

September 19, 2024

Jason Prevelige, DMSc, MBA, PA-C, DFAAPA
President and Chair, Board of Directors
AAPA
2318 Mill Road, Suite 1300
Alexandria, VA 22314

Lisa M. Gables, CPA
Chief Executive Officer
AAPA
2318 Mill Road, Suite 1300
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Prevelige and Ms. Gables:

We are in receipt of your two recent letters expressing discontentment with the American Medical Association's (AMA) work on scope of practice. The AMA greatly values and respects the contributions of physician assistants as important members of the health care team. The AMA's work on scope of practice is based on long-standing and extensive AMA policy and most often in direct response to legislative efforts. This includes bills based on model language offered by the AAPA, that we believe would dismantle the care team. We are proud of our efforts to defeat these bills and will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of our members and patients to preserve patient access to physician-led care, which survey after survey shows is what patients want. This includes our most recent survey in which 95 percent of patients said they want and expect a physician to be involved in their diagnosis and treatment.

We believe all members of the health care team have an important role to play. However, physician assistants have neither the same skill set nor the breadth of experience of physicians, as is evident by the fact that physician assistants have a fraction of physicians' education and training. **To claim otherwise is simply incorrect and even more critically, confusing to patients.** This is why the AMA firmly believes that all patients, including patients in rural and underserved communities, deserve access to physician-led team-based care.

Sincerely,



Bruce A. Scott, MD

cc: James L. Madara, MD