

news THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS

southwestern medical school ■ graduate school of biomedical sciences ■ school of allied health sciences

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******Physicians' Assistants
score in upper fifth.*

DALLAS--The second class of physicians' assistants graduated by The University of Texas School of Allied Health Sciences here has placed in the upper 20 percent of similar programs throughout the United States, Allied Health Dean John Schermerhorn has announced.

"We had 13 candidates from the 1975 class who took the certifying examination of the National Commission on the Certification of Physicians' Assistants and they scored tenth out of 52 programs participating," he added.

The Dallas program is one major attempt to extend the capabilities of physicians by providing them well-trained assistants who can perform some of the more routine but nevertheless important tasks in health care delivery.

Dr. Schermerhorn said he was quite pleased with the performance of the class and said it was "a good indication that the program is doing what we hoped it would do. This is the second year we have had graduates, compared with some programs which have been going on for six or eight years.

The top scorer of the Dallas students also scored very near the top of all 1,400 students who took the tests. She is Mrs. Deborah Lawrason, whose husband is a medical student at UT Southwestern Medical School and who now is an assistant instructor of the allied health school.

Dr. Schermerhorn cited Program Director John C. Delehunt, as well as Dr. Paul North and Dr. William Neal, medical director and associate medical director respectively, for contributions to the quality of the Dallas program.

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