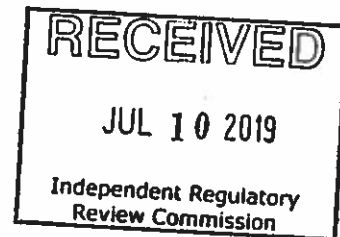


3228



Dr. Jack Erhard, Chair  
Pennsylvania State Board of Dentistry  
P.O. Box 2649  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dr. Erhard,

I write to you with serious concerns about Draft Proposed Regulation 49 Pa. Code @ 33.205b. It is my understanding that the SBOD will discuss this at its upcoming July meeting. I feel that the expansion of PHDHP independent practice to the sites addressed in the draft proposed regulation jeopardizes patient safety while perpetuating a tiered system of care that provides limited additional access to address unmet dental needs.

**I practice in Williamsport, PA which is not a metropolitan area like Pittsburgh and Philly, so our dental practitioner population is always decreasing, however in the interest of patient safety, I still do not approve of your Regulation as proposed. I work in a welfare clinic here in Williamsport and I participated in the recent MOM-PA in Wilkes Barre, so I do care about the underserved, but this is not the way.**

Please take the following considerations in your discussions:

- Expanding practice to physicians' offices does not necessarily provide additional access to care. Physicians can locate their practice where they see fit, including high-access or affluent areas of the state.
- In-home treatment, especially for the medically compromised with health complications, is inherently risky. It should not be attempted by someone without emergency care training, Basic Life Support certification, and portable life-saving equipment.
- There is no consideration or statement of who will be held civilly liable for malpractice or if the standard of care is not met for services provided by a PHDHP in a physician's office or child-care setting. Additionally, there is no statement regarding the supervisory responsibilities for physicians.

I recommend the State Board of Dentistry take the opportunity to amend these regulations with the goal of ensuring patient safety while fulfilling the original goal of PHDHP treatment, which is getting more people into a dental home.

Thank you,

Robert H Fredrickson, DDS, MAGD  
1124 Market St  
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

Office: 570-326-6170  
[rhfdds@comcast.net](mailto:rhfdds@comcast.net)