



From: [Eric Kiehl](#)
To: [ST, RegulatoryCounsel](#)
Cc: [Cheri Rinehart](#); [Judd Mellinger-Blouch](#); [Susan DeSantis](#)
Subject: [External] Proposed Rulemaking for Regulations 16A-4955 (Physician Assistants)
Date: Friday, January 12, 2024 8:53:28 AM
Attachments: [LOS Physician Assistants Medical Board Regulations_PACHC.pdf](#)

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Please accept these as our comments on the proposed regulations.

Eric Kiehl, APR

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January 11, 2024

Board Counsel Dana Wucinski
State Board of Medicine
P.O. 69523
Harrisburg, PA 17106- 5923

Re: Proposed Rulemaking for Regulations 16A-4955 (Physician Assistants)

Dear IRRC:

As the state primary care association (PCA), the Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers (PACHC) represents and supports the largest network of primary healthcare providers in the commonwealth. This network of health centers includes Community Health Centers (FQHCs and FQHC Look-Alikes), Rural Health Clinics, and other like-mission providers serving more than 1,000,000 patients annually at more than 400 sites in underserved rural and urban areas throughout Pennsylvania. Physician assistants (PA) employed by FQHCs in Pennsylvania account for more than 250,000 clinical visits per year.

PACHC is 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.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your support for these crucial regulations that will significantly benefit the health and well-being of Pennsylvanians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheri Rinehart".

Cheri Rinehart
President and CEO
Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers