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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Ann Steffanic  
Board Administrator  
State Board of Nursing  
PO Box 2649  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Ms. Steffanic,

I request that you please consider removing the restrictions that limit nurse practitioners in providing quality patient care.

The 4:1 NP to physician ratio is not necessary as long as a physician is available for consultation. Based on the needs of the specific practice, more nurse practitioners may be necessary to provide patients with improved access to quality care.

Please consider removing the restrictions of prescription privileges regarding schedule II, III, and IV drugs. Nurse practitioners certainly have the knowledge and experience to prescribe the appropriate type and quantity of scheduled medications. When limitations are set, patients and practices suffer in that patients may have suboptimal pain control, patients may be inconvenienced in order to obtain needed prescriptions, and physicians may be contacted for prescriptions more often even though the nurse practitioner may be more familiar with the patient's case.

Please help us improve patient access to care and patient care in Pennsylvania. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Christina Braun, MSN, CRNP