



Clearfield Hospital

September 15, 2008

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

Dear Mr. Wilderman,

Clearfield Hospital has reviewed the data from the 2007 Hospital Performance Report. The report provides us an opportunity for an internal quality review and for an evaluation of our outcomes of care. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this data.

The outlier identified related to the actual number of readmissions for complications/infections that were greater than expected. Careful review of those 5 readmissions revealed that all of the patients had multiple co-morbidities which included end stage Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and Cancer, complicating their prognoses. Therefore these readmissions were not totally unanticipated.

We recognize the value of transparency and in providing the public access to hospital performance data. Overall the performance report demonstrates that Clearfield Hospital continues to have quality of outcomes.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with the Council.

Sincerely,

David J. McConnell,
President & CEO