



October 16, 2003

Marc P. Volavka, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council
225 Market Street, Suite 400
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Mr. Volavka:

Enclosed you will find an original copy of the response given in reference to the PHC4 data relating to "Diabetes-Medical Management". This letter was faxed to your office on October 15, 2003 prior to the 5pm deadline, however we felt it would be best to send an original for reproduction purposes.

Sincerely,

Cynthia R. Good, RN
Utilization Review

THE BLOOMSBURG HOSPITAL

549 East Fair Street, Bloomsburg, PA 17815-0340

Executive Offices
(570) 387-2115

October 14, 2003

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

Dear Mr. Volavka:

The Bloomsburg Hospital has reviewed the PHC4 data and is responding to the mortality data "rate significantly higher than expected" for Diabetes-Medical Management.

Diabetes alone was not responsible for the mortality rate in these cases. Chart review of the three cases reported in the mortality analysis revealed the following:

- Every case presented with multiple co-morbid conditions
- Diabetes may have been the presenting condition, however it was not the condition causing death
- Each individual case had requested the physician to order "DO NOT RESUSCITATE"
- The cause of death in each case was listed as an acute event and/or infectious process

To summarize, these were individuals who had multiple, complicating conditions attributing to their demise.

Respectfully,



Regis P. Cabonor
President and
Chief Executive Officer

RPC:ks