

# GREATER HAZLETON HEALTH ALLIANCE

Hazleton General Hospital

Hazleton-Saint Joseph  
Medical Center

Hazleton Healthcare  
Foundation

Franciscan Skilled  
Care Center

Gunderson  
Rehabilitation Center

Healthy Beginnings Plus

Hi-Tech Home Care

Occupational  
Health Services

Primary Care Centers

Rehabilitation and  
Fitness Center

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

April 1, 2001

Dear Mr. Volavka,

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to review Hazleton-Saint Joseph's Medical Center's 1999 C-Section Deliveries in Pennsylvania Report.

Hazleton-Saint Joseph's Medical Center, as a member of the Greater Hazleton Health Alliance, is committed to an ongoing process of performance measures and improvements, both from internal and external sources. The HC4 reports offer an excellent complement to all of our efforts to achieve goals of efficient delivery of compassionate, quality patient care.

I am pleased to see in this report a strong validation of the results of these efforts. Hazleton-Saint Joseph's Medical Center compares very favorably with the results of the statewide indicators of care for C-sections in Pennsylvania in 1999. I am especially pleased to confirm that these quality-of-care indicators remain competitive with the remainder of the state while the overall cost of this care is lower than the state average, both with respect to C-sections and normal vaginal deliveries. This positive balance of providing quality care efficiently impacts not only the health of our patients, but also the overall health of our delivery system. The Greater Hazleton Health Alliance welcomes the assistance of the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council in our continual effort to maintain and improve that positive relationship between quality of care and efficient delivery of care.

I look forward to further communications with the Health Care Cost Containment Council.

Hazleton General Hospital  
700 East Broad Street, Hazleton, PA 18201 (570) 501-4357  
www.ghha.org

*Covered*

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James E. Nelson MD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

**James E Nelson MD**  
**Quality Management Physician Reviewer**  
**Greater Hazleton Health Alliance**