**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

 Contact:

 Your Name

 Email

 Phone Number

****LOCAL PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT EARNS CERTIFICATION FROM NATIONAL COMMISSION****

*****Passed Rigorous National Exam*****

**City, ST., Month XX, 2018 —** Full Name**, PA-C, of City**, **has passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) and is now certified by** the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA). All PAs in the U.S. and the District of Columbia must pass the exam as a condition of initial state licensure.

A graduate of PA Program, Last Name now practices medicine (name specialty if applicable) at Facility Name.

PAs, like many physicians, maintain certification throughout their careers by passing a proctored exam every 10 years, and earning 100 CME credits every two years. Certification matters because it shows:

* **Certified PAs are prepared and proven.** A 2016 consumer survey showed that 97% of American patients want the PA treating them tested regularly on general medical knowledge and NCCPA requires this to maintain certification.
* **Certified PAs provide unique value.** While most PAs specialize, they must stay current on broad based general medicine to remain certified. This allows them to evaluate the whole patient which can play an important role in early detection and prevention.

PAs have been certified in the United States for over 40 years. Anyone can check the status of a PA’s certification by entering their name and state on NCCPA’s website: <https://www.nccpa.net/verify-pa>.

**About the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants**

The [National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)](http://www.nccpa.net/) is the only certifying organization for physician assistants (PAs) in the United States. The PA-C credential is awarded by NCCPA to PAs who fulfill certification, certification maintenance and recertification requirements. There are approximately 123,000 Certified PAs in the U.S. today. NCCPA also administers the [Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ)](http://www.nccpa.net/earn-speciality-certificates) program for experienced, Certified PAs practicing in seven specialties. For more information, visit <http://www.nccpa.net/>.

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