From: A Caprio

To: <u>ST, RegulatoryCounsel</u>

Subject: [External] PA Modernization Act

Date: Monday, January 8, 2024 9:34:51 PM



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Board Counsel Dana Wucinski

State Board of Medicine P.O. Box 69523 Harrisburg, PA 17106-5923

I am writing in support of the Proposed Rulemaking 16-4955 in reference to Physician Assistants as written. The changes in these regulations will modernize the delivery of patient care by the Physician – PA teams in Pennsylvania.

I've been a PA for over 20 years, practicing in several different specialties and practice environments; I can say with absolute certainty the changes requested are appropriate and will remove administrative burden and unnecessary barriers that have plagued the PA profession for decades. Said barriers make it difficult to provide medically necessary services, under the pretense of "safety" and "oversight" without really considering the true nature of the role or Physician-PA relationship.

The board fully recognized the need to suspend archaic regulatory restrictions during the pandemic, to allow PAs "to easily and effectively" respond during the public health emergency.

The same logic should remain given the ongoing need for increased access to medical care and services provided by Physicians and PAs. Recognizing that PAs continue to provide cost-effective, high-quality care on par with that of physicians, when working in collaboration with physicians in a team-based setting, whereby scope of practice and supervision requirements should be determined at the practice level, where supervisory needs can be accurately identified, effectively implemented, and appropriately updated as indicated.

Regards,

Andrea Caprio, MS, PA-C, MBA