

1211 Wilmington Avenue
New Castle, PA 16105-2595
Telephone: 724.658.9001



*Continuing the Tradition of Leadership
in Community HealthSM*

South Campus
1000 South Mercer Street
New Castle, PA 16101-4673
Telephone: 724.658.3511

September 17, 2004

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

RE: FFY2003 Hospital Performance Report

Dear Mr. Volavka,

Jameson Hospital continues to support the efforts of the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council in the collection and dissemination of data related to patient outcomes, length of stay and charges.

Statewide utilization and outcome data for the 20 DRGs in the FY 2003 Hospital Performance Report reveals Jameson to consistently be within the expected outcome range compared to other Pennsylvania general acute and speciality hospitals.

The 29 code based condition outcomes referenced in the same report reveal other positive comparable data with the exception of CHF and Pneumonia primarily related to readmissions. Additionally, Septicemia reveals a higher than expected mortality rate.

Jameson uses similar statistics to identify these trends, however, data such as mortality outcomes, readmissions and infection ratings must be further analyzed on a case by case basis to reflect patient history, comorbid conditions, immune status, living arrangements and requests for DNR (Do Not Resuscitate). As part of our internal Quality Improvement and Medical Staff Peer efforts appropriate Medical Staff and other clinicians through committees such as Infection Control, Pharmacy and Therapeutics, Utilization and Critical Care assess similar outcomes and case findings on a regular basis and make recommendations for improved medical management.

Additionally, a multidisciplinary committee that includes Nursing, Respiratory, Clinical Education, Home Health and others meets weekly to concurrently impact the care of patients found to be readmitted to our system for high volume diagnosis related conditions. Many successes have resulted from these efforts.

Thank you for contributing information that supports our mission to enhance outcomes and patient education in the same regard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mrs. Debra Perretta, RN, BSN".

Mrs. Debra Perretta, RN, BSN
Director Quality Management Services

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tracey Johnson".

Mrs. Tracey Johnson, BS, RHIT, CCS
Director of Information Management

DMP/gm