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CARL BRONITSKY, M.D.
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April 5, 2001

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

Dear Mr. Volavka:

On behalf of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at PinnacleHealth, I would like to comment on your data comparing our institution to statewide statistics.

All of our Cesarean section rates are appropriate, with our charges being well below statewide averages.

Our VBAC rate is lower than statewide averages. This is related to a contemporary re-evaluation of appropriate candidates for VBAC, consideration of potential significant complications and advocacy of patient's choice.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Bronitsky, M.D." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "C".

Carl Bronitsky, M.D.
Chairman, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
PinnacleHealth System

CB/slk