

Continuing the Tradition of Leadership in Community Health

November 29, 1999

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

Subject: Hospital Performance Report (15 Common Medical Procedures and Treatments) for Public Release.

Jameson Memorial Hospital and it's Medical/Dental Staff continue to support the efforts of the PA Health Care Cost Containment Council to collect information on cost and quality as it relates to health care. However, we believe such data as mortality ratings and even length of stay variances must always be analyzed further and on a case per case basis since patient history findings, other complicating factors and requests for DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) are not reflected in DRG groupings. As part of our internal quality improvement efforts, appropriate members of Jameson's clinical and medical staff review similar outcome data and any unexpected deaths on a regular basis.

During reporting period calendar year 1998: DRG 127 - Heart Failure and Shock DRG 316 - Kidney Failure Jameson's data revealed a higher than expected mortality rate.

Specific case conclusions follow:

DRG 127 (Heart Failure and Shock)

360 patients were treated within this diagnostic classification:

The average age of the 28 deaths was 77.

- -26/28 patients had co-existing/complicating illnesses which included kidney failure, stroke, insulin dependent diabetes, cancer of various sites with metastasis, chronic lung disease and septicemia (infection in the blood) with many of these diseases contributing to or being listed as the cause of death.
- -21/28 of these patients were admitted in admission severity group 3 or 4 which is defined as having a high potential for organ failure and a low probability of response to treatment.
- -24/27 were DNR status (Do Not Resuscitate)

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DRG 316 - (Renal Failure)

The average age of the 11 patients who expired was 78.

The entire group was again characterized by complicated medical histories which included, heart disease (MIs), cirrhosis, congestive failure, diabetes and stroke).

-10/11 patients were admitted in severity group 3 or 4 (defined previously)

-8/11 were DNR status (Do Not Resuscitate)

Submitted by,

Sichin Day Can Mi)
Dr. Sudhir Daftary

President, Jameson Medical/Dental Staff

Ella M. PenoHar RNBSN

Debra M. Perretta, R.N., BSN

Director, Quality Management Services

CC: Thomas White, CEO/President, Jameson Memorial Hospital Lisa Conway, Director, Public Relations Tracy Johnson, Assistant Director, Medical Records

Cherie Elias