



October 16, 2008

Mr. David Wilderman
Acting Executive Director
Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council
225 Market Street, Suite 400
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Wilderman:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Pennsylvania Healthcare Cost Containment Council's report on Healthcare Acquired Infections.

Upon review of the Hospital Acquired Infection Data for Calendar Year 2007, it was identified that three of the cases reported to the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council in the third quarter did not meet the criteria for reporting.

- Patient developed symptoms of reported infection within the first 24 hours of admission. Due to the type of infection, this would be classified as a community acquired infection, rather than a healthcare acquired infection.
- Patient's serial chest x-rays were interpreted as "not a definite pneumonia." The findings could represent a congestive heart failure condition. With this ambiguity, this case does not meet the criteria of a healthcare acquired infection.
- Patient had a past medical history of respiratory problems. Given the fact that this patient had one chest x-ray that was not definitive, this case does not meet the criteria of a healthcare acquired infection.

At Sunbury Community Hospital, we take our responsibility to quality patient care and safety very seriously. Our infection control program is a significant piece of our plan to meet and exceed our goals related to quality care and safety. We utilize a multi-disciplinary team approach to monitoring and educating our staff to continue to prevent the number of healthcare acquired infections in our facility.

We are committed to providing care to our communities and I appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments regarding our reporting for 2007.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cornelio Catena".

Cornelio Catena
Interim President and Chief Executive Officer