

Benjamin K. Kocher, DSc, PA-C

Major, U.S. Army

bkkocher@gmail.com

Leadership Positions (Previous)

2014-2016 Clinical Coordinator, Interservice Physician Assistant Program

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center

Fort Hood, TX

- Responsible for the direct supervision of 17 officers/students in an accredited Masters Level Physician Assistant Program.
- Plans, coordinates, and supervises the facilitation of over 19,500 hours of clinical experience, coordination of over 200 hours of graduate level didactic education, and faculty development throughout the year.
- Adjunct Faculty to the Army Medical Department Center and School and University of North Texas Health Science Center.

2014-2016 Chief, Cast Clinic

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center

Fort Hood, TX

- Directly supervises 8 orthopaedic technicians and responsible for the management of a cast clinic supporting an Orthopaedic Surgery Service.
- Staff Physician Assistant working at a Level III Trauma Center responsible for providing subspecialty care for emergent, acute and chronic orthopaedic conditions including inpatient management and first assist responsibilities.

2012-2014 Orthopaedic PA Resident, Orthopaedic Surgery Service

San Antonio Military Medical Center

Fort Sam Houston, TX

- Physician Assistant resident working at a Level I Trauma Center responsible for providing subspecialty care for emergent, acute and chronic orthopaedic conditions including inpatient management.
- Designed and implemented a 2 week introductory training course for incoming residents in a doctoral program.
- Associate Investigator in multiple research protocols.

2011-2012 Executive Fellow, Army Medical Specialist Corps

Army Medical Specialist Corps

Joint Base San Antonio, TX

- Executive Fellow to the Chief, Army Medical Specialist Corps and the organizational membership.
- Assisted senior and executive leadership with strategic planning and implementation of related initiatives and activities for over 2700 members worldwide.
- Directly responsible for organizational junior officer mentorship, recognition and recruiting initiatives.
- Course Director for Iron Major's Course, Mary Lipscomb Hamrick Research Course and Annual Educator's Tour.
- Secretary for the Education and Research Committee.

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Leadership Positions (Previous)

- 2001-2003 **Health Service Support Officer**
710th Main Support Battalion, 10th Mountain Division Fort Drum, NY
- Senior medical planner responsible for planning and synchronizing of combat health support and training for 10th Mountain's Division Support units in excess of 6,000 service members.
 - Assistant Support Operations Officer and Tasking Officer for external support.
 - Officer in Charge, Outload Support Battalion.
 - Officer in Charge, Battalion Military Honor Team
- 2000-2001 **Medical Platoon Leader**
1st / 32nd Infantry Battalion, 10th Mountain Division Fort Drum, NY
- Senior medical planner responsible for planning and synchronizing of combat health support and training for a light infantry battalion with 500 service members.
 - Managed 38 army medics.
 - Manages \$550,000 in equipment and \$40,000 medical supply account.

Education

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|-------------|---|------------|
| 2012 – 2013 | Baylor University
Doctor of Science, Physician Assistant Studies | Waco, TX |
| 2006 – 2008 | University of Nebraska Medical Center
Masters of Science, Physician Assistant Studies
Bachelors of Science, Physician Assistant Studies | Omaha, NE |
| 1996 – 1999 | University of Delaware
Bachelors of Science, Athletic Training | Newark, DE |

Certifications and Affiliations

National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (Certification# 1082451)
Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery (PAOS), Chairman, CME
American Academy of Physician Assistants, Member
Society of US Army Flight Surgeons, Lifetime Member
Wine & Spirit Education Trust (WSET), Level II Certification (Wine)

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Military Education

2016	Orthopaedic Extremity Trauma Course	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2016	Principles of Military Preventive Medicine	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2016	Advanced Cardiac Life Support	Fort Hood, TX
2015	Defense Strategy Course	Distance Learning, AWC
2015	Brigade Health Care Provider Course	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2014	Med Management of Chem and Biological Casualties Course	APG, MD
2014	Command and General Staff Officer's Course	Fort Lee, VA
2012	Physician Assistant Research Course	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2012	Mary Lipscomb Hamrick Research Course	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2011	Lean Six Sigma – Green Belt	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2011	Management of Burn and Trauma Course	San Antonio, TX
2011	Advanced Burn Life Support	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2010	AMEDD Officer Advanced Course	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2010	Advanced Trauma Life Support	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2009	Flight Surgeons Course	Fort Rucker, AL
2008	Tactical Combat Medical Course	Fort Sam Houston, TX
2004	Joint Medical Planner Course	Bethesda, MD
1999	AMEDD Officer Basic Course	Fort Sam Houston, TX
1997	Airborne Course	Fort Benning, GA

Publications

Complete:

