

What is a physician assistant (PA)?

Physician assistants are nationally certified and state licensed healthcare professionals who practice medicine in partnership with physicians. As an integral part of the health care team, a certified physician assistant (PA-C) can take your medical history, perform physical exams, order and interpret tests, diagnose and treat illnesses, develop treatment plans, counsel on preventative care, assist in surgery and write prescriptions. The physician-PA team is an effective approach to delivering great care because the physician is available to consult with the physician assistant when needed and stays informed about the care you are receiving. Having a physician assistant as a part of your healthcare team can decrease your waiting time, helping ensure you and your family get the quality care you deserve when you need it. *

Our practice is happy to have two certified physician assistants as a part of our team. Both **Angela Oest, MPH, PA-C** and **Kathleen Finneke, PA-C** have been extensively trained by Dr. Sullivan to address your specialty needs in asthma, allergy and immunology. Together they complement our approach to patient-centered care with detailed treatment plans and extensive patient education. Our physician assistants will allot the necessary time to obtain your medical history, perform a physical exam, order and interpret allergy skin testing, order labs and imaging studies, oversee allergy shots and oral challenges, and write prescriptions. They are also willing to assist other providers in an effort to streamline patient flow. Therefore, delays due to late arrivals, complex visits and emergent cases are minimized to keep the office running smoothly and efficiently.

*Adapted from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) and the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA). For more information, please visit the following websites: <http://www.nccpa.net/public> , [https://www.aapa.org/landingquestion.aspx?id=290#How are they certified and licensed?](https://www.aapa.org/landingquestion.aspx?id=290#How%20are%20they%20certified%20and%20licensed?)