



(717) 783-8980

Dear Mr. Administrator:

This letter is to advise you that the Department of Health has placed the Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care survey findings (Statement of Deficiencies) for all hospitals, ambulatory surgical facilities and portable x-ray facilities on the Department of Health public web site. Only the findings for initial surveys, re-certification surveys and revisit surveys conducted from May 1, 2001 through November 2001 were posted the end of November 2001. The findings from all surveys, except the Medicare validation and EMTALA surveys are placed on the web site.

This program also provides facilities the option to submit plans of correction on-line in response to a Statement of Deficiencies. To participate in this program, the facility must have an email address and Internet access. The Department assigns a unique facility identifier and confidential password to participating facilities. To enroll, please complete and sign the enclosed Password Agreement form and return it to the Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care at 625 Forster Street, H&W Building, Room 532, Harrisburg, PA 17120. Upon receipt of this agreement the Department will issue the unique facility login identifier, password and written instructions for placing facility plans of correction on the website.

PLEASE NOTE: The CEO appointed by the Governing Body must complete the password agreement. The e-mail address provided to the Department must be the e-mail address of the person responsible to receive licensure notification. The password agreement also requires entry of the current emergency contact for the facility. This entry is needed to keep the information current in our database.

Following each survey, a participating facility is able to access the Department's web address provided with the login information to review the Statement of Deficiencies. The facility is able to enter their plan of correction, indicate the date of completion and submit the plan of correction on-line for review by the Department of Health. Facilities have ten (10) days from the date the Statement of Deficiencies is available for review to submit a plan of correction.

Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care staff then review the plan of correction and notify the facility electronically of its approval or rejection. The entire report, including both the Statement of Deficiencies and Plan of Correction, is available to the public through the Department of Health web page forty (40) days after the last day of the survey. Deficiency reports for facilities that choose not to participate in the on-line program will also be posted, but will not include a viewable plan of correction. The plan of correction is available to the public upon request to the Department.

The Department is committed to working with facilities to make electronic submission of plans of correction as easy as possible, and to provide complete and accurate information on facility surveys through the Department of Health web site. If you have any questions, contact the Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care at (717) 783-8980.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Garrison E. Gladfelter, Jr.', written in a cursive style.

Garrison E. Gladfelter, Jr.
Chief, Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care
PA Department of Health

Enclosure