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Charles P. Fasano, D.O.
Chairman, Osteopathic Board of Medicine
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Nov. 12, 2007

Dear Charles P. Fasano, D.O.,

I am writing to comment on the recently proposed regulations to allow osteopathic physicians to delegate the writing of prescriptions to the Physician Assistants that they supervise. I have been practicing as a PA for 12 years, and have had the opportunity in the past to work under the supervision of a D.O. in the state of West Virginia. In that situation, I had the privilege to prescribe from a formulary of drugs, which freed up my supervising physician to focus on his own, more complicated cases, as well as reduced the patients' waiting time. I feel that PAs in the state of Pennsylvania are limited in the scope of their practice if they happen to be supervised by a D.O. Obviously the training of a PA does not vary depending on the physicians they work with, therefore, the regulations regarding prescriptive authority for a PA should not vary if s/he works with an allopathic vs. an osteopathic physician.

On a more personal note, I am married to a D.O. I would prefer to be supervised by him, but currently it is not practical, as I also wish to have prescriptive privileges.

Please consider strongly the proposal to change the regulations to allow PAs to have prescription writing authority when supervised by D.O.s. In order to avoid confusion in practices that may have allopathic and osteopathic physicians working in conjunction with Physician Assistants, the regulations regarding this should be the same.

Respectfully,

Tonya C. King Martin, MPAS, PA-C

cc: Basil L. Merenda, Bureau of Professional & Occupational Affairs
Governor Edward G. Rendell

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