

From: Beauregard, Thomas <TBeauregard@portermedical.org>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2018 8:34 AM
To: Denise Diehl; Maida Townsend
Cc: Stephen Koller (stephenmkoller@gmail.com)
Subject: NP proposed rule

Good Morning,

I was recently asked by one of my fellow colleagues, an NP, to write the State representatives regarding a proposed law to remove the need for collaborative MD for NP's.

I unfortunately cannot support this proposal.

I have been in healthcare as a PA for almost 19 years. I have traversed the worlds of Family Practice, Emergency Medicine, Urology, and Inpatient Care. I have worked with many NP's in my time. I have seen first hand the training program that most of their schools require.

The vast majority of NP schools are distance learning and require only 650-800 of clinical observation. By Contrast, my PA school required 2 years of full time clinic work prior to graduation. Having worked with many new graduates from these programs, I find their experience in evaluating patients and determining treatment plans to be severely lacking. They need assistance, education, and experience as new graduates. That's why this collaborative rule is so very important.

I am currently the lead provider of a group Family Practice, and we just hired a brand new FP graduate. I am excited about the potential this gentleman has, but there is a learning curve. We are teaching him what x-rays are appropriate, how to interpret these films, what diagnostics studies are appropriate, and most importantly assisting with diagnosis and developing treatment plans.

To think that NP's require no collaboration directly out of these programs dangerous and irresponsible. Critics of my stance on this may say that I am protecting my profession as a PA which requires much more stringent oversight. The truth is that the oversight for PA's is very needed and not burdensome. This is about patient care. To remove this law/requirement would place patients in danger. We recently had discussions at our Medical staff about this issue, and I voiced these same concerns. I urge you to keep the collaborative rule for Nurse Practitioners in place.

Thank you for your time,

Thomas E. Beauregard MS, PA-C