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CC: Karynlee

January 24, 2007

Dennis Shubert, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, Maine Quality Forum
Dirigo Health Agency
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Augusta, ME 04333

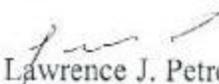
Dear Dennis:

I am writing you in reference to the Maine Quality Forum as it refers to the issues surrounding the Consensus Document on ST Segment Elevation/MI. While I was out on leave, there were some issues that came up at York Hospital in reference to our participation in the initial discussions. As you know, you had called me after you realized that we did PCI. As you know, we thought that there was no need for us to get involved in decision making about transferring patients for PCI because we do not accept transfers from other facilities for PCI. We do provide acute PCI for myocardial infarction management as our primary strategy on the Seacoast. We have a system on the Seacoast that involves participation of York, Wentworth-Douglass and Portsmouth Hospitals with open-heart surgery support being delivered by the cardiothoracic surgeons at Portsmouth and primary catheter-based intervention at the three institutions handled by a combination of our cardiologists and cardiologists who are members of Atlantic Cardiology primarily based in Portsmouth. We provide emergency services at York, Dover and Portsmouth and do that with Seacoast Cardiology interventionalists.

Since we do offer a unique service in terms of other hospitals in the state of Maine, I think it is appropriate for us to be directly involved in any future discussions. I would appreciate it if we could participate, myself and Dr. Jeffrey Colnes would be available. Dr. Colnes is my senior interventionalist. We look forward to seeing the data and, as you know, we are all attempting to optimize our time to intervention and keeping track of our own institution's experience. It will be helpful for us to include a comparison to other hospitals in the country and in the state of Maine. As you may or may not know, we are involved in the Northern New England database for all of our PCI's, both elective and emergent, and as such have a good handle on our performance as compared to the Northern New England cardiovascular disease study group.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


Lawrence J. Petrovich, M.D.
Leader
Heart Health Services

LJP/kb