

Professor Emeritus Ruth Ballweg

Professor Emeritus Ruth Ballweg is a U.S. Physician Assistant and leader for the international development of the Physician Associate career worldwide. The retired Director of the historic MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant Program at the University of Washington in Seattle from 1985-2016, her clinical practice has been in family medicine, public health, and urgent care. She is an expert on primary care, the health workforce, women's roles in health care, health care in rural and remote areas, global PA development and the regulation of PAs.

She has served as a consultant to the Queensland Ministry of Health and the New Zealand Ministry of Health on the development of their pilot projects for Physician Assistants. In these consultancies she visited rural communities and hospitals throughout Australia and New Zealand to review the potential for "grow your own" Physician Associates from small communities. Currently she is serving as Advisor to the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland in Dublin. Ruth is the author of ten books on PAs, primary care and her most recent book on air ambulances in rural Oregon.