

Medical College of
Pennsylvania Hospital

3500 Henry Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19129
tel: 215.862.6000

December 6, 2002

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

Subject: **2001 Hospital Performance Report Formal Comments**

Dear Mr. Volavka:

Thank you for the opportunity to review Medical College of Pennsylvania Hospital's 2001 data that will be published within the next few weeks.

On reviewing our data it was noted that we appeared to have deaths significantly greater than expected for DRG 125 – Heart Catheterization without Heart Attack, Uncomplicated. Of the two hundred eighty-six cases (286), two (2) patients expired. A review of the medical records indicated that both patient records were not appropriately coded. In both instances significant comorbid conditions were missed in the coding process. One case should have included an acute myocardial infarction with a final DRG of 123; and the other, should have included cardiac arrest with a final DRG of 124.

Sincerely,



David Shulkin, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
/dg