



Positions Statements Related to Physician Assistants Issued by the Medical Examining Board

WHAT IS THE LENGTH OF TIME THAT A PHYSICIAN AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IN WISCONSIN MUST RETAIN PATIENT MEDICAL RECORDS?

Chapter [MED 21.03](#) of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, **Minimum Standards for Patient Health Care Records**, requires that a physician or a physician assistant shall maintain patient health care records for a period of not less than five (5) years after the date of the last entry, or for such longer period as may be otherwise required by law. The rule also describes what type of information should be maintained in the patient's records.

DOES WISCONSIN RECOGNIZE ORTHOPEDIC PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (OPA-C)?

Per [Ch. MED 8.04](#), the board shall approve only educational programs accredited and approved by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association, the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, or its successor agency. If an OPA has graduated from one of these programs, they would be eligible to be licensed as a PA in Wisconsin (given completion of all other application requirements as described in [Ch. MED 8.05](#)). Wisconsin does not provide specialty licenses for physician assistants.