

2644



The Offices of

Dr. William J. O'Brien, III RECEIVED

2007 NOV 16 AM 9:54

William J. O'Brien, III, D.O.*+
 Christopher Belletieri, D.O.*+
 Elizabeth M. Hibbs, P.A.C.*~
 John Pickard, D.O.*+
 Brian Walsh, D.O.*
 Beverly Dorsey-Funk, P.A.C.*
 Sandra A. Tiseo, P.A.C.*
 Nicholas J. Grego, D.O., Ph.D.*
 Brent M. Nickischer, D.O.*
 F. Scott Carlin, D.O.
 Michael B. Fischer, D.O.*
 Kristin Klein, P.A.C.

* Board Certified in Family Practice
 • Board Certified in Internal Medicine
 + Fellow, American Academy of
 Disability Evaluating Physicians
 ~ Associate, American Academy of
 Disability Evaluating Physicians

**Bristol Family Practice
 & Medical Center**
 424 Mill St. at Canal's End Plaza
 Bristol, PA 19007
 Phone (215) 788-2981
 Fax (215) 785-0810

**Bustleton Family Practice
 & Medical Center**
 9601 Bustleton Ave., Suite C
 Philadelphia, PA 19115
 Phone (215) 677-9870
 Fax (215) 677-0977

**Galloway
 Medical Center**
 2171 Galloway Road
 Bensalem, PA 19020
 Phone (215) 633-1750
 Fax (215) 633-1753

**Newtown Family Practice
 & Medical Center**
 2950 S. Eagle Road
 Newtown, PA 18940
 Phone (215) 504-9255
 Fax (215) 504-9260

**South Philly Family Practice
 & Medical Center**
 1800 Jackson Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19145
 Phone (215) 271-3600
 Fax (215) 271-3669

**Bethlehem Family Practice
 & Medical Center**
 3400 Bath Pike, Suite 203
 Bethlehem, PA 18017
 Phone (610) 954-8500
 Fax (610) 954-8585

WJO, INC. - Business Office
 424 Mill St. at Canal's End Plaza
 Bristol, PA 19007
 Phone (215) 826-8050
 Fax (215) 826-8053

Dear Dr. Fasano,

I am writing in support of the proposed regulations published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on October 20, 2007. As an Osteopathic Physician (DO) supervising a physician assistant (PA) for 5 years, I am confident that a PA has both the knowledge and training to manage prescription medications. Physician assistants have been safely prescribing with the supervision of allopathic (MD) physicians for years. PA s receive the same training regardless of whether they will be supervised by a DO or an MD. PA s continue, as always, to work with physician supervision to ensure patient safety. I believe that Osteopathic Physicians should have the same ability to delegate prescriptive authority to their physician assistants as our allopathic colleagues.

PA s will be more valuable to DO s with prescriptive authority, meaning more practices may hire a PA. This will in turn improve access to care by reducing waiting times, increasing availability of appointments, and allowing the physician more time to focus on more complicated cases. DO s will be more valuable to patients, hospitals, and practices if they are able to supervise PA s with delegated prescriptive authority. Access to care will be improved because PA s who are supervised by DO s will be able to practice to the full extent of their training.

Physicians will decide what medications, if any, their PA will be permitted to prescribe. The regulations should be worded exactly the same as the allopathic regulations to avoid any confusion in clinical practice.

I fully support the proposed regulations to allow osteopathic physicians to delegate prescriptive duties to the PA s they supervise.

Sincerely,

Christopher Belletieri, D.O.