



**FUGE
FAMILY PRACTICE**

WEST PENN ALLEGHENY HEALTH SYSTEM

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March 4, 2009

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

Dear Dr. Gallagher,

I understand that regulations have been proposed to allow delegated prescriptive authority for physician assistants working with osteopathic physicians. If the regulations are passed, it will be wonderful news for our busy practice and patients.

I am an allopathic family physician in partnership with an osteopath. In December 2008, we hired a physician assistant to improve patient access to quality medical care. The fact that my partner needs to prescribe medications for patients our PA sees when she works with him significantly decreases the efficiencies we sought to bring to the practice.

I urge you to support the proposed regulations which, if approved, will improve patient access to high quality primary and specialty care.

Sincerely,

LaDonna H. Fuge, M.D.

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