



Clearfield Hospital

October 25, 2006

Pennsylvania Healthcare
Cost Containment Council
225 Market Street
Suite 4000
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Volavka,

Clearfield Hospital would like to comment on PHC4's Hospital-acquired Infection Report for 2005 data.

The report identified a lower volume of reported hospital-acquired infections, but during 2005 we were not required to report all urinary tract infections and all surgical site infections. The report also identified a higher percentage of patient mortality in our facility as compared to our peer group relating to cases with infection and urinary tract infections.

Review of the three (3) mortalities noted that all of the patients were elderly with multiple co-morbidities, all were a "no code" status and causes of death were determined not to be related to the hospital-acquired infection.

Our facility appreciates the opportunity to comment on your findings and will use the council's report to look at our Infection Control processes for we place a high priority to prevention of hospital-acquired infections. We are eager to apply the MedMined Surveillance Program to assist us in these improvement processes and we will continue with our efforts of internal monitoring of all hospital-acquired infections.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Murray, III
President & CEO