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11/27/08

Please excuse the handwritten note!
But I was not able to send my
response electronically, felt very
moved to make some sort of reply!

I have been a Nurse Practitioner
in Primary Care / Family Practice
(+ before that Student Health) in the
Pennsylvania (Philadelphia Area) Suburbs
for >20 years. I also grew up in
this area + my family are very
involved in all the health care
areas (Physicians, Nurses, trainers, etc.)

The present prescribing restrictions
are ridiculous! I see many patients
for their ADD / ADHD, as well as
ongoing anxiety disorders. I must
disrupt the flow of patient care, after
interviewing, assessing, + diagnosing the
condition (well within my scope of practice)
in order to have the physician co-sign
my prescription. Or worse, tell the
office nurse to call it in to the pharmacy
under the physician's name! This has
been compounded by our switch to "Electronic
Medical Records" + the need to order +
document on the electronic chart (as
is the wave of the future!) →

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
COMMISSION
PENNSYLVANIA

I feel no need to manage chronic pain + refill pain medications but these other prescribing schedules should be changed to allow us as Nurse Practitioners to perform our jobs + manage patient care that is well within our scope of practice.

Nurse Practitioners are historically careful + accurate in their prescribing! Please show us the respect we deserve in removing present restrictions on our practice!

Thanks -

Sue Villanovi MSN, CRNP
1141 Carolina Ave
West Chester PA 19380
(610) 431-7364

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