



The Region's Leader

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**COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER**

1800 Mulberry Street, Scranton, PA 18510  
Phone 570-969-8000

April 29, 2005

Marc P. Volavka, Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council  
225 Market Street, Suite 400  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Volavka:

This letter is in response to the *Report on Total Hip and Knee Replacement, FY 2002*. We are pleased with the results of our data as outlined in this report.

In review of our readmission data it appears that some of the readmissions listed may not have been directly related to the initial surgery performed at Community Medical Center.

Community Medical Center continually strives to provide the highest quality of care to our patients. Our outcomes of care are continually being evaluated. When opportunities for improvement are identified, changes are made and programs implemented to make positive changes for our patients.

Community Medical Center supports the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council in its intent to provide hospitals and patients with data on performance. We thank you for the opportunity to comment on our hospital's performance data.

Sincerely,

C. Richard Hartman, M.D.  
President and CEO