



*Expert care with a personal touch*

September 10, 2020

Merry Holiday-Hanson, Ph.D., Manager  
Administrative Data Group  
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development  
2020 West El Camino Avenue, Suite 1100  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Dr. Hanson:

At Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC), our expert providers and caregivers are committed to delivering safe, high-quality medical care to all patients. As part of this commitment, we have taken proactive steps to decrease the rate of mortality in all of our patients. This includes pursuing opportunities to improve the level of care we provide in a number of our clinical programs.

Within the last three years, we have been designated as a Level II trauma center in Los Angeles County, equipped to treat life-threatening injuries in the surrounding area, therefore avoiding long transports to trauma centers outside of our region. Studies show that treatment at a nearby trauma center has been proven to lower the risk of death by up to 25 percent.

We also provide advanced care in stroke, diabetes, joint replacement, perinatal services, sepsis, and palliative care. All of these services have been accredited and awarded special certification by The Joint Commission. PVHMC offers nationally-recognized cardiovascular services and a catheterization lab to expedite the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease. The hospital is accredited by Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties as a Comprehensive Stroke Center and Heart Attack (STEMI) receiving center. It is also designated by the American College of Cardiology as a Chest Pain Center.

These exceptional services have made PVHMC the regional hub for advanced patient care. Subsequently, it has increased the complexity and severity of the patients for whom we provide care. With that in mind, we have highly trained staff, physicians and surgeons with the knowledge, expertise and compassion to meet the needs of this specialized population.

The hospital reviews all mortalities in a timely manner for any quality of care issues. Upon receiving data from the *Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development* (OSHPD), reviews were again conducted by clinical leadership. Findings indicated that most of the patients were of advanced age with complex and serious medical issues. The majority of these patients arrived with extremely severe conditions that made their possibility of survival very low. Many of these patients or their families chose to seek palliative or comfort care upon learning of the seriousness of their condition.

The three years of OSHPD data signify that PVHMC has decreased its rate of mortality in most of the conditions and procedures measured. The most current results for 2018 reflect mortality rates below statewide average. We believe this is consistent with the continuing efforts of the hospital to improve the services and care provided to our community. We remain steadfast in our goal to strive for safe, timely and skilled medical care and to meet the needs of our most critically-ill patients.

Richard E. Yochum,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard E. Yochum", is written over a horizontal line.

President/CEO