

Dr. Jeremy Adler, '19 DMSc, MS, PA-C  
Pacific Pain Medicine Consultants  
Encinitas, California



**DMSc**

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DOCTOR OF  
MEDICAL  
SCIENCE



University of Lynchburg



**“It’s not about just having a ‘Dr.’ in front of your name. It’s all about leveraging the intense amount of work completed during your PA education. Decisions are being made in the boardroom. This program brings PAs to a level of parity with other health care providers and also brings them to the boardroom table.”**

**Dr. Jeremy M. Welsh, DHSc, JD, PA-C, DFAAPA**  
Associate Provost  
Associate VP for Academic Strategy  
Dean, College of Medical Science  
Founder, Doctor of Medical Science

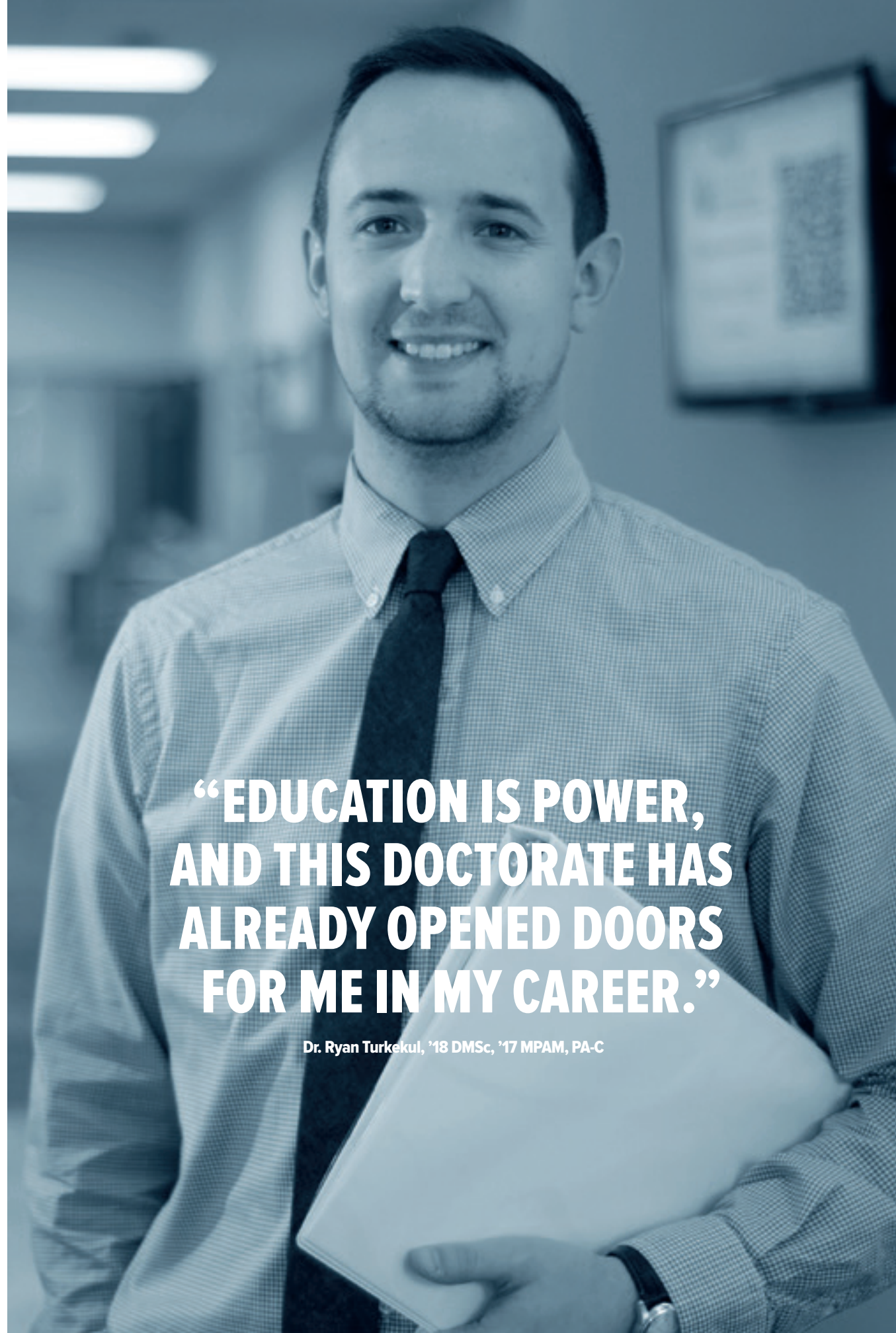
**Developed for PAs and by PAs, the Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc) program at the University of Lynchburg builds on what you’ve already learned, what you’ve already experienced, and what you’re already doing — culminating in a well-deserved doctoral degree.**

