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September 21, 2006

*Continuing the Tradition of Leadership
in Community HealthSM*

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

RE: PHC4's FFY 2005 Hospital Performance Report

Dear Mr. Volavka,

Jameson Hospital continues to support the efforts of the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council in the collection and dissemination of data related to patient outcomes, length of stay and charges.

Statewide utilization and outcome data for 18 DRGs in the FY 2005 Hospital Performance Report reveals Jameson to consistently be within most expected outcome ranges.

The 30 code based condition outcomes referenced in the same report reveal other positive comparable data however five (5) code based conditions reflect a higher than expected mortality rate and/or readmission rate for complications of infection.

Jameson Hospital uses similar statistics to identify these trends, however, data such as mortality outcomes, readmissions and infection ratings must be further analyzed on a case by case basis to reflect patient history, co-morbid conditions, immune status, living arrangements and requests for DNR (Do Not Resuscitate). This analysis occurs as part of our internal quality improvement and medical staff peer efforts. Appropriate physicians and other clinicians regularly review these outcomes through committees such as Mortality Review, Infection Control, Pharmacy and Therapeutics, Utilization and Critical Care and make recommendations for improved medical management when appropriate.

Many of the patient cases reflected in these code based categories were admitted in Admission Severity Group 3 which is defined as having a high potential for organ failure and a low probability of response to treatment. Additionally, it is important to note that the cause of death is not always equivalent to a principle diagnosis code.

Thank you for contributing information that supports our mission to enhance outcomes and patient education in the same regard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Debra M. Perretta".

Debra M. Perretta, RN BSN
Director Quality Management Services

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Gilleland".

William Gilleland, MD
President Medical Staff

DMP/gm
ENCLOSURES