

October 17, 2019

Joseph Martin, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council
225 Market Street, Suite 400
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Martin,

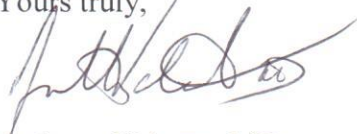
Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this year's report.

We are very pleased with the results of the data presented to us this year by the Health Care Cost Containment Council. We had no fallouts in any of the categories at LVH-Hazleton for mortalities or readmissions. This is a testament to our very aggressive team approach to quality improvement, which has been very successful in correcting previous issues. We are proud of our teams, and it is very gratifying to see our hard work pay off.

We continue to have our multidisciplinary teams in place to address any readmissions. The team not only includes hospital personnel, but also has representatives from local home health and skilled nursing facilities.

Our commitment to providing cost-effective, quality health care to our community drives our corporate vision. We will continue to strive for further improvement in our care of our patients, and we look forward to your reports for use as benchmarks in our continuing quality improvement projects.

Yours truly,



Anthony Valente, MD
Chief Medical Officer, Lehigh Valley Hospital-Hazleton

Cc: Quality Management Department
Andrea Andrews