

2644

792 Gallitzin Road
Cresson, PA 16630
(814) 886-8161



MainlineMedical

A S S O C I A T E S

Charles P. Fasano, D.O.
Chairman, Osteopathic Board of Medicine
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

October 30, 2007

I'm writing this letter on behalf of the eleven physicians and four physician assistants employed by our group. Of our physicians five have been educated in allopathic medical schools and six in osteopathic schools. In a practice which consists of nearly an equal number of DO's and MD's we are truly puzzled as to why it has taken so long to get this proposed legislation to this point. In our experience there are no discernable differences in our skills or knowledge base that would preclude our osteopathic trained physicians from delegating prescriptive authority to a physician assistant. Therefore, we wish to express our support for the proposed osteopathic prescribing regulations for physician assistants.

We wish to share an additional recommendation with you in regards to the regulations. The regulations should strive to simplify matters. So we would suggest making the regulations for osteopaths identical to those of allopaths. In our experience there have been no problems with physician assistants prescribing under the authority of our allopathic physicians and we would expect no difference with osteopathic supervision.

In our estimation the health care system will realize several benefits if these proposed regulations are passed. Access to healthcare will be enhanced by the ability of DO physicians to hire physician assistants to assist them in caring for patients. This in turn will improve the job market for physician assistants in the commonwealth by expanding the number of their potential employers. As stated earlier, this change has the potential to affect some simplification in our health system.

All of the providers in this medical practice endorse these proposed regulations without reservation. These changes are long overdue and simply make sense. If there is anything our group can further do to demonstrate our support please let me know. I may be contacted at (814) 941-8811.

Sincerely,



Mitchell W. Joseph, D.O.

CC: Governor Edward G. Rendell, Basil L. Merenda

1400 9th Ave.
Altoona, PA 16602
(814) 941-8811

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
BOARD COMMISSION
OCTOBER 14 AM 9:11
RECEIVED