

CORPORATE HEALTH SERVICES

SHARON REGIONAL  HEALTH SYSTEM

November 17, 2005

Charles Hummer, MD
Chairman State Board of Medicine
Bureau of Occupational Professional
2601 North Third Street
Harrisburg, Pa 17110

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Dr. Hummer:

This is a letter in support of the proposed changes to Pennsylvania Code Title 49, Chapter 18, related to physician assistants.

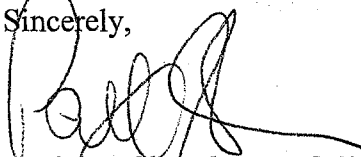
I have been involved in supervision of several physician assistants over the last fifteen years. I would support the changes that would change the requirement for counter signature to ten days after visit, and support the change allowing PAs to prescribe schedule II drugs with approval within 24 hours. I believe this will help with patient flow and will be safe for both patients and practitioners.

I would also support the proposal to require a physician visit every third time. I think adequate supervision can be performed in most settings without this requirement, I would support moving the barrier to physician assistant prescription of sympathomimetic drugs. It is unclear to me why this restriction was there in the first place.

The above mentioned changes will certainly help with patient access and efficient provision of health care services, and in my opinion, will be safe for the residents of Pennsylvania.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly for any further comments.

Sincerely,



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