Lynchburg’s DMSc was one of the first programs of its kind in the U.S. The flexible, online program is designed for working PAs who are ready to take the next logical step in their field.

PAs are an essential part of health care’s future. The DMSc makes you a better advocate for the PA profession and prepares you for a place at the boardroom table, where you can make decisions that impact your career, your patients, and the future of health care.

**“EDUCATION IS POWER,  
AND THIS DOCTORATE HAS  
ALREADY OPENED DOORS  
FOR ME IN MY CAREER.”**

Dr. Ryan Turkekul, '18 DMSc, '17 MPAM, PA-C



# AS A PA, YOU CAN LEAD OR FOLLOW. CHOOSE LEADERSHIP AND LET THE LYNCHBURG DMSc TAKE YOU THERE.

## As the demand for PAs increases, so should their role in administration and leadership.

Lynchburg's DMSc program equips PAs to innovate, lead, and make decisions that will improve patient care and the way it's delivered. The Lynchburg DMSc offers PAs a relevant, clinical experience in their desired specialty, as well as education in executive leadership, research, health care law, and global health. The program includes a yearlong research project that gives PAs the knowledge, experience, and skills needed to publish in scholarly journals.

The 12-month program can be completed while you work as a PA. It fits into the life you've already created for yourself, regardless of where you are in your career or the world.

The Lynchburg DMSc gives PAs the skills, education, and status they need to:

- Innovate through medical research.
- Build and lead a health care team.
- Take a seat at the boardroom table.

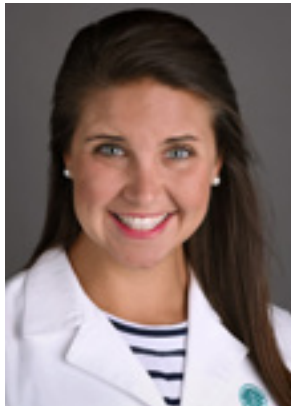
For more information about the Lynchburg DMSc, visit [lynchburg.edu/dmsc](http://lynchburg.edu/dmsc).



“The DMSc has helped me in my career over the past five years as a PA much more than I would have expected. Part of my job entails testifying as an expert witness in civil and criminal hearings related to abuse and neglect of children. Having a doctorate degree has helped in the legal setting. The DMSc coursework also has made me more confident as a lecturer in the community as well as at PA-specific conferences, [and has helped me] feel more comfortable publishing in academic journals and textbooks.”

Dr. Cassie Elverum, '18 DMSc, '17 MPAM, PA-C  
Child Abuse Pediatrics and Urgent Care  
Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters  
Norfolk, Virginia

## Lynchburg's outstanding local and national partners give DMSc students extraordinary access to top-notch health care facilities.



**“For PAs choosing to pursue a clinical fellowship, the University of Lynchburg can offer a pathway through the Doctor of Medical Science that complements the academic preparedness and synergy of professional, research, and leadership opportunities. It is often this engagement that brings the PA increased job satisfaction, enhanced clinical competence, accelerated professional growth, and has redefined PA achievement.”**

**Dr. Melissa Ricker, DMSc, PA-C**  
PA Fellowship Director  
Center for Advanced Practice  
Atrium Health

**AAPA's Degree Pathway Program** This program through AAPA includes modules on leadership and management to prepare students for attaining an advanced degree. The Lynchburg DMSc is the first doctoral degree with this partnership.

**Centra** This regional health care system, serving more than 380,000 people in Virginia, offers Lynchburg DMSc candidates access to four hospitals, a regional cancer center, and a cardiovascular care and surgery center.

**Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton, California** This center is home of the Arrowhead Orthopedic Surgery PA Fellowship Program. PA fellows from Arrowhead are enrolled in the Lynchburg DMSc.

