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Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed osteopathic prescribing regulations for physician assistants. I feel that the bill is a positive step forward for all of us and that it should be a mirror image of the regulations outlined by the allopathic guidelines so that there will be no confusion between the two.

PA's have been prescribing under those guidelines of a number of years and we osteopathic physicians should have the same prescriptive ability that our MD colleagues have. The supervising physician will decide whether or not his/her PA will prescribe (or not) and what drugs the PA will be permitted to prescribe.

Access to care will be improved because PA's who are currently supervised by DO's will be able to practice at the full extent of their training and this will ensure patient safety.

Osteopaths are more likely to hire a PA with prescriptive privileges. This will remove some barriers to care due to reduced waiting times, increase the availability of appointments and allow the physician to focus on more complicated cases.

Hospitals / practices are more likely to hire osteopathic physicians if they are able to supervise PA's with delegated prescriptive authority.

Thank You,

William J. Artz, Jr.



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