



230 N. Broad Street, Mailstop 300
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Tel: 215.762.7000

May 16, 2016

Joe Martin, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Healthcare Cost Containment Council
225 Market St., Suite 400
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Martin:

We are thankful to the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council for the opportunity to respond to the upcoming report on spinal fusion procedures.

In the report, our in-hospital complications for this procedure are at a higher than expected rate, while the data for readmission for complication and any unplanned readmission are shown as not significantly different than expected. We have taken steps to address and correct any issues that may result in a complication, including the implementation of an intense quality improvement process. Since the reported timeline, we have moved forward with the creation of a new spinal surgery program.

We constantly strive to provide the best possible outcomes for all patients who come to us for care. The Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council's reporting affords us with the ability improve and strengthen the services we offer to all patients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Amrom'.

George J. Amrom, MD
Chief Medical Officer, Hahnemann University Hospital