**Atrium Health (formerly Carolinas HealthCare System) in Charlotte, North Carolina** Lynchburg faculty collaborate with Atrium so the Advanced Practice Provider Fellowship and DMSc can be completed simultaneously.

**Medical Science Liaison Society** Opportunities are available for society members pursuing the DMSc as well as DMSc alumni and students who are interested in becoming a Medical Science Liaison.

Dr. Brooke Carcioppolo, '18 DMSc, '17 MPAM, PA-C





“The faculty are demanding but reasonable, responsive, knowledgeable, well-rounded, experienced, proactive, and genuinely concerned with student learning and growth. You are interacting with true leaders of the profession.”

Dr. Toby Cason, '18 DMSc, MPAS, MS, PA-C, CAQ, ATC  
Azalea Orthopedics  
Tyler, Texas

**Our diverse, dedicated, nationally recognized faculty collectively bring hundreds of years of relevant experience in the medical and scientific research fields.**

Our award-winning faculty hail from urban, suburban, and rural settings all over the country. Many are published authors and donate their spare time to overseas medical missions and nonprofit work.

Their ranks include:

- retired military personnel
- a federal investigator
- a lawyer
- a wilderness survival expert
- a medical examiner
- an epidemiologist

They specialize in:

- psychiatry
- dermatology
- emergency medicine
- orthopedic surgery
- neuroscience
- global health
- family medicine

For more information about our outstanding faculty, visit [lynchburg.edu/dmsc-faculty](http://lynchburg.edu/dmsc-faculty).



Jonathan Sobel has years of experience as a leader in the PA community through his work at Northwell Health in New York City, in the Association of PAs in Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, and with the American Academy of PAs. With DMSc in hand, he takes care of the people who take care of the patients.

**“HAVING A DOCTORATE RAISES THE BAR ON ONE’S CREDIBILITY. IN MY ROLE, IT’S VITAL THAT I’M VIEWED AS A TRUSTED ADVISOR TO THE BUSINESS.”**

Dr. Jonathan Sobel, '18 DMSc, MBA, PA-C, DFAAPA  
Vice President for Strategic Workforce Planning, Northwell Health  
Rockville Centre, New York



**Lynchburg DMSc alumni have gone on to serve in leadership roles across the PA field, in legal advocacy, and on health care teams. Hundreds of PAs graduate from the Lynchburg DMSc program each year, building a community that opens doors through networking and leads the conversation around patient care.**



**“As PAs we must embrace leadership opportunities at all levels. The DMSc gives us the tools and opens doors for leadership opportunities that will define the future success of our profession.”**

**Dr. Bobby L. Cockram Jr., '20 DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA**  
System APP Director, Inova Health System

Our graduates:

- own their own practices.
- publish peer-reviewed research.
- serve as program directors at medical schools.
- are appointed to executive boards.
- change state regulations related to PA practice.
- are elected to positions in state and national PA leadership.



**“It’s the next logical step. We’re supposed to be lifelong learners and always improve on our practice, and broaden horizons. I use certain things that I learned in the DMSc program in teaching my colleagues.”**

**Dr. Kyle Vivo, '19 DMSc, MBV, MPAS, PA-C**  
PA in Los Angeles County Jail Urgent Care  
Featured in the Emmy Award-winning documentary film,  
“Mission Possible: Social Justice Medicine Inside the LA County Jail.”  
Los Angeles, California

**THE LYNCHBURG DMSC  
IS 100% ONLINE AND THE  
CURRICULUM IS FLEXIBLE  
FOR WORKING PAs. CHOOSE  
THE PATH THAT'S RIGHT  
FOR YOU.**

## **DMSC TRACKS**

### **DMSc Advanced Professional Practice Concentration**

This DMSc program can be completed simultaneously while you work as a PA at your current place of employment or with one of Lynchburg's partners.

### **DMSc Medical Education Concentration**

This is the first accredited doctoral program offering a curriculum tailored to the unique challenges of PA educators. It can be completed by those working full time in PA education or by clinicians aspiring to become future educators.

### **DMSc Emergency Management and Global Health Concentration**

This program prepares frontline providers for emergencies and global-scale crises. Its final component is a 7-10 day intensive, held in person near Lynchburg's campus to apply learned skills to a real-life situation.

### **DMSc Administrative Medicine Concentration**

Coursework for this program synthesizes leadership and business skills with other areas of administrative expertise, rounding out qualifications for those seeking to fill a dual role as a clinician and administrator.

