

September 15, 2009

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

Dear Mr. Wilderman:

We have received the PHC4's FFY 2008 Hospital Performance Report and appreciate the opportunity to again review and comment on this data.

The report indicates our data was not statistically different than expected for the conditions reported, with the exception of our readmissions for COPD, and mortality ratings in both CHF and Prostatectomy – Transurethral. The data has been reviewed, and we have identified the following patient characteristics which account for this statistical difference as follows:

Readmissions for COPD

- Of the total 38 cases, 35 cases were included in the analysis; there were 11 readmissions (31.4%).
- 7 of the readmissions (63.6%) were unrelated to the first visit
- 7 cases were readmitted within 14 days; 5 of those cases (71.4%) were unrelated to the first visit
- Patient's ages ranged from 64 to 89.

Congestive Heart Failure

- Of the 74 cases treated, 9 mortalities (12.2%) were identified; 6 were admitted with a do-not-resuscitate status
- All 9 patients had multiple comorbidities complicating their treatment; these patients were chronically ill with end stage disease.
- Patient's ages ranged from 59 to 92.
- The 59-year-old patient expired < 24 hours following admission after being transferred from a tertiary center for hospice care

Prostatectomy - Transurethral

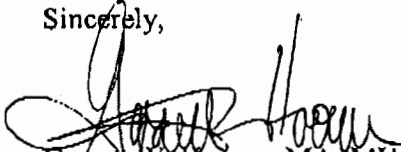
- Of the 12 procedures performed, 1 mortality (8.3%) occurred
- The 90-year-old patient with bladder cancer had obstruction at the bladder neck with prostatic obstruction.

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- Pre-op chest x-ray showed no active process
- The day following surgery, patient had marked hypoxemia; cardiac enzymes were significantly elevated; chest x-ray was consistent with congestive heart failure

The information from this report will be utilized in our continuous quality improvement efforts.

Sincerely,



Garrett W. Hoover, MA, MHA, FACHE
President/CEO

GWH/vmb

cc: Keith D. Eicher, D.O., President, Medical Staff
Debra G. McGraw, RN, MHSA, Vice-President Patient Care Services
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