

Larien G. Bieber, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Samuel A. Rice, M.D.
John J. Scott, M.D.
James E. Spicher, M.D.
Marilyn D'Andrea-Spica, M.D.
John A. King, M.D.
Philip J. Jantzi, M.D.
Swapna R. Deshpande, M.D.
Lisa K. Kernic, D.O.

General Internal Medicine of Lancaster
Physicians' Alliance, Ltd.

2301 Columbia Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603
Phone: 717-397-2738 Fax: 717-397-7634

www.genintmed.com

Robert A. Tribuzio, M.D.
Michael C. Manolas, M.D.
Jennie M. Barbieri, M.D.
Stephanie L. Todd, M.D., M.P.H.
Georgia M. Moshos, M.S.N., C.R.N.P.
Pamela J. Currie, C.R.N.P.
Cynthia L. Blevins, M.S.N., C.R.N.P.
Susan A. Juliano, M.S.N., C.R.N.P.
Evelyn M. Sheaffer, M.S.N., C.R.N.P.
Carol B. Spicher, R.D., C.D.E., L.D.N.

2729

November 28, 2008

Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing
ATTN: Ann Steffanic
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649
Ref. # 16A-5124 CRNP General Revisions

RECEIVED
2008 DEC -9 PM 1:56
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of new regulations expanding the practice of Nurse Practitioners in Pennsylvania. I have practiced as a CRNP in the state of Pennsylvania for over 23 years. During that time, I have seen positive changes to our scope of practice, but I believe the proposed regulations will improve access to health care for Pennsylvanians while becoming more consistent with the expanded scope of practice authorized by Act 48.

The removal of the 4:1 NP to Physician ratio would improve access to care as there are fewer physicians to collaborate. I have the good fortune to be in a practice that this is not a problem but many of my colleagues in rural and center city clinics are restricted. This will become more problematic as only 2-3 % of new physicians are entering family practice.

The schedule II, III and IV drug prescriptions hamper my care to patients with chronic pain, especially in my geriatric practice. There are frequently occasions when I can only provide patients with a short supply of the medications when I am on-call or in the office alone. Sometimes this also creates a more costly alternative to patients seeking a 90 day supply of pain meds.

With the goal of improving access to health care, approval of these Rules and Regulations will provide another step to improving healthcare for the residents of Pennsylvania.

Thank you for your interest and attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at 717-397-2739.

Sincerely,

Pamela J. Currie, CRNP