

MONTEFIORE HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER

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October 12, 1973

Joseph C. Honet, M.D., Chairman
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine
Sinai Hospital of Detroit
6767 West Outer Drive
Detroit, Michigan 48235

Dear Dr. Honet:

In reply to your letter of September 24, 1973 inquiring about our experience with Physician's Assistants I would find it difficult to summarize in a brief letter our entire experience. However I will try to answer some of your specific questions.

- 1) The physician's assistants have essentially the same duties and responsibilities as the rest of the surgical house staff. They are unable to sign death certificates and they may not send a patient out of the hospital without permission of the physician.
- 2) The P.A.s are paid out of the hospital budget on the same basis as the house staff. The hospital bills third party payers for their services in the same manner and in the same amounts as they would for services performed by physician house staff.
- 3) We currently have five P.A.s working at Montefiore and they represent only a minority of our total house staff. We have some problems relating to jealousy on the part of the physician house staff, but these are usually worked out on an ad hoc and intrapersonal level. Some of our P.A.s have been promoted to second year resident responsibilities and there are physician first year residents who resent this.
- 4) The relationship to the nurses has been excellent. The difficulties that we had at the beginning were due to poor orientation on our part and they were short lived.
- 5) Our physician's assistants do write orders. All orders must be countersigned by a physician within 24 hours. Orders for narcotics and other controlled drugs must be stat doses only. Continuing narcotics must be ordered by a physician. All orders for blood or blood products must have the name of a physician on the requisition slip.

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- 6) The overall supervision of the physician's assistants is by Dr. Marvin L. Gliedman, chairman of the department, or by myself. The day to day supervision of the P.A.s is by the chief residents and the usual hierarchy found in any surgical service.
- 7) The physician's assistants pull night call at the same rate as our physician house staff. They are on every third night and every third weekend. On their nights and weekends they report to a chief resident.

If there is any other information with which I can supply you please feel free to call upon me.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Rosen, M.D.

FAX

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DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE
JOSEPH C. HONET, M.D., Chairman

Associate Professor
Department of Physical Medicine
and Rehabilitation
Wayne State University
School of Medicine

September 24, 1973

Richard Rosen, M.D.
Montefiore Hospital
1825 Eastchester Road
New York, New York 10461

Dear Doctor Rosen:

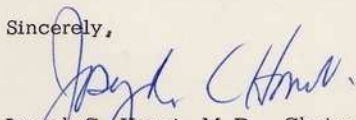
Mr. Thomas Godkins spoke to Sinai's Ad Hoc Committee to Study Paramedical Aides/Physician's Assistants, and mentioned the program for Physician's Assistants at the Montefiore Hospital.

We are interested in starting a program at Sinai Hospital, and would appreciate any information you have in regard to how Physician's Assistants function at your hospital. We are interested in all available information, and would specifically like to hear about:

1. Duties performed by the P.A.
2. Method of payment - acceptance or lack of such by third party payers of insurance, Blue Cross, etc.
3. Relationship to House Staff, if House Staff is present.
4. Relationship to nurses
5. Do Physician's Assistants write orders?
6. How are they supervised?
7. Do they provide night coverage, and who supervises at that time?

Also, do you know of any other hospitals that I might contact with these questions. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,


Joseph C. Honet, M.D., Chairman
Ad Hoc Committee to Study
Paramedical Aides/Physician's Assistants

JCH:mww