

2644

9 Idlewood Drive
Dallas, PA 18612

November 2, 2007

RECEIVED
2007 NOV 14 AM 9:16
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

Dear Dr. Fasano:

I am writing to the Board in support of the proposed osteopathic prescribing regulations for physician assistants.

This proposal would tremendously impact the patient care I currently give within my physician-physician assistant (PA) team. For the past ten years, I have been utilized as a PA both in a physiatry practice and a rural health center to the fullest extent of my training, which included the delegation of writing prescriptions. My M.D. supervising physician at each office made this decision along with what medications I would be permitted to prescribe and made sure they were prescribed safely. I was able to respond immediately to a patient's need during a post-operative or post-CVA period on my physician's physiatry service. When at a rural family practice site, I was able to treat multiple sick children, adults, and elders, while my supervising physician was able to see more complex cases that necessitated his time. During times when my physician was off-site, I was able to keep the office open for sick and chronic care visits. Often, our indigent population relied on my prescriptive delegation to obtain their medication through patient assistant programs.

I am now newly hired at a rural family practice health center under D.O. supervision, and I have discovered that to be without prescription delegation is truly like being handed a disability. There are interruptions in office flow due to consulting for a prescription and increased patient wait time. I am severely limited when she is off-site. Access to care and patient satisfaction have been compromised in this delivery of care. Instead of facilitating care in my usual role, I feel I am now less effective, handicapping the team.

I strongly urge the Board to use the same language in keeping with the allopathic regulations so there will be no difference in the way any physician-PA team can practice in their clinical setting.

Thank you for taking steps to universally provide for the most effective physician-PA teams that will deliver the quality health care that we all desire.

Respectfully,



Colleen Reynolds, PA-C

Cc: Governor Edward G. Rendell
Basil L. Merenda, Commissioner