

Dear New Patient,

Welcome to Boswell Dermatology! I am honored that you will be entrusting me and my team to your medical care – know that we are committed to treat you and your skin with compassion and expertise! Because I know it can be unnerving to go to a new doctor's office, let me explain a bit about our practice.

What makes our dermatology practice different?

We are the only dermatology practice in the Central Valley with 3 board-certified dermatologists. This means that Dr. Jared Lund, Dr. Kent Saunders and I have each completed a 3-year dermatology residency after medical school and passed a national board exam in dermatology (see American Board of Dermatology, www.abderm.org). In addition, Dr. Lund is a fellowship-trained Mohs skin cancer surgeon who is specially trained and additionally board-certified through the ABD to perform Mohs surgery on your skin. These board-certifications are very important and demonstrate that our physicians have the highest level of training, with both medical and surgical experts under one roof. This separates us from other practices in the area.

Why am I seeing a nurse practitioner? What is a DCNP?

The Central Valley is *one of the most underserved areas in the country for dermatology*, so we also have talented nurse practitioners at our office *who have been practicing dermatology for years*. Often, I am asked, "Why am I scheduled with a nurse practitioner?" I'd like to explain the model at our practice, including how it benefits you:

- As mentioned above, our nurse practitioners have been at our practice for years, and respectfully, have far more expertise and training in skin disease and management than your primary care physician or an urgent care. To work at our practice, nurse practitioners are required to go through a 2-year rigorous training program with me personally, obtain over 3,000 hours of experience in dermatology, then pass a rigorous national exam to obtain board-certification in dermatology through the Dermatology Nurse Practitioner Certification Board (www.dnpcb.org). In doing so, they have earned the designation "DCNP" (Dermatology Certified Nurse Practitioner). I am unaware of any other dermatology practice in the Central Valley that requires dermatology board-certification of all their physicians and nurse practitioners – we are the only ones, because I require it for the benefit of our patients.
- Because we live in an underserved area for dermatology, patients can potentially have unacceptably long wait times to see me or one of the other dermatologists at our practice – which is very concerning to me. I am a dermatologist because I want to help you immediately with that urgent rash or that possible skin cancer you just noticed! Therefore, I recently changed my personal model of how I see patients, including how I can extend myself to see you with your urgent need. With some exceptions, I or one of the other dermatologists may see you in conjunction with a nurse practitioner. Please remember this means we can get you in sooner to be seen by an expert for your dermatologic need!

We look forward to welcoming you to our practice and thank you again for entrusting your health to our care and expertise!



J. Scott Boswell, MD, FAAD

