



UNIONTOWN HOSPITAL
Getting better is what we're all about

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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:

The Uniontown Hospital would like to thank the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council for the opportunity to comment on issues related to our data for calendar year 2006. The data reflects infection rates and the percentage of infected patients who expired. The total percent of mortality patients with infections at Uniontown Hospital was 2.6%. While the percent of mortality patients with infections in the peer group and statewide was 2.3%. The types of infections where the Uniontown Hospital's mortality data exceeded the peer group and state were related to urinary tract infections and pneumonia.

Seventy-six percent (76%) of the mortality patients with infections were between eighty and ninety-eight years of age; another 16% were between seventy and seventy-nine years of age; while the remaining two patients were fifty-two and sixty-seven years of age. Upon reviewing each of these mortality cases, all of these patients had multiple, serious, co-morbid conditions. Sixty percent (60%) had congestive heart failure and/or coronary artery disease, 48% had renal failure, and 28% had diabetes as one of their many co-morbid conditions.

Pneumonia and urinary tract infections may have impacted but did not necessarily cause these patients' demise. Their multiple co-morbid conditions undoubtedly played a role in their inability to overcome the pneumonia and urinary tract infections.

In conclusion, it is the intent of Uniontown Hospital to provide high quality health care and to improve the health status of the people we serve consistent with our goal of clinical and service quality excellence.

Sincerely,



Paul Bacharach
President/CEO

/s