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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

*Gary Pasqualicchio, DO
Carrie Knipe, PA-C*

October 31, 2007

Charles P. Fasano, DO
Chairman, Osteopathic Board of Medicine
PO Box 2659
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Dr. Fasano:

I am writing this letter in support of Physician Assistant's having full prescribing authority under Osteopathic Physicians. Physician Assistants undergo the same amount of training whether they are supervised by a DO or MD. Physician Assistants have been safely practicing prescriptive privileges under allopathic physicians for years, as always under the supervision of a physician to ensure patient safety.

I encourage the Board to allow Osteopathic physicians the same ability to delegate prescriptive authority to their PAs as our MD colleagues. I believe the regulations should be worded exactly the same as the allopathic regulations to avoid any confusion in clinical practice. It should be up the supervision DO to decide whether his/her PA will prescribe (or not) and also what drugs the PA will be permitted to prescribe.

By allowing this to pass we will be making our PA's more valuable to us, this will improve access to care, allowing physician time to focus on more complicated cases. PA's who are supervised by DO's will be able to practice to the full extent of their training.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary Pasqualicchio, DO
Gary Pasqualicchio, DO

Cc: Basil L. Merenda
Governor Edward G. Rendell

be you. be healthy.