



PINNACLE
Health System

December 1, 1999

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

Dear Mr. Volavka:

PinnacleHealth Hospitals would like to thank the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council for the opportunity to comment on the 1998 *Hospital Performance Report*.

Please reference our letter to you dated June 9, 1999, published in the 1997 *Hospital Performance Report* comments, in which we explained our operational issues for not being included in this report until calendar year 1999. As of the third quarter 1998 data, PinnacleHealth Hospitals is fully complete with Health Care Cost Containment Council reporting requirements.

We sincerely regret the delay in reporting to the Council, but PinnacleHealth is committed to meeting all future reporting requirements.

Regardless, we value the *Hospital Performance Report*, and use it within our internal medical staff performance improvement program as a benchmark to evaluate the I5 DRG's that compare us to the region and state.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit our comments. Please call me directly if you have questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Roger Longenderfer, M.D.
Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs

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