Kocher, B. K., Chalupa, R. L., Lopez, D. M., & Kirk, K. L. (2016). Comparative Study of Assisted Ambulation and Perceived Exertion With the Wheeled Knee Walker and Axillary Crutches in Healthy Subjects. *Foot & Ankle International*, 1071100716659748. {PMID: 27521354}

In Progress:

Tennent D.J., Hylden C.M., **Kocher, B.K.**, Aden, J.K., Johnson A.E. (2017). A Randomized Controlled Trial Evaluating Methylsulfonylmethane versus Placebo to Prevent Knee Pain in Military Initial Entry Trainees. *The United States Army Medical Department Journal*. **Accepted for publication.**

Miles, J.M., **Kocher, B.K.** (2017). Nail-Patella Syndrome: Pathogenesis, Clinical Features, and Management. *JBJS Journal of Orthopaedics for Physician Assistants*. **In Press.**

Kocher, B.K., Hermick, S.M., Duran-Stanton, A.M., Detro, J.F. (2017). The Army Orthopaedic Physician Assistant Chapter. Borden Institute PA Handbook. **Editor review in progress.**

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Presentations

Kocher B.K. (2016) Orthopaedic Emergencies. Lecture. Emergency Medicine Basic Skills Course, March 2016. Fort Hood, TX.

Kocher B.K. (2015) Orthopaedic Emergencies. Lecture. Emergency Medicine Basic Skills Course, March 2015. Fort Hood, TX.

Kocher B.K. and Rivera K.P. (2015). Casting and Splinting. Workshop Presentation at Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery Conference, August 2015. Chicago, IL.

Kocher B.K., Lopez, D.M., Kirk K.L. (2014) Comparative Study of Assisted Ambulation and Perceived Exertion in the Wheeled Knee Walker and Axillary Crutch in Healthy Subjects. Podium Presentation. Society of Military Orthopaedic Surgeons Conference, December 2014. Scottsdale, AZ.

Kocher B.K., Lopez, D.M., Kirk K.L. (2014) Comparative Study of Assisted Ambulation and Perceived Exertion in the Wheeled Knee Walker and Axillary Crutch in Healthy Subjects. Podium Presentation. Eastern Orthopaedic Association Conference, October 2014. Amelia Island, FL.

Kocher B.K. and Rivera K.P. (2014). Casting and Splinting. Workshop Presentation at Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery Conference, September 2014. Orlando, FL.

Kocher B.K. (2014). Examination of the Spine in Urgent Care. Essential Skills Lecture Presentation at Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery Conference, September 2014. Orlando, FL.

Kocher B.K., Lopez, D.M., Kirk K.L. (2014) Comparative Study of Assisted Ambulation and Perceived Exertion in the Wheeled Knee Walker and Axillary Crutch in Healthy Subjects. Podium Presentation. Ledford Award Ceremony, August 2014. San Antonio, TX.

Kocher B.K., Lopez, D.M., Kirk K.L. (2013) Comparative Study of Assisted Ambulation and Perceived Exertion in the Wheeled Knee Walker and Axillary Crutch in Healthy Subjects. Baylor University podium presentation for doctorate of science degree requirement.

Kocher B.K. and Rivera K.P. (2013). Examination of the Hip and Knee. Essential Skills Lecture Presentation at Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery Conference, September 2013. San Antonio, TX.

Kocher B.K. and Rivera K.P. (2013). Casting and Splinting. Workshop Presentation at Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery Conference, September 2013. San Antonio, TX.

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Awards and Recognitions

Iron Major's Award Recipient (2016)

Awarded by the U.S. Army Medical Department to recognize the top officers in the grade of Major

General Ledford Award Recipient (2014)

Awarded by the U.S. Army Medical Specialist Corps to recognize the top Doctoral Student for each class

Meritorious Service Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Army Commendation Medal

Joint Service Achievement Medal

Army Service Achievement Medal

National Defense Service Medal

Iraqi Campaign Medal

Global War On Terrorism Service Ribbon

Army Service Ribbon

Overseas Service Ribbon

Expert Field Medical Badge

Flight Surgeon Badge (M3 Additional Skill Identifier designation)

Parachute Badge (5P Additional Skill Identifier designation)

Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Graduate (M1 Additional Skill Identifier designation)

Strategic Studies Graduate (6Z Additional Skill Identifier designation)

German Troop Proficiency Badge – Gold

Eagle Scout Badge

Special Skills and Interests

Orthopaedic Physician Assistant; Aeromedical Physician Assistant; Graduate Education; Clinical Research; Strategic Communication; Medical Operational Planning; Project Management.



BENJAMIN K. KOCHER, D.Sc., PA-C
Major, U.S. Army
Director, U.S. Army / Baylor Clinical Orthopaedics
Doctoral Program and PA Residency