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To: Charles P. Fasano, D.O.

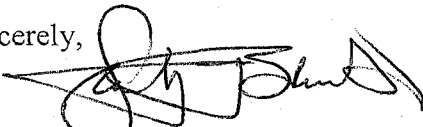
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I am an Osteopathic Physician working in a State Correctional Facility where Physician Assistants are an integral part to the management of the health care delivery to the inmates. Both Allopathic and Osteopathic physicians supervise the physician assistants. The Physician Assistants work with the Physician under supervision to ensure patient safety. Access to care will be improved if prescribing regulations for Physician Assistants under Osteopathic Physicians supervision is improved. Improved timeliness for medication delivery would be enhanced if the prescribing regulations be the same as the allopathic regulations. This would avoid any confusion in clinical practice. I agree that Osteopathic Physicians should be given the same ability to delegate prescriptive authority to their PA's as their MD colleagues. The individual physician will decide if the PA under their supervision will prescribe or not prescribe particular medications, and an evaluation of that patient with a physician would be required for the use of controlled substances. In regards to PA's requesting, receiving and signing professional samples and may distribute professional samples to the patients, I support POMA's position on the proposal.

In summary, the Physician Assistant plays a vital role in the total health care team approach to patient care. The modifications by the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine's provisions regarding prescriptive privileges for Physician Assistant's should be modified. Since the Physician Assistants are under the supervision of the Physician, the ability to delegate prescriptive authority to their PA's should be approved. A more pressing issue would be the lack of supervisory role for the Nurse Practitioner and their ability to provide Health Care should be under more scrutiny. The Physician Assistant is part of the team approach when working under Supervisory Physicians. Increasing the latitude that the Physician Assistants are able to practice under the Supervision of an Osteopathic physician would greatly enhance the deliver of Health Care in our Nation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Stanley T. Bohinski, D.O, FAAFP, CCHP

Cc: Basil L Merenda
Governor Edward G. Rendell

