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Sent: Friday, September 26, 2008 11:18 AM
To: IRRC
Cc: cgrovich@state.pa.us
Subject: comments on DH regs

September 25, 2008

Mr. Christopher Grovich
PA State Board of Dentistry
P. O. Box 2649,
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Colleagues,

The proposed regulation changes for Dental Hygiene Scope of Practice include several, long overdue revisions:

Return of RDH ability to provide local anesthesia, *after 20+ years.*

Recognize RDH ability and professional responsibility to provide therapeutic services to healthy and medically uncomplicated patients.

As a dental team leader of 33 years, I suggest that together the RDH and I are able to determine the appropriate level of supervision for each of my patient without the reinstatement of an arbitrary system of classification, resembling the rejected ASA classifications.

Furthermore, as a former MA provider for 2 decades, I strongly support the involvement of Public Health DH Practitioners in our schools, public health institutions and nonprofit health clinics. Our children, elders and functionally challenged communities are in great need of education and regular preventive dental care. In these settings the RDH will provide the encouragement and direct referral resources to get 'those in need of dental services' into the appropriate dentist chair.

Thank you again for revising the RDH scope of practice to encourage broader access to dental health prevention services in Pennsylvania.

Fedele A. Musso, DMD

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