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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Mr. Steve Rager
150 Farm Lane
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201

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November 18, 2008

Ms. Ann Steffanic, Board Administrator
Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing
PO Box 2649
Harrisburg, Pa. 17105-2649

Dear Ms. Steffanic,

This letter is in recognition of the value of the services we receive from nurse practitioners within our hospital system. Without nurse practitioners and their ability to write scripts, the following negatives will continue:

1. Inhibit patient access to health care
2. Detrimental effects of limiting prescriptions for scheduled drugs for pain management, palliative care/hospice, acute pain management in primary care, emergency setting & urgent care, and/or problems with patients needing to utilize a 90 day mail order prescription plan. This disrupts continuity of care as well as promoting hardships to our patients in the number of visits and co-pays they make under the present system.
3. It is necessary to increase the utilization of CRNPs to full scope of education and training to meet this dire need.
4. The 4:1 ratio of CRNPs to physician is limiting to those who need the services.

I feel this is an urgent matter that must be addressed without further delay.

Sincerely,

Steve Rager, LPC

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