P. Bolstad, PA-C	Susanne Harris-Flodstrom, PA-C	Jara D. Prather, PA-C
John A. Bond, PA-C	Jacob P. Hauptman, PA-C	Samantha J. Quinn, PA-C
Thomas L. Brookshire, PA-C	Thomas Hopkins, PA-C	Gillian Draper Ralls, PA-C
Deborah K. Cadman, PA-C	Vincenzo P. Julian, PA-C	Elen G. Rubin, PA-C
Hannah M. Carson, PA-C	David Kotler, PA-C	Andrew D. Scala, PA-C
Daniel Cervonka, PA-C, DHSc	David Leake, PA-C	Craig R. Sheerin, PA-C
Richard E. Chen, PA-C	Cynthia B. Lord, PA-C	Cary J. Stratford, PA-C
Jeffrey P. Donnelly, PA-C	Meri E. Mackey, PA-C	Mark A. Volpe, PA-C.
Jennifer R. Fischer, PA-C	David S. Murphy, PA-C	Barbra S. Webster, PA-C
Steven L. Foltz, PA-C	Sondra E. Jasienowski, PA-C	Amber L. Wilder, PA-C
Jacqueline M. Frey, PA-C	Suellen Nelson, PA-C	Co2024-Anonymous Donor
Stephan T. Garrett, PA-C		

Program

WHITE COAT CEREMONY

August 22, 2025

Mary S. Harkness Auditorium

Welcome and Introduction
of the Speaker

David Brissette, MMSc, PA-C
Program Director

Dean's Remarks

Jessica Illuzzi, MD, MS, FCOG
Deputy Dean for Education
Harold W. Jockers Professor of Medical Education
Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences

Keynote Speaker

Kevin O'Hara, MMSc, PA-C
Class of 2008

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF YALE ALUMNI AND STETHOSCOPE DONOR

Presentation of
White Coats

Katie Woodlee, MSPAS, PA-C
Associate Director of Didactic Education

Reading of Oath

Class of 2027
Beth Samels Cuoco, MMSc, PA-C
Associate Director of Clinical Education

Closing Remarks

Alicia Bolden, DMSc, MPH, PA-C
Director of Clinical Education

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Kevin O'Hara, MMSc, PA-C

Kevin is a proud graduate of the Yale Physician Associate Program, Class of 2008. He later served on the program's faculty from 2014 to 2018. Currently, he holds the position of Lead Advanced Practice Provider for Long Island at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and serves as an Associate Clinical Professor in the Physician Assistant Program at the New York Institute of Technology. His clinical expertise lies in the care of patients with hematologic malignancies, with a particular focus on lymphoma and stem cell transplantation. In addition to his clinical work, Kevin remains committed to clinical and public health ethics—a passion he pursued through study at the Columbia Mailman School of Public Health in 2013 and continues to explore through ongoing research and writing.

Yale Physician Associate Students

Class of 2027

Elizabeth Blackburn

Camille Breiholz

Taylor Buchalla

Hayden Choi

Peter Coufos

Dong Dong

Kristina Emodi

Saima Firoj

Julia Giusti-Kizik

Kathrin Huettel

Juliette Janiszewski

Rhea Kalyanpur

Reagan Krohn

Monica Lebaudy

Bonnie Li

Meghan Lindsay

Danielle Maizes

Lauren Maldonado

Milana Marsh

Ruza Masharipova

Madeline Morgan

Regina Najera

Thao-My Nguyen

Pavel Olariu

Ida Pirzadeh

Calla Pritchard

Emily Ritchie

Fabian Robles

Kristen Ruehlin

Keila Saiegh

Martina Steffkova

Amie Su

Jessica Wang

Susan Williamson

Angela Xu

Stephanie Yan

Jacey Yang

Salina Zhang

Manjia Zhao

Yale Physician Associate Program Professional Oath

I pledge to perform the following duties with honesty and dedication:

- I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare and dignity of all human beings.
- I will uphold the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence and justice.
- I will recognize and promote the value of diversity.
- I will treat equally all persons who seek my care.
- I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of practicing medicine.
- I will assess my personal capabilities and limitations, striving always to improve my medical practice.
- I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medicine.
- I will work with other members of the health care team to provide compassionate and effective care of patients.
- I will use my knowledge and experience to contribute to an improved community.
- I will respect my professional relationship with the physician.
- I will share and expand knowledge within the profession.

These duties are pledged with sincerity and upon my honor.

