Edward Tomkin, D.O. • Andrew Pestcoe, D.O. Edward Minger, PA-C • Barbara Matheson, MA CCC-A



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2644

November 7, 2007

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

Dear Dr. Fasano,

I have employed Physician Assistants in my practice for more than 6 years and have found that they have allowed me to safely and effectively increase the amount of patients I have been able to provide quality care to.

I am aware that Physician Assistants have been safely prescribing with the supervision of Allopathic Physician for years and as always they have been under the supervision of physicians and this has ensured safe patient care. As an Osteopathic Physician I feel I should have the same ability to delegate prescriptive authority to my Physician Assistants as my MD colleagues.

I have learned of the current proposed change in regulations relative to physician assistant prescriptive authority. I feel that these regulations should be worded exactly the same as the allopathic regulations that delegate prescriptive authority to PA's. This is important so as to avoid any confusion in the clinical practice of PA's who are supervised by MD's or DO's. Each physician should have the opportunity to decide how his or her Physician Assistant will practice under his or her supervision.

In summary I <u>support</u> this change to the Osteopathic Medicine Regulations and feel this will only enhance the practice of Osteopathic Medicine, allowing better access to health care for the residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

AP/jg

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

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