



**Meyersdale
Medical Center**
Member Conemaugh Health System

October 14, 2003

Mr. Marc P. Volavka
Executive Director
Pa. Health Care Cost Containment Council
225 Market St., Suite 400
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: FFY 2002 Hospital Performance Report

Dear Mr. Volavka:

In the data Meyersdale Community Hospital had a rate significantly higher than expected under outlier's short length-of-stay percent for stroke non-hemorrhage.

As a Critical Access Hospital, our average length-of-stay must be less than four days. Non-hemorrhage stroke patients are transferred to our Swing Bed Program for rehabilitation as soon as they are medically stable.

This is an advantage for the patient and their family to begin their rehabilitation sooner and without being moved to another facility if short-term rehabilitation is required.

Thank you for allowing us to respond to the performance report.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Libengood
President

MLL:skl