



THE ELLWOOD CITY HOSPITAL

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September 9, 2010

Joseph Martin, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council
225 Market Street, Suite 400
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Martin:

Ellwood City Hospital would like to thank you and the Council for the opportunity to comment on the two categories in which we received significantly higher than expected Mortality Ratings.

Heart Attack - Medical Management. Five cases were treated with three mortalities. The average age of the deceased patients was 86 years old. In all three cases, the patients and/or families had either "Do Not Resuscitate" or comfort measures only orders which dictated the conservative care they were given.

Pneumonia - Respiratory. Six cases were treated with three mortalities. The average age of the deceased patients was 85 years old and all three patients had designated "Do Not Resuscitate" orders which conservatively guided the treatment they received.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Beck
President/CEO