11/28/2008

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

Re: 16A-5124 CRNP General Revisions

Ms Steffanic:

I am writing in support of the revisions noted in the recently proposed regulations in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. I have been a nurse practitioner for eleven years and a nurse for over thirty years. Currently my options are limited in Pennsylvania by the restrictions of limiting physician to only supervising 4 NP's and the restrictions with same. I had developed a palliative inpatient program in a local community hospital and the only physician readily open to collaborating was already committed in a clinic setting and due to the limit was unable to do so. Also the restrictions on schedule II and III are very limiting for those of us working in palliative care. Many of the physicians in my community are under treating pain in terminally ill patients until they accept hospice due to their fears and lack of knowledge in appropriately prescribing opioids and other adjunct medications for good pain control. As a result I went back to a practice where I could function within the limitations but it continues to be an issue having the knowledge and skill to provide good palliative care and not be able to be efficient and cost effective with providing care.

I strongly support the revisions within the proposed Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing Rules and Regulations.

Sincerely,

Barbara Mulich, CRNP

FNP-BC, ACHPN

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