



LANCASTER REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

April 9, 2001

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

Dear Mr. Volavka:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the data to be released in the 1999 C-section Deliveries in Pennsylvania. Lancaster Regional Medical Center acknowledges the merit of the information that is provided to the public through the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council.

We would specifically like to comment on the percent difference between the number of newborns and the number of deliveries for calendar year 1999.

Effective July 1, 2000, Saint Joseph Hospital changed ownership from Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) to Health Management Associates, Inc and is now known as Lancaster Regional Medical Center (LRMC). The statistics regarding the number of newborns and the number of deliveries was submitted directly from UB92 data from CHI. LRMC did not have a prior opportunity to review the data submitted and therefore it is difficult for us to respond concretely to the variances. Based on the limited information available to us, our position is that the number of newborns for this facility is understated and in actuality is closer to the 1,227 deliveries. Incorrect conclusions could be drawn by any user of any report that references or utilizes the newborn statistics.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to respond to this data. Lancaster Regional Medical Center is committed to providing excellent healthcare to the community we serve.

Sincerely,

C. Scott Campbell
Executive Director