

2644

Bernadette E. Van Hulle, PA-C
157 High Street
Felton, PA 17322
October 26, 2007

RECEIVED

2007 NOV 14 PM 1:31

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dr. Charles P. Fosano, DO
Chairman, Osteopathic Board of Medicine
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Dr. Fosano,

I am writing in regards to the proposed prescriptive privileges for physician assistants under the supervision of an osteopathic physician. I am an emergency medicine physician assistant at Memorial Hospital in York, Pennsylvania. I have been a PA in Baltimore, Maryland working for allopathic physicians for the last three years and have safely written prescriptions for my patients under their supervision. Physician assistants, especially those working in an emergency department, work closely with the supervising physicians in the sense that the physician often is aware of every patient evaluated by the PA at the time of their visit and often sees every patient. In the emergency department I work in, the attending physician sees every patient and treatment plans are discussed in detail prior to the patient's discharge. Each written agreement specifies the schedule of drugs designated for the PA to prescribe under the direction of the allopathic physician and this would also be specified between the osteopathic physician and the physician assistant. If there were any questions about medications or anything concerning patient care, supervising physicians have to have a means of contact for the physician assistant to consult with them.

All physician assistants have the same education by the NCCPA guidelines whether an allopathic or osteopathic physician supervises them. Granting physician assistants who are supervised by osteopathic physicians prescriptive authority will help the emergency department or any practice function more effectively and better serve the patient, the goal

of every practice. The passage of the prescriptive proposal will also allow osteopathic physicians to consider hiring PAs for their practice thus decreasing the wait time for the patient to be evaluated by a practitioner. Please take these views into consideration when making a decision on this proposal. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Bernadette E. Van Hulle, PA-C

Bernadette E. Van Hulle, PA-C