



**Lehigh Valley
Infectious Diseases
Specialists**



Affiliated with Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network

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November 8, 2007

Charles P. Fasano, D.O.
Chairman, Osteopathic Board of Medicine
P.O. Box 2649,
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Dr. Fasano,

My practice is currently made up of 7 MD's and 4 PA's, beginning next July, we will be adding our first DO into the practice. Under the current Pennsylvania osteopathic regulations, PA's do not have prescribing privileges under DO supervising physicians. I think this is an area in need of change. Consider changing osteopathic regulations to exactly match the allopathic regulations which delegates prescriptive authority to their PA's. By doing this, osteopathic supervising physicians can begin to utilize PA's to the extent they were trained, to improve access to patient care, increase availability of appointments, and allow the physician time to focus on more complicated cases. Currently under MD supervision, PA's have been safely prescribing for years, and if the osteopathic regulations mirror those of the allopathic regulations, then each physician will decide which prescriptions his/her PA is permitted to prescribe. Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Luther V. Rhodes, MD

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