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

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Dr. Fasano:

I am writing in support of the proposed osteopathic prescribing regulations for physician assistants. I have worked in the solo practice of an osteopathic physician now for more than 7 years. I plan to stay with this practice and will benefit hourly by changing the regulations.

I worked under the supervision of allopathic physicians in the 8 years prior to this. It was a huge transition to wait in the hall or send patients to the waiting room when they needed to have a prescription signed by the doctor. I never had any problems prescribing the right meds or dosages when I was doing it under an allopathic supervising physician.

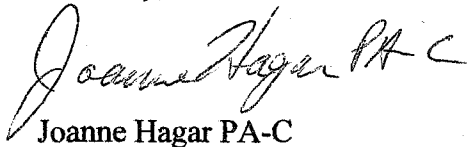
I would like the regulations to be worded the same as the allopathic regulations. My supervising physician and I share the coverage of weekend and evening call schedule with an allopathic group. I have to look up who my supervising physician is for that evening or weekend before I can call in a prescription when needed. My boss gets every call that requires a script when she supervises even when she isn't working that weekend!

Drug salesmen don't realize that physician assistants that work for osteopathic physicians can't sign for samples. I have to straighten them out all of the time. I tell them that there are rare occasions when the doctor doesn't agree with the prescription that I have recommended. That helps the salesmen realize that they have to detail me as well as the doctor.

I feel that patients will receive appropriate health care with increased availability by allowing osteopathic physician assistants to prescribe. I urge you to enact the regulations worded as the allopathic regulations to avoid confusion.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion on this matter.

Sincerely,


Joanne Hagar PA-C

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

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