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University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

December 2, 2008

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

Dear Ms. Steffanic,
Subject: 16A-5124 CRNP

I am writing in response to the proposed regulations by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing, reference # 16A-5124 CRNP. I currently practice as a registered nurse in the state of Pennsylvania and work with many nurse practitioners, serving various groups of patients, in my hospital. It is very important for them to be able to have full access and management of their patients' care, in order to provide the highest quality of health care.

Please consider removing the 4:1 physician, nurse practitioner ratio. Nurse practitioners are capable of working independently within the health care system and are fully aware of when to consult a physician to benefit their patients' care.

As an oncology nurse, I see the frustration of nurse practitioners when it comes to prescribing medications to manage their patients' pain. I ask you to think about changing the Schedule II, III, IV prescribing abilities of the nurse practitioner. This is incredibly important in an oncology patient population, not only for insurance purposes, but for the control of their pain. Prescribing for only 72 hours is not beneficial to this population with chronic pain. This change would greatly improve health care of the oncology population, along with other populations that have similar circumstances.

I am currently pursuing my MSN degree at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing to become a nurse practitioner specializing in adult oncology. I would greatly appreciate the possibility to start my practice as a nurse practitioner with these proposed regulations in place. It would give me the opportunity to provide a high degree of health care and quality.

Sincerely,



Kristen Wisniewski Maloney BSN, RN
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing