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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

November 12, 2007

Dear Dr. Fasano


I am writing this letter in support of the proposed osteopathic regulations for Physician Assistants. I also support that the wording of the regulation to be exactly the same as the allopathic regulations to avoid any confusion in clinical practice.

PA's have safely prescribed under the supervision of allopathic physicians for years, and I have experienced this here in our practice as I am an allopathic physician that supervises PA's and have never had an issue with their prescribing.

PA's work with physician supervision to ensure patient safety and access to care will be improved. PA's currently are supervised by D.O's and will be able to practice to the full extend of their training. Osteopathic physicians may be more likely to hire a PA when they are given prescriptive authority. This will in turn remove some barriers to care due to reducing waiting times, increased availability of appointments and allow the physician time to focus on more complicated cases. Hospitals and practices may be more likely to hire osteopathic physicians if they are able to supervise PA's with delegated prescriptive authority.

The individual physician will decide whether his/her PA can prescribe and also what drugs the PA will be permitted to prescribe. Please act now on this issue. This has been an issue for a long time and needs to be resolved now. Consistency in regard to this issue will improve patient care across the board.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

E. R. Kennedy MD
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Epkeba Community Hospital

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