



Abington Memorial Hospital

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Marc 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 comment on the 2005 Hospital-Acquired Infection Report. We have reviewed the data that was sent to Abington Memorial Hospital and would like to make the following clarifications related to the report.

After reviewing the data for the October through December 2005 time period, we realized that the number of non-device related hospital acquired infections that was reported was inflated due to incorrect data that we submitted. The issue was directly related to an error on our part due to the misinterpretation of the definition of a "hospital acquired infection". The error has since been corrected and quality checks are now in place to better assure appropriate identification, review and reporting of these cases. We apologize for any inconvenience that was caused by our erroneous data submission and will continue to carefully monitor this process in the future.

Sincerely,



John J. Kelly, M.D., FACP
Chief of Staff
Chief Patient Safety Officer