

November 9, 2007

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

Dear Dr. Fasano,

I am writing in support of the proposed osteopathic prescribing regulations of physician assistants. I believe as a physician assistant, it is the right and privilege of our training to be allowed to prescribe medications to the patients that we serve. It is my belief that this privilege, which is allowed under the regulations of M.D.s, should also be granted under D.O. supervision to enhance the care that we provide to each patient. As a member of a healthcare team, a physician assistant works to aid the physician he works under, and to best utilize these assets he must be able to prescribe when necessary. The inability to prescribe hinders everyone involved in patient care, including the patients themselves. It involves longer appointment times for patients who must wait for their prescriptions to be written by the supervising physician. It also slows the physician's work when he must be interrupted from his own patient schedule to write a prescription for a patient that he did not even see. It calls into question whether it is appropriate for a physician to prescribe for a patient he did not personally see. Without this privilege, the work of a physician assistant under a supervising D.O. cannot be utilized as well as our training has prepared us for. It is my hopes that in the near future this issue will be seriously addressed and the changes will be made that are necessary for the best utilization of the physician assistant profession under the supervision of a D.O.

Sincerely,

*Delisa Smith* PA-S

Delisa Smith, Physician Assistant student

CC: Basil L. Merenda  
Governor Edward G. Rendell

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