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University of Pennsylvania Health System

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**CHOP Newborn Care at
Pennsylvania Hospital**

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Section Chief

March 9, 2009

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- Allene Pulsifer, PNP
- Michelle Rendon, CRNP
- Jennifer Reuter, PA

Joseph C. Gallagher, Jr., D.O.
Chairman, Osteopathic Board of Medicine
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Dr. Gallagher,

I am writing today in support of the proposed regulation for delegation of prescriptive authority for physician assistants (PA) working under the supervision of osteopathic physicians (D.O.). This privilege is imperative for all medical practices in the State of Pennsylvania. Without it, medical care to both inpatients and outpatients is potentially compromised.

Physician assistants have long had the ability to prescribe under the authority of allopathic physicians, and history shows that this privilege has not been given in error or abused. On the contrary, it leads to more seamless care of the patients that we see. When a physician assistant is unable to prescribe and must leave this to their supervising D.O., work is essentially duplicated, and focus is potentially shifted from the critical issues the D.O. may be facing to assisting their PA in caring for his or her patients.

This legislation must be passed to keep both the PA and DO professions growing and keep improving patient care!

Sincerely,

Karyn Ann Caravoulis, PA-C

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