

2729

December 5, 2008

RECEIVED

2008 DEC 10 PM 1:42

Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing
ATTN: Ann Steffanic, Board Administrator
P.O. Box 2649
Hbg, PA 17105-2649

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Ref#16A-5124 CRNP General Revisions

Dear Ms. Steffanic:

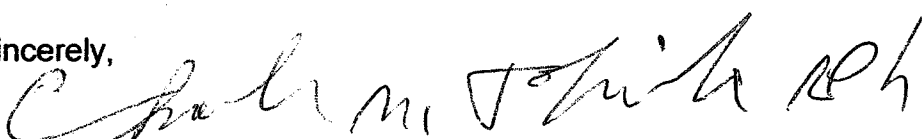
I am writing in support of the proposed changes to the CRNP regulations. As a pharmacist in Pennsylvania, I am familiar with and confident in the quality of care provided by nurse practitioners, specifically in regards to prescriptive privileges and practices. I work with a mail order pharmacy and see prescriptions written by nurse practitioners and physicians from many states. Consistently, the prescriptions written by the nurse practitioners are more legible, complete, and accurate.

The new regulations would allow a CRNP to prescribe Schedule II controlled substances for a 30 day supply as opposed to a 72 hour supply. Additionally, it allows for prescriptions of Schedule III and IV medications to be written for a period of 90 days rather than thirty days. Both of these provisions remove these arbitrary barriers to CRNP practice and enhance patient care. Confusion is eliminated and the chance of diversion is reduced by providing continuity and clarity of one prescriber's name on the prescription. Patients will have access to their medications in amounts that are more realistic and reasonable. This will also allow the patient the cost savings provided by their prescription insurance benefit and copay. Not only does this make the medication more affordable, patient compliance is enhanced.

In fact, when possible, I see a CRNP for my healthcare needs and am pleased with the professional, competent and compassionate care.

I am requesting your support of the proposed CRNP regulations in hopes that Pennsylvanians may have better access to quality healthcare. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

Sincerely,


Charles Topalnicki, RPh