

2644

RECEIVED

November 6, 2007

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

2007 NOV 16 PM 3:05

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Dr. Fasano,

Hello, my name is Mallory Duffy and I am a senior student attending Gannon University in Erie, PA and would like to write in support of the movement toward physician assistants prescribing meds under a DO. There are many reasons why I feel implementing this privilege would be beneficial not only for myself as a future PA, but for all practicing PAs in our state.

Physician Assistants are very well trained, well organized individuals who deserve to have the opportunity to prescribe to any patients under their care. All PAs receive the same training and whether they are supervised by a DO or and MD should not effect their ability to prescribe meds. Further, for many years PAs have been safely and effectively prescribing under the supervision of allopathic physicians (MDs). Osteopathic physicians should have the same ability to delegate prescriptive authority to their PAs as their MD colleagues. Another perk of these new regulations would be that access to care will be improved because DOS supervising PAs will be able to allow the PA to practice with all of their knowledge and capabilities. Moreover, more practices will be able to hire PAs thus improving access to care by increasing available appointments, reducing waiting times, and allowing the physician to focus on more in depth cases. In addition, PAs with prescriptive authority would allow DOS to be more valuable to patients, hospitals and practices. As one can easily see, allowing practicing PAs to prescribe under a DO would have many great advantages for the health care community.

Another benefit to altering the future regulations would be that many,more PAs trained in the state would be likely to stay and practice here. This would also help regulate the number of well-educated graduates leaving the state to find better opportunities. (To avoid any confusion, the future regulations should be worded identically to the allopathic regulations.)

In conclusion, changing the future regulations of PAs prescribing opportunities will greatly benefit everyone in the healthcare field. New PAs will be more willing to stay in the state and better care will be available to all people. This change should be made now, before more excellently trained PAs leave the state and leave more people waiting for proper care.

Sincerely,

Mallory L. Duffy, PAS

Mallory L. Duffy, student PA

CC: Basil L. Merenda
Commissioner , Bureau of Professional & Occupational Affairs
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Governor Edward G.Rendell
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120