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November 18, 2008

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a family nurse practitioner from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. I work in an Internal Medicine Practice in Abington. I serve the adult population and have a large majority of geriatric patients. I see patients with a wide range of chronic pain issues, anxiety and depression.

Many of my own patients have chronic pain. One patient has severe pain from lumbar herniations for which required multiple surgeries. This has left her very debilitated. She takes Methadone four times a day in able to do her daily activities. She lives 60 miles away at the Jersey shore but comes up to our practice because of her relationship with me. I am unable to write for Methadone for more than 72 hours. This requires her to make multiple trips to the physician in my practice. This impedes access to care and makes useless visits to the doctor. This takes away his time to care for his patients. It clogs up the system and causes a hardship to the patient. She lives on a fixed income and has to spend more money on gas, co-pays and parking fees.

I am requesting you approve the CRNP regulations under consideration so I can increase access and continuity of care for my patients.

Thank You



Patty McGrath

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