

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

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November 14, 2007

Dear Dr. Fasano;

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

I am a practicing PA and also a faculty member who teaches all aspects of the profession including pharmacology for different disease processes. It is a very important aspect of our teaching and they are educated in all aspects of pharmacology. PA's have safely prescribed under the supervision of allopathic physicians for many years,

I also still practice in a M.D./D.O. practice and it has been an issue of writing prescriptions for part of the shift with the M.D. and then when the D.O. comes in, I am unable to prescribe and patients had a longer wait time in our emergency departments at times. PA's are currently supervised by D.O.s and will be able to practice to the full extend of their training. PA's work with physician supervision to ensure patient safety and access to care will be improved. 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 This will in turn remove some barriers to care due to reducing wait 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 regards to this issue will improve patient care across the board.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectively;

Lane Bower, MHSc, PA-C
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