

Murdo, Patricia

Subject: FW: The value of laboratory personnel licensure

From: T Schulz
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2013 1:40 PM
To: Murdo, Patricia
Subject: The value of laboratory personnel licensure

I understand there is a review of the need for licensure of laboratorians in the State of Montana. While I understand this review I completely support the continuation of licensure for clinical laboratory scientists (CLS) in this state.

Licensure is not an economic issue. Licensure is a patient safety issue! Physicians and other primary care people rely heavily on the results reported from the laboratory for diagnosis and treatment. Mistakes in testing can lead to mistakes in diagnosis or treatment. Licensure ensures highly educated professionals are reporting results to care givers.

While the federal government, through CLIA, regulates who can perform testing for moderately and highly complex testing they DO NOT require continual education. Montana's licensure requires only 14 hour of education per year. With the fast pace of research and technology this continuing education requirement ensures that people performing testing are up to date with current testing and reporting requirement. This continual education of CLS ensures high quality testing regardless of where a patient lives.

When considering this, think about if you would rather have laboratory testing performed by people with the minimum requirements of the feds or people who are up to date and competent now.

Sincerely,

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