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143 Henry Avenue
Hughesville, PA 17737

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

PA State Board of Nursing
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Ms. Steffanic:

I am a Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP) currently practicing in Williamsport at a private OB/GYN office. I am writing to you about the proposed regulations that are under consideration for CRNP's in PA.

The removal of the 4:1 CRNP to Physician ratio interferes with providing access to care for all in our state. I practice where there are underserved people who rely on CRNP's for their health care. The current regulation limit's the number of patients served by limiting the collaborative ratio between CRNP's and physicians. I feel it is absolutely imperative to open this ratio and improve the ability for rural, underserved people to obtain health care.

I would also like to address the new regulation extending schedule II prescriptions from 72 hours to 30 days. This is a problem in my practice for patients who have had surgery who need a prescription and I can only write for 3 days. A fresh post operative patient generally is limited with driving and mobility. This makes it difficult to obtain prescriptions every 3 days if necessary. I whole-heartedly hope this regulation is extended thereby reducing undo stress on the patient as well as decreasing medical costs by redundant office calls, visits, and prescriptions.

Lastly, allowing CRNP's to prescribe schedule III & IV drugs up to 90days would improve patient satisfaction by allowing them to utilize the most cost effective medications they can. This would also eliminate excessive phone calls and extra prescriptions thereby reducing overall medical costs to all.

Thank you very much for your consideration. I appreciate your time concerning this matter.

Respectfully,



Sandra M. Lentz
MS, CRNP