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Gotham Internal Medicine

WELLSPAN

2729

November 17, 2008

Ann Steffanic, Administrative Asst.
PA State Board of Nursing
PO Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Ann Steffanic:

I support the proposed regulations expanding the scope of practice of certified nurse practitioners, including the removal of restrictions on the prescribing of Schedule II-V controlled substances. I do not share the concerns raised by the Pennsylvania Medical Society.

I am an internist practicing in York County since 1983. Our group of five internists has been enhanced by the inclusion of a certified nurse practitioner since 1995. She has been accepted in full professional standing within our group, with no arbitrary limitation on her scope of practice. Our relationship has been characterized by ongoing interaction and collaboration with all of the physicians in the group, with the senior physician designated as the supervising physician. Our nurse practitioner has enabled us to increase the access of our patients to high quality, comprehensive care, and improved the continuity of the care that we provide. Additionally, she has shared in night and weekend coverage since we ceased doing inpatient medicine in 2005.

I see no threat to the safety of patients by expanding the scope of practice of certified nurse practitioners in Pennsylvania, and I fully support the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Fred W. Kephart, M.D.

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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