



Aimee Manion, DNP, RN-BC, NEA-BC
President

Deborah Hackman-Bartlett, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

October 16, 2015

Composite Medical Board of Georgia
Alice Aumann-House, MD, Chairman
LaSharn Hughes, MBA, Executive Director
36, 2 Peachtree Street NW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dr. Aumann-House and Ms. Hughes:

I am writing to you today to express my deep concern at the changes to the requirements for the nurse protocol agreement; the "revision" of form C is of particular concern. The date at the bottom of the form states "Revised: 5/2015" yet notice was not sent to APRNs and there was not an opportunity for your constituents, namely physicians, to comment on the impact of these changes on their practice nor were APRNs given the opportunity to provide feedback. These changes demonstrate significant gaps in understanding for how APRNs and Nurse Practitioners are educated and nationally certified, which combine to determine our "normal" scope of practice.

It appears as if the Composite Medical Board (CMB) intends to further limit the scope of practice of APRNs seeking prescriptive authority with this revised form and its inaccurate language. On page 2, the CMB notes that these procedures are examples of those considered "outside the scope of practice for the nurse practitioner." The list is quite comprehensive and requires the delegating physician to directly supervise the "nurse practitioner" as they perform these skills. The impact of this restriction on care provision, especially in the acute and critical care settings is overwhelming. The impact on patients will be catastrophic. With Georgia already facing a health crisis, with the lowest health rankings for many indicators, we cannot afford to increase barriers to timely health care access for the citizens of the state.

In the spirit of interprofessional collaboration, the APRN community respectfully requests the opportunity to address these issues with the CMB. Thank you for your time and attention to this issue. We will await your response.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Staebler, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC, FAANP
APRN Director
Georgia Nurses Association

Cc: Georgia Board of Nursing
Medical Association of Georgia
Coalition for Nurses in Advanced Practice
GA APRN Roundtable Member Organizations