Each concentration can be completed in as little as 12 months. For more information and concentration curriculums, visit [lynchburg.edu/PAEC](https://lynchburg.edu/PAEC).

## **DMSc CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

**Our certificate programs give PAs opportunities to further their education and hone their leadership skills.**

Upon successful completion of a certificate program, students may apply for admission to the DMSc. These online, nine-credit-hour certificate programs include:

- **Medical Education**
- **Health Care Administration and Management**
- **Executive Leadership**
- **Global Health**
- **Public Health**
- **Emergency and Disaster Management**
- **Telehealth**
- **Epidemiology**

For more information on the certificates, visit [lynchburg.edu/dmsc-certificates](https://lynchburg.edu/dmsc-certificates).



**“The faculty is very adaptable to students’ various schedules and ensures that students have the resources they need to master the curriculum.”**

Dr. Missy Nemeč, '18 DMSc,  
'17 MPAM, PA-C

**What are the criteria for admission?**

- Master’s or doctoral degree from a regionally accredited institution.
- Minimum overall graduate cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Active licensure and/or certification as a PA professional.
- Letter of recommendation.

Apply online at [admissions.lynchburg.edu/apply](https://admissions.lynchburg.edu/apply).

**What is the cost of the program?**

Lynchburg’s DMSc program is an affordable option for PAs who want to advance their careers and be leaders in the health care field.

For current tuition and fees, visit [lynchburg.edu/dmsc-cost](https://lynchburg.edu/dmsc-cost).

**Are scholarships and/or financial aid available?**

Financial aid is available. To determine eligibility, a student should fill out the FAFSA. (Lynchburg code: 003720)

For more information, visit [lynchburg.edu/grad-fin-aid](https://lynchburg.edu/grad-fin-aid).

**Will students be required to travel to Lynchburg?**

No. Course content is completed online. Fellowships and scholarly projects are completed offline at your place of employment. Students are encouraged to travel to campus to attend graduation in May. The Emergency Management and Global Health concentration concludes with a 7-10 day intensive, held in person near Lynchburg.

**What is the interface for online course delivery? What type of technology resources will I need?**

Lynchburg uses Moodle for online teaching. Students will need access to a reliable computer and high-speed internet.

Details on technology specifications can be found at [lynchburg.edu/itr-recommendations](https://lynchburg.edu/itr-recommendations).

**How does a student know which courses to take for their program of study?**

The DMSc program is a cohort-based program. A program advisor will enroll students in the appropriate program of study.

**What about CME?**

Earn up to 120 AAPA Category 1 CME credits for completing courses in the core degree curriculum! By completing normal coursework and a post-activity evaluation for select learning modules in the relevant DMSc courses, students earn both their doctorate and up to two years’ worth of continuing education. More details on our website (URL below).

For more information, deadlines, and application requirements, visit [lynchburg.edu/dmsc-faqs](https://lynchburg.edu/dmsc-faqs).

Apply now at [admissions.lynchburg.edu/apply](https://admissions.lynchburg.edu/apply)

University of Lynchburg is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral degrees. Questions about the accreditation of University of Lynchburg should be directed to the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, 404.679.4500, or by going to [www.sacscoc.org](http://www.sacscoc.org). All other inquiries about the University should be directed to University of Lynchburg, 1501 Lakeside Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia 24501-3133 or 434.544.8100, not the Commission.

University of Lynchburg does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy (including childbirth or related medical conditions including lactation), marital status, disability, age (40 and over), sexual orientation, sexual identity, or religion in its programs and activities, including admission to and employment at University of Lynchburg.

An annual University of Lynchburg security report, available upon request from the Office of Enrollment Services, describes campus safety practices; crime statistics, reporting, and prevention education; and policies and education programs on alcohol, illegal drugs, and sexual assault.



**“I WANT TO CHANGE THE  
WORLD, ONE PATIENT AT  
A TIME, AND THE DMSc  
PROGRAM OFFERS MORE  
IN-DEPTH LEARNING TO HELP  
ME ACHIEVE THAT GOAL.”**

**Dr. Jaclyn Beck, '19 DMSc, PA-C**  
General and Vascular Surgical Associates of New Jersey  
West Milford, New Jersey

