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May 14, 2018

Senator Matt Dolan:

This letter is in support of the expansion of clinical pharmacist services. As a practicing intensivist at University of Cincinnati Medical Center in both the MICU and NSICU, the team is never complete without a Clinical Pharmacist with critical care training.

As recently published in *Critical Care Medicine*, March 7th 2018 online by Donavon and colleagues: a Multidisciplinary Team is need for excel in patient care, services and safety. This team must not only have bedside nurses and physician but pharmacists, dieticians and respiratory therapists, as well as social work, chaplains, rehab specialists to name a few. The paper notes that there is a "robust" amount of literature to support this endeavor and that it lead to improved patient outcomes in a fast paced ever changing world of clinical care.

This increasing complexity of patients and patient needs has been seen with in the increase of the CMI FY 17 3.23 to FY 18 3.82 in the MICU. This clearly helps denote that the patient population and their needs are diverse and have many facets. Our clinical pharmacists not only help to monitor many medications such as antibiotics including vancomycin, colistin and aminoglycosides; but are an integral part of making sure delirium precautions are in place, VAP bundles are met, and DVT prophylaxis is appropriate to name a few. They continuously educate and impart knowledge to the team and help engage with both nurses, respiratory therapists and physicians at the bedside. Their understanding of the literature and up to date knowledge on the latest clinical trial has also been exceedingly valuable. I have often noted that as long as I have Critical Care Pharmacist, I can round anywhere with anyone on any unit no matter how complicated the patient.

The need for expansion of clinical pharmacist services is paramount to the success of the teams in all aspects of the ICU, but more importantly for the patients that we are privileged to care for. It is the patients that suffer when we do not address key issues as such.

It is paramount that the Clinical Pharmacists be awarded advanced privileges in the state of Ohio to enable our teams and strive for success in our patients to deliver the Right Care Right Now!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Hebbeler-Clark', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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