



Mercy Hospital, Wilkes-Barre
 Mercy Hospital, Scranton
 Mercy Hospital Care Hospital
 Mercy Home Care
 Mercy Health Care Center
 Mercy Managed Care Inc
 Mercy Med Care Inc
 Mercy Hospice

Mercy Hospital, Wilkes-Barre
 25 Church Street
 Wilkes-Barre, PA
 18703

610-820-3100

October 20, 2003
 Mark P. Volavka
 Executive Director
 Pennsylvania Health Care
 Cost Containment Council
 225 Market Street, Suite 400
 Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Volavka:

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to respond to the 2002 Hospital Performance Report. We at Mercy Hospital recognize the importance and value of the information that the Council provides to the public.

At Mercy Hospital we review all deaths. There were 101 patients in DRG 183, which is one of the DRG's that will appear on the PHC4 Web site, with one death. This is a 91 year old who was admitted with abdominal pain with an admission severity of 1. He expired shortly after admission before a definitive diagnosis could be made. He was treated aggressively but to no avail.

Mercy Hospital will continue to review all mortalities as part of our on-going Quality Review. We support the Health Care Cost Containment Council's effort to provide meaningful data, which we believe, will continue to support quality, cost effective care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene Bassett".

Gene Bassett
 Chief Administrator Officer

