

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to offer my support for the proposed Osteopathic Physician Assistant prescribing rights. There are several significant reasons why these regulations should be considered.

For years, Physician Assistants with Allopathic supervisors have safely prescribed medication under their current regulations. Osteopathic Physician Assistants have the same training and skills as Allopathic Physician Assistants and it stands to reason that they should have the same privileges. Along the same lines, both MD's and DO's practice medicine safely and effectively and therefore should both be given the opportunity to supervise Physician Assistants who can practice to the full extent of their training. These proposed regulations will also improve access to healthcare because the Physician Assistants who work for Osteopathic doctors can practice to the full extent of their training, reducing wait times to see a provider and also allowing the physician to concentrate on more complicated cases.

With the current regulations, Osteopathic Physician Assistants are more burdensome to their supervisors than allopathic Physician Assistants. Osteopathic supervisors will be more likely to hire a PA if they can delegate prescriptive authority. Ultimately, if given privileges, the physician-PA team can then decide which medications the PA will be permitted to prescribe. These regulations can be worded exactly the same as the allopathic regulations to avoid confusion in clinical practice. Also, Practices and hospitals will be more likely to hire Osteopathic Physicians if they are able to supervise PA's with delegated prescriptive authority.

Please consider implementing the proposed prescribing regulations and allow the Osteopathic physician and Physician Assistant to expand community access to timely and quality healthcare.

Sincerely,

*Lauren Kropa PA-C*

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