

Main Line HealthCare

Main Line Cardiothoracic Surgeons

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October 31, 2007

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100 Lancaster Avenue
Wynnewood, PA 19096
610-896-9255
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Charles Fasano, DO
Chairman, Osteopathic Board of Medicine
PO Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Dr. Fasano:

I am a Cardiothoracic Surgeon at the Lankenau Hospital in suburban Philadelphia, and I am writing to you to support the development of osteopathic regulations that would allow the Physician Assistant that I supervise to write prescriptions. We have a large group of Physicians and Physician Assistants that work together as a team. The other PA's who have allopathic supervising physicians, and have been able to write prescriptions for a number of years.

My PA is unable to do so, and it can be a burden on our surgical team at times and interferes with patient satisfaction. It also creates confusion when my PA cannot write prescriptions, but the others can, even though they all have the same training. I feel strongly that the regulations for the PA's under the Osteopathic Board of Medicine should be the same as the ones for the allopathic supervised PA's.

As a successful osteopathic physician, I would like to see other osteopathic physicians obtain the tools necessary to properly compete in the medical marketplace. I believe that the lack of Osteopathic regulations that allow our PA's to write prescriptions is a tremendous disadvantage. I also believe that these new regulations will allow my PA and me to take better care of our patients in a more efficient manner.

I strongly endorse these new prescriptive practice regulations. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to lend support.

Sincerely,



Francis P. Sutter, DO, FACS, FACOS
Clinical Professor of Surgery
Chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Lankenau Hospital

FPS/ma

CC: Basil Merenda, BPOA
Gov. Edward Rendell