



Sacred Heart Hospital

Affiliated with Sacred Heart HealthCare System

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April 30, 2007

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

Dear Mr. Volavka:

We are pleased to be able to review the quality data for coronary artery bypass surgery performed at Sacred Heart Hospital in 2005. Clinical quality improvement is an essential focus for us and we are glad to have the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) program available to assist us.

The two patient mortalities referred to in the PHC4 analysis were extensively reviewed to assess factors that contributed to the mortalities. Both patients had associated significant medical conditions including cancer, vascular and renal disease and diabetes.

Through on-going review of our cardiac program and patient outcomes, Sacred Heart will continue to provide quality care to our patients.

We look forward to participating in the PHC4 cardiac surgery quality review process in the future as we all seek to improve health care.

Sincerely,

Frank Sparandero, MD, MPH, FACP
President and CEO